



Tarot Association
of the British Isles

TABI NEWS

Issue #7 21st March 2003

Letter from the Editor

Welcome to the Spring Equinox 2003 edition of the TABI Newsletter.

We were hoping to bring you an interview this issue with Ruth Ann and Wald Amberstone, founders of the Tarot School, but unfortunately Ruth Ann has had to go into hospital and the interview has been postponed - we're sure all our readers will join us in wishing her a speedy recovery, and sending healing energy her way.

We're also sure you will join us in sending congratulations and best wishes to our Training Coordinator, Ribbitcat, on the birth of her first kitten! We have all been delighted to welcome little Felita Rosgrana as the youngest -and, we are reliably informed, the most beautiful - member of TABI!

We hope you enjoy this issue.

With best wishes,

Shelley King

Editor

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How to get the most from the newsletter

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Availability, Notification of Accuracy of TABI News

We do our best to keep the information in TABI News up to date and accurate. If anything needs updating or correcting for future reference, please let us know. TABI News currently appears as a PDF file on the TABI website and on the databases of TABI’s e-mail discussion lists. We send out notification of new issues of TABI News to reach a wide and interested audience and for each issue we endeavour to ensure that all contributors are kept informed of the release date. If you should wish to be removed from our mailing list, however, please email us at newsletter@tabi.org.uk

Submissions

We welcome submissions, but as a non-profit organisation are unable to offer payment. Please send articles, ideas or suggestions to the Editor: newsletter@tabi.org.uk

We wish to thank all of our writers and volunteers for their input and all of our members for their interest in TABI. Please note that article copyrights remain with the authors. The articles, reviews and information are offered for interest purposes and are not necessarily reflective of the views of or indicative of an endorsement by the Tarot Association of the British Isles.

Greetings from TABI

The Who, What and Where...

WHAT'S NEW

Welcome Gav: With Ribbitcat, our Training Coordinator, having just kittened ☺ and therefore going on Light Duties for a while, we are pleased to welcome Gavin Pugh, known in the tarot world as all78degrees, to the Panel of TABI. Gav, already working as Readers Support Coordinator and Host on our discussion list UKTarotTalk - and recently appointed resident Tarot Agony Uncle – see page 22], will also be taking on Moderator duties on UKTT.

Advanced Course: We are currently putting together plans for an Advanced course for TABI Members, on a study group basis with students taking turns to present an assigned project and lead the weekly discussion. Each week a group consisting of a Major and 2 to 3 associated, (supporting and opposing), Minor Arcana cards will be studied, with an RWS/non-RWS comparison carried out, to give a more in-depth view of the cards than that covered in our beginners' course. In addition, supplementary topics such as Reversals, Spellwork, Numerology, Astrology, Quabalah etc will be included. The course will require a degree of research work and essays of a minimum length to be written, and is ideally suited to those students already familiar with the basics and comfortable with carrying out readings. We are very grateful to TABI Volunteer **Ania** for taking on the Project Manager role for this! (See our Featured Reader section on page 25 for more about Ania) If you would like to participate, please contact admin.shelley@tabi.org.uk

WHO WE ARE

The Tarot Association of the British Isles is a non-profit community run by volunteers with a passion for tarot and the esoteric. TABI was formed in January 2001, to provide support, information and resources for UK tarotists of all levels. Whether you are a beginner or an experienced reader, you are welcome at TABI.

Our aims are to provide a supportive and friendly environment for all those interested in tarot - whether you want to study, play, provide or receive readings, or just chat and network with others of a like mind - and to promote the use of tarot as an ethical tool for guidance and self-development.

MEMBERSHIP

In order that TABI may continue to grow and fulfill our aim of being the premier resource for UK tarotists, we have recently launched a formal membership programme. Membership of TABI costs £15 per year, and entitles you to the following:

- Membership Certificate
- TABI Keyring and Pen
- A free in-depth reading
- Quarterly Newsletter
- Opportunity to apply for Endorsed Reader status

- Free online beginners' training, in a mentored study group.
- Participation in fayres and festivals
- Invites to social events and regional meetings
- Access to advanced courses/masterclasses/workshops
- Chat groups and forums
- Discounts on TABI merchandise
- Use of TABI logo for personal website/stationery
- The chance to practice your skills and meet other like-minded people, in a fun and friendly environment
- A discount of 15% on membership of the Children of Artemis - <http://www.witchcraft.org/index.htm>

If you would like to apply, please send a blank email to: membership@tabi.org.uk

TABI SERVICES

Readings: Our Free 1-3 card reading service is still proving extremely popular. To request a reading, please visit our website: <http://www.tabi.org.uk> If you would like a longer, in-depth reading, we are pleased to confirm that these are now available in return for a donation to TABI. For further details or to request a reading, please send an email to admin.ian@tabi.org.uk

Training: Beginners to tarot can take our FREE training course, based on Joan Bunning's Learn the Tarot, in an online mentored study group. Upon completion of the course, students may join TABI and start working towards earning their Certificate of Endorsement. For more information, contact trainingadmin@tabi.org.uk

Endorsement: As there is no central governing body for tarot, and no qualifications, it can be difficult to know how to find a reader. Recognising this, TABI has created a system of Endorsement, whereby our readers agree to adhere to our Code of Ethics and undergo an ongoing process of mentoring to ensure that TABI readings are of a consistently high standard. For more information, contact admin.shelley@tabi.org.uk

UK Readers Listing: If you would like to promote your reading service on our site, please contact ukreaders@tabi.org.uk

CONTACT US

What would you like to see on our website or newsletter? Do you have suggestions, questions or thoughts on the subject of Tarot in general? Please feel free to get in touch with information you think may interest us, or with any questions – we'd love to hear from you!

