

# The Incidental Tarot ©Holly DeFount 2012 thzincidentaltarot.com

## Abbreviated Key to the Meaning of the Cards: The Major Arcana

### 0. THE FOOL

Potential of destiny ready to be manifest in the world: the higher self, the intuitive spirit. Let go of mental, emotional and physical clutter of your chosen path, and you will be guided through times of confusion and shifting paradigms. The Fool in a word: POTENTIAL.

*REVERSED. Ignorance, irresponsibility, disregard of consequences.*

### I. THE RED KING

Ability to manifest energy of the unseen world: to bring forth and utilize its power on earth. A position of great advantage; proceed with confidence, strength and a sense of empowered responsibility.

The Red King in a word: MANIFEST.

*REVERSED. Misuse of power, arrogance, squandering of resources. Irresponsibility.*

### II. THE HIGH PRIESTESS

The incarnation of yin energy, embodying the water element: emotion, intuition, connection. To feel, to see beyond the physical manifestation of energy is her gift: psychic energy, intuitive counsel.

The High Priestess in a word: PERCEPTION.

*REVERSED. Clouded judgment, confusion, apprehension of the unseen.*

### III. THE EMPRESS

A period of glorious fertility and abundance in life. Profound contentment with your work in the world, whether it is creative or otherwise. Light, warmth, and nurturing; be ready for the birth of something new.

The Empress in a word: FLOURISHING.

*REVERSED. Disconnection, exhaustion, overexertion.*

### IV. THE EMPEROR

Earthy power and authority, conquering obstacles and blazing a path to success and prosperity. Confident, experienced, secure and successful, he heralds a period of prosperity and achievement.

The Emperor in a word: DIRECTION.

*REVERSED. Wallowing, powerless, aimless. Oppression, enslavement.*

### V. CATHEDRAL

Associated with organized religion and large bureaucratic/hierarchical organizations. Dedication, vision and mastery of skill working within the establishment to realize grand ambitions.

Cathedral in a word: SUBMISSION.

*REVERSED. Oppression, usury, abuse of power. Moralizing without conscience.*

### VI. THE LOVERS

Intense feeling; pure passion, serendipitous meetings. Compelling connections: physically coming together and a synthesis of ideas. In essence, the coming of an intensely passionate new relationship.

The Lovers in a word: PASSION.

*REVERSED. Denial of reason, destructive lust, disregard for existing relationships.*

### VII. THE CHARIOT

A sign of the querent's Soul Path. The two horses, virtue and vice, drive the Soul's progress. Heralds an important milestone of Destiny; victory through hard work, responsibility and dedication. An excellent omen for success.

The Chariot in a word: ACHIEVEMENT.

*REVERSED. Obstacles, trials, lessons to be learned. Clarity must be sought.*

### VIII. GRYPHON

Signpost of transcendence: spiritual resolve combined with earthly action. Do not give up the struggle, nor give in to either extreme of coping: the physical (workaholic) or the spiritual (escapism). Endurance, balance, and fortitude.

Gryphon in a word: STEADFASTNESS.

*REVERSED. Weakness of the spirit, giving up, pessimism.*

### IX. BLUE BUDDHA

Purposeful disconnection, meditation, solitude, soul-searching. Personal healing time and rejuvenation are Blue Buddha's gifts; a well deserved respite. Disconnect with the details of daily life and reconnect with nature.

Blue Buddha in a word: MEDITATION.

*REVERSED. Overworked, stressed, withdrawn, lost.*

### X. TRISKELION

Turnings of Fate. A card of great positivity, signifying good fortune, completion, and gratification. Unforeseen windfalls, strokes of luck. Nature's workings are mysterious even to the adept, trust in its inherently benevolent nature.

Triskelion in a word: FORTUNE.

*REVERSED. The stalling or impeding of plans. Unforeseen consequences, unintended side-effects.*

### XI. JUSTICE

Fairness, truth and equality. Represents reason, logic, and a balanced approach to conflict resolution. Honor and impartiality, ability to see both sides. Rules over such issues as earthly justice, ethics, legal disputes, civil and human rights.

Justice in a word: RESOLUTION.