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Going Pro: Working As A Telephone Reader

By Brian Stephenson

More in our 'Going Pro' Series: Phone Line Readers have in the past come under fire, particularly in the US. TABI Free Reader Brian gives his experience of this style of reading, and shows that you don't have to be Miss Cleo at all...

Two years ago I decided to 'turn professional' and to start charging for my Tarot readings. I had planned to advertise in a local newspaper and while looking at Tarot advertisements on the Internet I found an Internet company that offered telephone advice to its customers on various subjects, including Tarot. I discovered that the company were looking for people to work as Readers. Although I don't normally consult the cards for myself, on this occasion I did, and I was encouraged to place my advertisement on the website. The next day I received my first call from a client and slowly began to build up a part-time business. I'm not sure what thrilled me most, getting messages of thanks from my clients or getting my first month's cheque!

The demand for Tarot readings by telephone has been steadily growing in recent years. There are several different ways of working as a Telephone Reader from home. One of the simplest ways is to work for an Internet-based advisory company. Most of these companies allow their readers to write their own advertisements and in return for advertising your services, they take a percentage of the total amount charged as their commission. Calls from clients are routed to you via the company's computer and so you don't have to worry about clients getting your home telephone number. The client pays the company direct via their credit card and most companies pay their Readers once a month. There are also similar companies who operate entirely on the telephone, without any Internet involvement. The client sees the advertisement in a newspaper or magazine, rings the number and the company puts the call through to you at your home. Another way is to set up your own premium rate telephone line from home. You set the charge per minute and you get to keep most of that charge. However, you have to do all your own advertising and you will probably need a licence from ICTIS (The Independent Committee for the Supervision of Standards of Telephone Information Services). Unfortunately, to register with ICTIS and get a licence from them costs several thousand pounds!

There are advantages and disadvantages to giving telephone readings. On the plus side you can work from home to suit yourself and you have an anonymity that allows you to be a little more forthright in your reading.

As clients are not going to see you, it doesn't really matter what you wear or what you look like. So, if your client wants to imagine that you are giving the reading dressed as a gypsy in an incense-laden candle-lit room then they can!

On the negative side, you obviously don't see your client and so you don't know how the reading is being received. As clients are paying to talk to you by the minute they tend to expect you to talk non-stop and they don't always understand that you might need a few quiet moments to study the cards.

When I first began to give telephone readings I used to give the client some general background information about Tarot cards and how they are used. However, I quickly learned that most clients are not interested in this and so I no longer spend time talking about the cards.

After I introduce myself I ask them if they have any specific questions or if they want a general reading. Although most clients say that they want a general reading, it usually becomes clear that they have something in particular on their minds.

I then tell the clients to think about their question or situation while I shuffle the cards and that they should tell me to stop shuffling when they feel the time is right. Some clients allow me about five to ten seconds to shuffle the cards, but it is amazing how many clients shout "stop" after only two or three seconds.

I then deal the cards and start the reading. Because clients expect me to start talking straight away, I tend to stick to three card spreads, although I do occasionally use more complex spreads. After talking for a few minutes I always ask the client if the reading makes sense to them and if they would like me to make anything clearer. Depending on the answer, I then deal some more cards.

Some clients have many additional questions and the reading can take up to 45 minutes or even longer. The longest telephone reading that I have ever given was for nearly two hours. However, most people just want a couple of quick answers to a couple of quick questions.

One of the benefits of being a telephone reader is that it has taught me to be very concise in my readings and to get straight to the point. After all, if clients are paying by the minute to speak to you, then you soon learn that they don't want to pay for waffle or padding.

Brian Stevenson first began to work with the Tarot nearly 30 years ago. However, after a few years he stopped practising and rarely picked up his cards. In 1997 he developed Gout and ME and had to take early retirement from his job as a Government Press & Public Relations Officer. It was while he was studying Reiki at Claridge House Healing Centre in Kent in 1999 that he decided to return to Tarot. He later studied the subject at The College of Psychic Studies in London and in 2002 he became a professional reader. He joined TABI in 2002 and is one of our Endorsed Readers under the name of Troy Stephens.

KING'S TRIUMPH: AN INTERNATIONAL TAROT-TALISMAN RITUAL



By Elizabeth Hazel, author of the ritual

Astrologer and tarotist Elizabeth Hazel has conducted a unique and fascinating experiment in tarot magic, and we are proud to share with Tarot Reflections, the e-zine of the ATA, her summary of this extraordinary project...

King's Triumph was inspired in October of 2002, when a particularly fortunate series of planetary aspects that ran from December 8th to 10th, 2002 was noted. These alignments were an irresistible opportunity to construct a specific talisman that matched the power of the planetary relationships. This mushroomed into a talisman-making ritual that was offered to others via the Internet, and gathered a participating group of 40 individuals located across the globe.

Talisman-making is an ancient art. Selected items are infused with godly or planetary energy for a specific purpose. The medieval writer, Henry Cornelius Agrippa, wrote talisman-making instructions in his "Three Books of Occult Philosophy." According to the practices of the early 16th century, talismans were made using magical, astrological, or kabbalistic symbols and corresponding oils, stones, or herbs that were manufactured at an astrologically appropriate time.

The astrologically-correct moment is the key factor. No matter how much a particular talisman might come in handy, it cannot be made at the wrong time and be effective in achieving its purpose. One might be compelled to wait years for the proper planetary alignments for a talisman.

So my approach to the ritual was a bit backwards. Wonderful astrological aspects suggested creating a talisman that would suit those planetary energies: *to attract supreme success over obstacles, to gain spiritual assistance in personal quests, and to open a conduit for divine blessings*. The key planets were the Sun and Jupiter, in trine and in mutual reception (in each other's ruling signs, Leo and Sagittarius) – an event that only occurs every 12 years. The next step was to find a moment when this planetary energy exchange was fortified (or strengthened) by house placement and lunar light. The best time occurred when Jupiter rose to the ascendant on December 8th.



Fig 1 – The Talismans

The next step was to create a ritual and to choose appropriate symbols and substances. Both Jupiter and the Sun relate to confidence, rulers, and success – hence a talisman for King’s Triumph. I wrote an invocation, constructed a tarot spread, and made an incense and anointing oil with planet-appropriate essences: frankincense, bay, cedar, and spikenard. On October 18th, 2002, an e-mail invitation was sent to Tarot-L (a tarot e-mail group) and personal friends. The response was overwhelming. Within a week, 30 people had signed up. Ritual kits had to be mass produced and promptly mailed. Astrological charts were erected to determine the starting time for all 40 locations.

The tarot card ritual corresponds to the signs and planets involved in the talismanic election (an *election* is a purposefully chosen horoscope). The cards used were: The Sun (the Sun), The Wheel of Fortune (Jupiter), Temperance (Sagittarius), Strength (Leo), and The Star (Aquarius, the location of the waxing Moon); as well as the four Kings. These cards were arranged around a purple candle during the nightly invocation. The talisman was placed beneath the candle, thereby sympathetically drawing down the planet/sign energies as the candle burned down for 3 nights. The tarot spread was a visual aid for focusing intent on drawing these energies into the talisman.

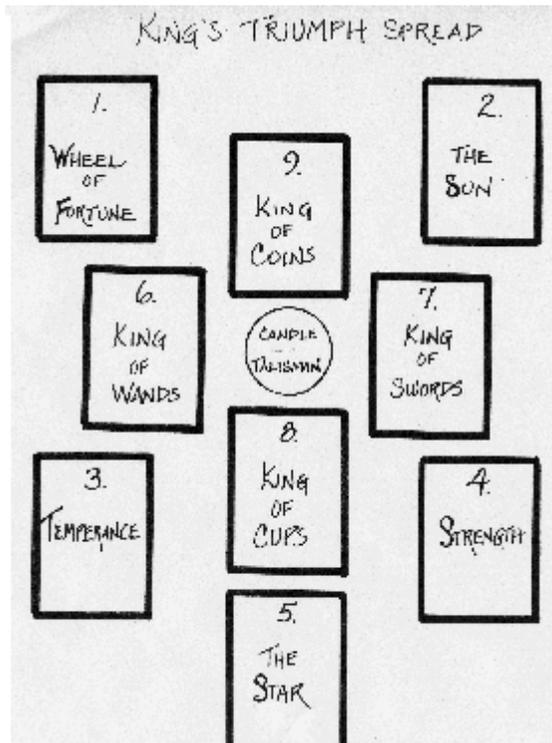


Fig 2 – The Spread

A focus quiz included in the instructions helped participants think about how they “rule” their life, and defined their style of stewardship. King’s Triumph was **not** about ruling or controlling others, but about better ruling and governing the self. Optional affirmations for the four Kings of the tarot were suggested, in the formula of “I am like the King of Wands because.....”. There was an option to write a kingly proclamation for stating planned improvements for the coming year. Both the affirmations and proclamation were repeated each night.

Participants were located in Europe, Britain, all across the United States, and Central and South America – an expanse of 130 degrees of global longitude and about 85 degrees of latitude. An especially intense line of participating locations

from Europe to America occurred along the 40 - 42° North latitude. Most people began the ritual at around 8:30 to 9:30 pm in their local time zones on Sunday, December 8th. The ritual was repeated on Monday, December 9th, and again on Tuesday, December 10th, at the same time, thus completing the talisman.

THE EXPERIMENT

So far as is known, this is the first time-coordinated international tarot-talisman spell ever attempted. Group participation extends the concepts behind talisman making, which is traditionally magician-specific. According to the medieval rules, an elected horoscope should work favorably with the magician's own horoscope.

Herein lays the critical question at the heart of the King's Triumph experiment: could widely dispersed individuals succeed in using an elected horoscope to construct effective talismans? Would possible adverse individual effects to the horoscope be neutralized? These questions are addressed at the end of the summary.

King's Triumph challenges the heretofore isolated context of talisman making. Gaining an understanding of group potential is further complicated by participants customizing the ritual. Nevertheless, requested feedback has trickled in since mid-December, and shows notable results.

THE RESULTS

Magical results are resistant to scientific scrutiny. The rituals did not occur in a controlled environment, and participant's reports are unavoidably biased by personal perceptions. The report given here constitutes a collated overview of the feedback, and should be considered as such.

Of the 40 participants that received packets, 28 provided responses. A few participants made extra talismans and reported for loved ones, adding to the total of responses. The results are arranged in 5 categories: **Good Results, Fending Attacks, Thwarted, Too Difficult, and Non-Response**. The number of people reporting into each group is given as accurately as can be calculated. Some reports included information that overlaps categories. Reports are anonymous to respect the privacy of participants.

Group 1: Good Results

25 participating individuals reported good results, including a notable trend toward improvements in real-estate. Several were able to acquire much-improved housing or commercial real estate arrangements within a week or two after making (or receiving) the talisman. Most of these reports included significantly favorable financial arrangements for the location, moving or storage costs.

Career improvements were the other major result, including reports of gaining better jobs, or getting more work, pay, or recognition in current jobs, or getting interviews for better jobs. For example, a woman got permission to start a special program for prisoners at her facility. One

woman took her talisman to an algebra exam and passed with flying colors (although she does give some credit to studying hard beforehand!). An actress reported better performances with the talisman in her pocket, and she got an audition for a car commercial. There was a humorous report from a young man who got a paid Christmas holiday only a few days after starting his wonderful new job. He wins the prize for “King’s Perks.”

The **Good Results** group included 3 results that regarded personal relationships. One respondent reported an extra frisky spouse, and two found the strength to end bad relationships.