*REVERSED. Denial of responsibility, refusal to see the other side of a conflict. Uncooperative in attempts at mediation.*

### XII. ECLIPSE

A crucial moment of introspection. Old patterns closing, new opportunities arising. Between dark and light, this place of submission is where breakthroughs occur. Stop reaching, stop pushing; find your wisdom through silence and introspection.

To define Eclipse in a word: SURRENDER.

*REVERSED. Crippling fear, blindness, resisting necessary transitions.*

### XIII. DEATH

Great or calamitous change, and a chance to prepare for the shift it brings. Assess yourself and your state of being before you are forced to endure the consequences of disaster or misfortune. Accept inevitable change and be transformed.

Death in a word: TRANSFORMATION.

*REVERSED. Blind fear, control-obsessed, refusal to accept change. Crippling illness, mental or physical.*

### XIV. POLARITY

The harmony and flow of opposites; negotiating the potent space between productivity and receptivity. Balance, tolerance, and adaptability. Polarity encourages experimentation, innovation and the birth of new ideas.

Polarity in a word: FLOW.

*REVERSED. Inability to negotiate changing circumstances. Disconnection, discouragement, stagnation.*

### XV. CHIMAERA

Self-deception, addiction, obsession. A clever but dangerous ruse, threatening to bring about disaster. Addictive behavior, a bad relationship, a shady business deal that may verge on the criminal. Shed bad habits, endure the pain of withdrawal.

Chimæra in a word: TEMPTATION.

*REVERSED. Humility, sorrow, regret. The aftermath of destructive habits: bankruptcy, homelessness, abandonment.*

### XVI. PHOENIX

Destruction and demise, the necessary upheaval of old and crumbling systems. Trial by fire, the burning away of falsity and self-destructive ends. Unearth the lies, root out false foundations before the Universe does it for you.

To define the Phoenix in a word: CRUCIBLE.

*REVERSED. Self-deception; gross deception by others. Greed, anger, intense desire for vengeance.*

### XVII. THE GRAIL

An auspicious blessing will be bestowed; illumination. Hope realized, serendipity, divine intervention. An emblem of hope and reward of faith; hold onto your highest purpose and follow your chosen path and darkness will be dispelled.

The Grail in a word: ILLUMINATION.

*REVERSED. Depressed, hopeless, downtrodden. Overburdened by work, inundated with responsibility.*

### XVIII. LA LUNE

Dreams, psychic connections, subconscious expressions. Feminine, receptive energy that is fluid and changeable. Pursue empathic connections, explore dreams and be receptive to the celestial energy that surrounds you.

La Lune in a word: DREAM.

*REVERSED. Overwhelmed with emotion; clouded judgement. Fickleness. Fear, depression, confusion.*

### XIX. THE SUN

Success, achievement, recognition. Hope realized through action. The flourishing of a new career, tidings of marriage, or the blessing of children. A welcome and invigorating period of activity. Time to flourish.

The Sun in a word: FULFILLMENT.

*REVERSED. Delays, obstacles to completion. Resistance to action; depression, stagnation.*

### XX. AWAKENING

The close of a cycle is near, a time ripe for forgiving, both yourself and those who have done you wrong in the past. Agree to let go and dissolve your own threads of grudges, mistrust and enmity. Resolution follows acceptance.

Awakening in a word: EQUANIMITY.

*REVERSED. Unwillingness to let go of past wrongs, whether committed to you or by you; punishment for past misdeeds. Karmic debt accumulating.*

### XXI. THE WORLD

Success, completion and achievement. Rising to a state of global awareness, affecting change and progress on a large scale. Completion of a large scale project or endeavor that will propel you to even greater work.

The World in a word: SUCCESS.

*REVERSED. Obstacles to success, circumstances beyond your control are delaying your achievements.*

### Talisman I: LABYRINTH

Powerful portent of opportunity and courage. You are poised to step out of the mundane world and enter a powerful and magical place where dreams can be manifest. The gateway to profound liberation; Labyrinth is the key that can open any door, if you will only take the step to enter it.

Labyrinth in a word: OPPORTUNITY.

### Talisman II: ARIADNE

Protectress, pathfinder and guide. She spins the threads that govern our fates, and weaves them together amongst the stars where she resides. To receive the Ariadne talisman in a reading is a great omen. You have a powerful ally that will come to your aid and help you out of the dark labyrinth.

Ariadne in a word: GUIDE.