Some results centered on spiritual growth and practice. One reported gaining a nice new spiritual mentor, another felt more empowered to balance and better manage the “4 kingdoms” of her life. A third response reported lots of little bonuses, as though there was “an unseen hand opening doors.” As one participant was preparing for the ritual, she had dreams of kings, and kept spotting a small bird which she found are called “ruby crowned kinglets.”

There was one report of a positive health result – a woman carried the talisman to a doctor’s appointment, and was very relieved to discover that the lumps in her breast were benign.

Group 2: Fending Attacks

3 participating individuals reported that psychic attacks coincided with the King’s Triumph talisman ritual. One woman gave a dramatic account of her ritual area almost catching fire on the first night, but she was able to move forward and repel negative energies from her space on the subsequent nights. The other 2 reports gave similar data – psychic attacks that were repelled as they moved into the ritual. This, too, follows along with the idea of King’s Triumph, which was designed *to attract supreme success over obstacles, to gain spiritual assistance in personal quests, and to open a conduit for divine blessings*. Jupiter is a protective planet, and this energy was gathered as Jupiter rose into the sky at their location.

Group 3: Thwarted

3 people reported being thwarted from participating in King’s Triumph, and failed to construct the talisman. One man was stopped by the police and held on a spurious charge, and missed the starting time for his location. He speculated that the arrest might have been prompted by a psychic attack. The others were thwarted because of malaise and family illness.

Group 4: Too Difficult

2 people reported that they did not perform the ritual because they found the requirements too difficult, and lacked experience in ceremonial magic.

Group 5: Non-response

As near as can be calculated, 12 participants did not respond to the feedback questions. I do not know if they did or did not construct the talisman, or simply have not had any results to date. Since well over 50% of the participants did respond, statistically this is decent reporting, as many research experiments get much less feedback.

Related Results

Some participants reported feeling an increase in magical energy over the 3 day period, or surges on specific days. A few remarked that they started experiencing results before they began the ritual, possibly because of focus quiz. Additional remarks included enthusiasm about the theatrical possibilities of creating custom altar settings, and writing and delivering a kingly proclamation. The wonderful settings people reported creating for their ritual were all impressive, although I think the woman who actually got some water from the Well of Brigit wins the “cool magical paraphernalia” prize.

Two women reported “lost time” during their ceremony – they performed the ritual, only to find at ending the procedure that a block of time (30 to 60 minutes) had been lost. Speculative notions include the idea that perhaps they were swept up in the group working, or simply so deeply drawn into the ritual that they lost all awareness of time. The intensity of the Sun-Pluto conjunction could have been another contributing factor.

MAGICAL QUESTIONS

With the data at hand at this time, the answers to the magical questions posed by King’s Triumph are suggested by the feedback received.

1. Is an elected horoscope chosen for talismanic construction valid for group work?

Some gained greater and faster results than others, and this may have to do with the extent of positive personal aspects from the election horoscope. However, with a significant majority reporting some degree of positive results from using the talisman, it would seem that some of the potentially negative personal aspects were neutralized by group participation.

2. Is the synchronization of an election chart over a wide span of longitude and latitude a viable magical practice?

Since the majority of reporting participants were able to construct a talisman and get results, it would seem that group talisman construction has real potential as a viable magical technique. Great care was taken to ensure that Jupiter was rising into the sky at each participant’s location, and all participants used the same evocation, talisman symbols, and tarot spread (although with different decks). This preserves the spirit of the medieval procedure, if not its exclusivity. If a future ritual is created, participant’s birth data should be collected in order to more effectively pinpoint specific astrological reasons for the feedback.

3. Do identical talismans made in diverse locations on the globe become more powerful? Or is the power diluted?

Since there were many reported successes, it would seem that the magical power was evenly distributed over the latitude and longitude of the participants. No single geographic area reported better results than any other. Reports indicated surges of magical energy during the three night ritual, with different people experiencing it on different nights. There was enough

feedback to suggest that power was not diminished. King's Triumph was a 3 day ritual, an unusual feature designed to take advantage of the specific planetary aspects culminating on those days. A single event ritual might give different results.

4. Will the individual results encourage a future group operation?

Several participants have already inquired about a future operation. Requests include the Big Two: love-sex or wealth-abundance talismans. So far I haven't found any hot planetary alignments that inspire a new ritual in 2003, but the final Jupiter-trine-Pluto in early July, 2003, may bring further feedback from King's Triumph, as this trine completes the triple aspect that initiated the idea in October 2002.

The instructions were clear and flexible enough to be customized to each participant's magical traditions. This was my goal as a ritual writer. On the down side, beginners were over their heads. Some experience with ceremonial procedures and performing a magical operation is necessary in talisman making.

King's Triumph was, when all is said and done, a triumph. People felt good about performing the ritual and creating the talisman for their use and for the use of loved ones. Magically-inclined people are encouraged to contact me at my e-mail address if they wish to be notified of any future talisman construction opportunities. I'd also be pleased to read about people's reactions to this experiment if they care to share them.



Elizabeth Hazel is an astrologer and tarotist in Toledo, Ohio. Her new book, Tarot Toolbox, will be released by Weiser books in Spring 2004. She has written extensively on techniques for combining stars and cards, and enjoys researching and writing about other occult topics, including mythology and history. Liz has 3 cats, loves to grow flowers and herbs, and plays keyboards for a band. Her secret wish is to be a contestant on Jeopardy. She can be contacted at ehazel@accesstoledo.com

Simply Abundant Tarot (Part I)

By Bethan Arrowsmith

Tarot works well with many philosophical and spiritual systems - here Bethan examines a personal favourite...

The last five years had been incredibly hard for me and none more so than 2001 when I separated from the father of my daughter. During a visit to a bookshop in 2002 I was to encounter one of the books that would not only change my life but would change my thoughts and feelings regarding tarot as well. That book was Sarah Ban Breathnach's [Simple Abundance](#) and during the remainder of 2002 I wolfed down every little morsel of the 'Daybook Of Comfort & Joy', whilst ruminating on tarot and everyday life. For the first time in years, I began to see the light at the end of the tunnel (my own light!) and I began to embark on my own journey of self-discovery. This journey eventually led me to regard tarot in a slightly different manner and allowed me to "find the Sacred in the ordinary" and "the Mystical in the mundane". Let me explain:

The American author Sarah Ban Breathnach's [Simple Abundance](#) was first published in 1995 and takes the form of a daily inspirational guide which allows women to "live by their own lights". To date it has sold over 7 million copies in the United States alone and has been followed by several related books by the author. The book begins with Sarah's personal account of how she arrived at the [Simple Abundance](#) path and she states that she hopes the path will aid us in our search for our authentic selves.

So I turned the pages and began to read the entries for January and immediately acknowledged the fact that tarot could be the ideal companion on the [Simple Abundance](#) path. Ban Breathnach speaks of "answers to be discovered and then lived", and asks "what are your hopes for the future as you reflect on the years that have passed?". The author encourages us to ask questions ("The answers to your questions will come, but only after you know which ones are worth asking") and to then finally seek the answers - what better way to do this than with the tarot?

The [Simple Abundance](#) path is an "authentic awakening" and one which requires spiritual transformation. There are six principles that govern the path - gratitude, simplicity, order, harmony, beauty, and joy. These principles can be applied to the tarot and its usage. How many of us attempt to run with the tarot without at first walking, how many of us turn to complex spreads when simple ones would suffice, and how many of us fail to really appreciate the beauty contained within the artwork? Think about your relationship with the tarot and then really begin to appreciate the wonderful tool that you have and the joy that it can bring.

January 9th asks "What is it that you truly need?". Ask yourself this question in relation to your life as well as to the tarot. What do you want from the tarot? What do you need to do in order to get there? How can tarot make you happy? Meditate, spend some time alone, be optimistic, think positively, aim for simplicity, and enjoy.

How many of us are compulsive tarot purchasers? How many of us hear of a new tarot deck and book and immediately have to have it no matter what? Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could all stop for a while and take stock of all of the wonderful decks and books we already have? Do we really need hundreds of tarot decks? Have we worked fully with the ones we have? Think about it - are we making the most of what we already have? Keep things simple - don't get carried away. Cultivate contentment. Work with that which you already have and be grateful.

Are you ready to walk the [Simple Abundance](#) path with me? Over the next few months I will be discussing the tools needed for you to walk this path and will show you how to apply them to your own relationship with the tarot. Begin your own journey and discover your authentic self as you progress through the year with tarot as your companion. Aim to keep things simple, luxuriate in that which you have already learned, and think joyfully of all that you will learn in the future. Let's work with tarot simply and abundantly.

©Bethan Arrowsmith February 2003

Planet Ruled Pip Cards - The Book T Correspondences

By Mick Frankel

Mick, TABI's astrology correspondent, developed these ideas from a thread on the discussion group TarotL, with Liz Hazel (see page 7 for Liz's own article). In this first part, Mick gives us an overview of the system and we take an in-depth look at the Sun and Moon, with the remaining planets to follow in our next issue. We hope you will agree that this brings a whole new dimension to the Minors...

'Book "T" - The Tarot' is a strange item. Written and privately circulated in the late 1880s, it contains among other things astrological correspondences for each of the pip cards. Not the Aces, just the cards from 2 to 9 of each suit. For each of these pip cards, there's an astrological correspondence to a specific planet in a specific Zodiac sign. Each sign is divided into 3 equal sections, known as decanates or decans because each one is 10 degrees of the zodiac. There is a planetary assignment for each decanate. It's highly likely that these correspondences were worked out by S.L. MacGregor Mathers.

You can find an online version of Book T at:

<http://www.the-equinox.org/vol1/no8/eqi08016.html>

In this article, I'm going to go through the pip cards but not in the normal sequence - I'll take them planet by planet so that you can start to get a taste of how the planetary energy works through the various Zodiac signs. Hopefully, you'll discover that these Book T correspondences are very practical and useful.

Before we start though, here's a brief description of the pattern for the correspondences.

Firstly, which sign goes with each card?

Wands are the **fire** signs. Aries, Leo and Sagittarius.

Coins are the **earth** signs. Taurus, Virgo and Capricorn.

Swords are the **air** signs. Gemini, Libra and Aquarius.

Cups are the **water** signs. Cancer, Scorpio and Pisces.

2, 3 & 4 of each suit are the **cardinal** signs. Aries, Cancer, Libra and Capricorn

5, 6 & 7 are the **fixed** signs. Taurus, Leo, Scorpio and Aquarius

8, 9 & 10 are the **mutable** signs. Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius and Pisces.

So, for example, the 2 of Wands is cardinal Fire, Aries. The 6 of Cups is fixed Water, Scorpio. Make sense? I found that just getting of which sign goes with which pip card is a huge step in getting to know these Book T correspondences.

As for the planets, they follow a sequence that has its own logic. Bear in mind that when astrologers talk about planets, they include the Sun and the Moon as planets.

Saturn was the outermost planet before the discovery of Uranus, Neptune and Pluto. And from our perspective on Earth the planets appear to be in this sequence:

Moon / Mercury / Venus / Sun / Mars / Jupiter / Saturn

This order (which I think is called the Chaldean sequence) is used in the Book T correspondences BUT it starts with Mars and works its way inwards, looping round at the end.

So the sequence is:

Mars / Sun / Venus / Mercury / Moon / Saturn / Jupiter

There are 36 decanates (3 for each sign of the zodiac) and 36 pip cards. Starting with Mars in Aries as the 2 of Wands, this sequence of 7 planets fits 5 times around the zodiac with one extra assignment, Mars in Pisces which is assigned to the 10 of Cups.

I found it very useful to draw out a diagram of these assignments, which is shown below:



The Sun

In astrology, the Sun represents individuality and the sense of self. It's outwardly directed energy. Very much like Tarot trump XVIII the Sun card.

Sun in Aries - 3 of Wands

Plenty of initiating power and energy, developing ideas that have been put into practice, establishing what's been initiated. Seems to fit with 3 of Wands and Sun in Aries.

Sun in Gemini - 10 of Swords

Gemini is the sign of the twins and Sun in Gemini suggests a split ego. It might mean that you're always looking at the next thing before you've finished what you're currently doing? So maybe Sun in Gemini and the 10 of Swords share the meaning of needing to complete a cycle before moving on?

Sun in Virgo - 8 of Coins

Attention to detail, working in a very fine way, craft, working towards perfection. This all seems to fit well.

Sun in Scorpio - 6 of Cups

Scorpio is fixed water and has an emotional intensity about it. 6 of Cups sometimes refers to the past and influences from childhood and Sun in Scorpio fits well with the image of the life force desperately trying to shed healing light on painful childhood memories.

Sun in Capricorn - 4 of Coins

Down to Earth, good understanding of finance but maybe a touch materialistic? This seems to fit quite well I'd say.

The Moon

Next, the Moon which in astrology represents emotions and feelings. It's inwardly directed energy. The Moon links to Tarot trump II the High Priestess.

Moon in Taurus - 6 of Coins

This is someone who really enjoys the good things in life. Who's down-to-earth and practical and sensual. I think both 6 of coins and Moon in Taurus represent being good with money, good at business and maybe slightly cautious. Certainly a realist.

Moon in Cancer - 4 of Cups

The emotional placement of the Moon in Cancer seems to match perfectly with the 4 of cups. Moon in Cancer is all about the family and the home. The family is the central hub of life for Moon in Cancer. And this can be sometimes be overwhelming as in the 4-square staleness of the 4 of cups.

Moon in Libra - 2 of Swords

Libra is the sign of balance. Libra is sometimes so desperate for there to be balance that it feels compelled to voice the opposite of whatever opinion was just expressed. Sometimes, even if it's their own opinion! So maybe Moon in Libra with it's love of emotional harmony fits well with the balance of power represented by the 2 of swords.

Moon in Sagittarius - 9 of Wands

Very intriguing. The easy-going, life and soul of the party Moon in Sagittarius actually links well to the power of the 9 of wands. It makes sense for me to think of Moon in Sagittarius as someone who's well-defended.

Moon in Aquarius - 7 of Swords

Both Moon Aquarius and 7 of swords have something of the outsider about them. A little bit unpredictable, constantly on the move emotionally. But also loyal in your own way. I like this correspondence a lot.

Bibliography

Erin Sullivan "Saturn in Transit"

Skye Alexander "Planets in Signs"

Kenneth McLeish "Children of the Gods"

We hope that has whetted your appetite for the Book T correspondences! Coming next issue – **Mercury, Mars, Venus, Jupiter and Saturn!**

Mick Frankel is an experienced dream interpreter. He's the moderator on the Dream-o-Rama message board on the astrology website www.north-node.com. Following on from his getting to know and love the I Ching, Mick has been interested in Tarot since 1999 and has been a member of TABI since April 2002.

An A-Z of Tarot

Our continuing alphabetical journey of fascinating facts...

B is for... Boaz

By Ian Stevens

If you look at the Waite version of the High Priestess, you will see that the two pillars are marked 'B' on the left, and 'J' on the right. These letters stand for Boaz and Jachin and they represent the pillars in the Temple of Solomon, the first temple of Jerusalem.¹

Boaz was the great grandfather of King David, his name meaning 'strength' or 'it is in strength'. Jachin was the High Priest who assisted the dedication of Solomon's temple, his name meaning 'to establish' or 'united stability'. The two pillars which stood in the entrance to the temple are used in modern masonic ritual and are attributed 'wisdom' and 'strength'.

Semites also used these same named columns between each city-state. The column named Jachin contained laws of government for the city state that you were about to enter while Boaz contained the laws of etiquette that you needed to follow.

Phoenician masons, the original predecessors to modern Freemasons designed and helped build the Temple of Solomon. The head Mason, Hiram Abif, who made the pillars was murdered by Jews in the temple because he would not teach them secrets of Masonry. He became the symbol of the perfect Mason that all followers should emulate. Boaz and Jachin are used in Masonic Lodges and referenced in initiations.

The High Priestess denotes the gaining of wisdom from experience and knowledge and connecting with our spiritual selves, a kind of initiation similar to that of the Freemasons. Waite was a Mason and incorporated masonic symbolism in his depiction of the High Priestess. As well as the pillars, the veil decorations and the pool glimpsed behind her are such symbols. The palm trees in the veil stretched between were engraved on the doors to the inner house of the temple and the pomegranates in the veil were actually on top of the wreaths in the bowls on top of the pillars. Outside the temple was a bronze tank called a 'sea' in which the priests used to bathe. There is black and white on opposing sides creating both extremes on both pillars, just as exists within each of us, they are showing the illusions of duality.

And the crescent Moon at the High Priestess' feet? The Semites settled in the crescent of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers and built Babylon, her blue robe flows like a river round the crescent and it was the Babylonians who destroyed the Temple of Solomon - Waite was a master of weaving symbolism together.

Next issue – *C is for... Crowley*

¹ Biblical reference: Kings 1, chapters 6-7

Exploring the News

Reading by Norlei

In response to a challenge by UKTT Host Gav, chat list member Norlei uses tarot to explore the Iraq crisis...

Using the Sacred Circle cards, I drew 3 cards and asked them to identify 3 people and then pulled 3 more cards to explain things a bit more. Then I asked for the outcome and drew 3 more cards...they are as follows :-

Tony Blair - Chariot reversed

George W Bush - Warrior (Strength) reversed

Saddam Hussain - King of Discs reversed

Chariot Reversed - this card is depicted by Boudicca at Beltane. There are 2 horses at the Chariot front, one black, one white. the black falls on the floor, only to rise again, dies at midnight to be born again in the summer. The black horse symbolises chaos. And generally horses represent the animal, instinctive side of human nature such as aggression, which has to be tamed and controlled. The driver of the Chariot symbolises the intellect which then controls the reins, which symbolises the destructive instincts with control and endurance. Therefore this person has more to offer in controlling a chaotic situation if he would just use his intellect and control others' destructive instincts.

A situation is collapsing under pressure and losing self-control. His aggression has been channelled in the wrong direction - and going wildly all over the place. it is a complete waste of energy. He needs to redefine his aggression as determination and willpower. he has a lot more influence over this situation than he knows. The cards say stop clinging weakly to ideas and people and move forward.

Second card - **Sacrifice** (Hanged Man) - A willing sacrifice of some kind (such as in negotiations) is called for. he will be forced to recognise the necessity of change to his previous plans - letting one thing go in order to gain another. A long, cherished ambition of his will not be fulfilled but another course will be open to him and will be more beneficial in the end. He needs to look at his attitudes towards control. Loss of control is scaring him...the cards say - let events take their course for a while...don't force an issue. I also feel that he has a health issue which no-one is aware of at the moment and I feel that summer he will be taking a back step..not sure if it's forced or not, but he will re-emerge stronger by next Spring.

Third card - Outcome - **The Sun** - Midsummer is important for him here. There will be a fire - but it is necessary as a protection against evil and as a means of purification. But after this, he will see things more clearly and will be able to plan with confidence. there is recovery from ill health showing, which confirms my feeling of above.

Warrior reversed - The Shadowy One - When positive this person is totally courageous and

believes in doing the right thing, but for some reason he is showing here as opposite to the spirit of the true Warrior. He is acting with childish responses of rage and tantrums when he doesn't get his own way. he does not yet have the spirit of the Warrior and always wants to be the centre of attention and if he is not, he reacts with anger and destruction. (not always physical..but sometimes of emotional ideals). He must go within and find his own strength again. if he feels powerless and angry, he must stop blaming other people. He needs to take back his personal power as his is ungrounded at present.

Second card - **Lord** (Emperor) reversed - This is the card of masculine force again early summer is important here. He is lacking self-control and self-respect, probably from a problematic relationship with a father figure. This man is still smothering him. This card shows him being surrounded by a person or people who a trying to make him into a petty tyrant, trying to dominate others with rigid rules and not taking human feelings into account. He must break free from this influence and listen to his people and environment. his ethics and principles ,must go beyond his own selfish concerns.

Third Card - Outcome - **Ace of Discs** reversed - He has become greedy and cannot see beyond material forms. He wants to achieve more and more but always remains dissatisfied. he needs to ask himself this question " Do you remember the person you used to be - full of noble dreams ?" He needs to get back in touch with side of himself again and become a human being, and not just a puppet for other people.

King of Discs Reversed - A tyrannical person with a petty mind and narrow, materialistic ideas. He has heavy-handed methods. He likes people to follow his ideals slavishly and anyone who deviates from this, he sees as a loss of his control - and this is a prospect which fills him with dread. He has no emotion in his life.

Second card - **10 of Wands Reversed** - He is playing the martyr and is very envious of those around him who seem to have more control than him. He is spreading malicious gossip and lies. But others can see straight through his schemes. If he does not stop, he will end up very lonely.

Third card - **Tower reversed** - The Tower is struck by lightening, representing an outside force or divine intervention. This person has one choice to show that he believes that all aspects of life stand equally. If this is accepted, it can change things to a positive. If not, The Tower will fall. A drastic, unexpected change which cannot be altered. It means total loss for this person, even imprisonment or exile, but he will certainly be restricted by circumstances if he chooses this path.

There we are, I was quite surprised at the cards..they felt so strong. I did ask for another to be revealed as to the outcome...but the cards made no sense. I was told not to ask this question as there is so many variables...I was given.." It is now the choice of Man"

We live and pray in hope.

If you would like to comment or expand upon this reading, please contact the Editor:
newsletter@tabi.org.uk

Dear Uncle Gav

By all78degrees

Got a tarot problem? Who you gonna call? Why, TABI's new Agony Uncle, of course...

Hello all and welcome to Uncle Gav's new regular column, which is here to answer any of your tarot related dilemmas or queries.

The questions below were asked and answered on our chat list UKTarotTalk - though the names have been changed for the sake of fun more than anything else.

If you have a question, please email the editor: newsletter@tabi.org.uk

Enjoy Uncle Gav!

Dear Uncle Gav,

I have a pocket Rider Waite deck which I adore for the size, but it is old - second hand - and smells musty. I have tried wafting with incense and rubbing with cinnamon (good for psychic powers, so was trying to kill two birds with one stone LOL) but the effects don't seem to last. Any ideas?

BEV

Dear Bev,

Let me think.

I would say that you need to.

- 1) Use them a bit more.
- 2) Put them on a shelf in a airy or incensed room.
- 3) Maybe rub an essential oil on them.

What do our readers think? Any more suggestions?

Dear Uncle Gav,

Tell me Uncle Gav, how do you use the cards if you want to do a reading for yourself? do you read for yourself often? How often?

JO

Dear Jo,

Thank you for your question.

I generally read for myself the same as I do for anyone else. I start with the theme that I want to explore and define what I want to know. I then draw the cards and turn them over one at a time. This means that I can't turn the next card over until I have thought about the last one. Its easy to say "the tower, right dramatic change" and skim over it and move one. I do tend to go quick readings and go back to them. I tend to use a deck that I am not overly familiar with or one I want to know better. I tend learn them better this way and draw out more meanings. I tend to read the cards in bursts. I ask lots of different questions over the matter of a few days and then spend time going through them and exploring there connections. I keep a diary of all the readings that I've done in a little book. That way I can see if I've already asked something or if there is a pattern. I draw cards for loads of things and I am trying to play with them more. Asking things about people I've met online(like what I can learn from them rather than unethical prying.) or pulling out cards to write about.

Top Tips for reading for yourself.

- Take the same time for your reading as you would for anyone else's.
- Use a deck that you are not totally familiar with.
- Write your reading down including your thoughts on the cards so you can look at them later.
- Be wary of non ethical questions.
- If the cards don't make sense you might have the wrong end of the stick.. Try looking at the spread again tomorrow.

Dear Uncle Gav,

What's the best technique for working with a card you keep pulling repeatedly? For the past week or so I have been seeing 4 of Pents in almost every other draw, particularly in 'what do I need to consider' type situations - so I'm obviously not getting what it's trying to tell me!

SHEILA

Dear Sheila,

Thank you for your question.

My first concern is that you might not be spending enough time and effort on the first spread that you had. Instead of redoing another reading on the same question on the same question without having either changed the situation or spent time on the original spread can confuse and weaken the original answer.

As a general point I would not recommend doing a reading another on the same question unless the circumstances have changed enough to warrant it or that there is information that you need in order to move forward.

If the card is turning up in other readings but you feel that they are all linked then what I would do next is to try exploring your understanding of the card.

You might want to answer some or all of the following.

- What does the image look like if there is one?
- Who or what do you see yourself as in that card?
- What is the meaning of the number four?
- What is the meaning of the suit of pentacles?
- What is your meaning of that card?
- Do you have another deck(s) so that you can compare the decks?
- Do you have some books that you can refer to for other peoples opinions? Could you ask a question on a group?
- Have you looked at the links it has with the surrounding cards? Making
- them into a pair and comparing them?

If you have done all this and are still non the wiser. I would say that the universe is trying to highlight something to you that you can not yet see. Just relax and let it happen. You might also want to spend some time meditating about the meaning on the card.

Until next time!

Uncle Gav xx

Featured Free Reader: Ania

In our new series, we will be bringing you the chance to get up close and personal with TABI's greatest asset - our Free Readers! Read on to meet our first Featured Reader, Ania...

Real Name/Reading Name:

Ania Marczyk/Ania - sometimes also Gwiazda, which is Polish for Star. A rogue romantic streak in my nature likes to think that I offer Hope in my readings!

Area:

North Hampshire and London.

Age:

30-something

Non-tarot occupation:

IT Project Manager

Spiritual leanings:

Eclectic is probably the best description. I don't subscribe to any formal or informal religion - they all have too much baggage and I'm too much of a rampant individualist to want to be pigeon-holed. I have a personal moral and spiritual code, which is constantly evolving and deeply personal.

Astrological aspects ie sun/moon/whatever signs and how you think this affects your tarot approach:

I'm a Gemini, which is ruled by Mercury (also in Gemini) and makes me "cheerful, ironic, intellectual, sociable, always fair, prone to rationalise and always seeking something new" - to choose but a few keywords. My moon is in Scorpio, which is also my rising sign and together they give me a strong instinctive and deeply insightful nature and also an attraction to the mysterious. I have been described as an enigma, which appeals to me enormously - I couldn't imagine anything more dull than to be regarded as normal or mainstream!

How long have you been involved in tarot?

I first picked up a Tarot deck over 10 years ago, but only used it for assistance with serious personal issues. In fact the Tarot was responsible for my relationship which led to my present happy marriage! More recently, I completed the TABI Tarot course, which gave me the confidence to read for other people and I have now become an endorsed reader through the Free readings system.

What drew you to it?

Insatiable curiosity, particularly for the taboo, esoteric and the unusual is in my nature - it was inevitable really!

Do you read for yourself?

Absolutely - even if it's only an occasional card of the day. We all need guidance at some time and I'm no exception!

What was your first deck, and why did you choose it?

My first deck was Arcus Arcanum, which I chose because I didn't really take to Rider-Waite and back then there wasn't much variety widely available. However, it is a rather comic book style deck and I never really bonded with it. These days, the Internet can help one find a deck from hundreds and buy it with fairly little effort.

How many decks do you have now?

Probably more that I can do justice to - I have about 9 Tarot decks and 4 Oracle decks. It doesn't sound like many compared to some collections, but I like to buy decks that I will enjoy using, rather than just being acquisitive for the sake of it and then having them gather dust on valuable bookshelf space.

What's your favourite, and why?

I use the Universal Tarot by de Angelis the most. I find it softer than the traditional Rider-Waite and easier to relate to. Though I also love artwork of the Castelli Art Nouveau deck, which is after the style of Alphonse Mucha and I find it is very expressive in emotional matters. Another favourite is the Legend Arthurian deck - very romantic, with each card being linked to a character or aspect of Arthurian legend. I wouldn't use this one in face to face readings as there is too much background material for each card for me to remember, but it lends itself well to email readings.

Favourite book and/or author?

The Master and Margarita by Mikhail Bulgakov is a long term favourite, but close contenders are Chocolat by Joanne Harris, The War of Don Emmanuel's Nether Parts by Louis de Bernieres and The Cornish Trilogy (particularly What's Bred in the Bone) by Robertson Davis. I also love anything by Douglas Adams or Terry Pratchett - just the ticket if you need a good giggle or a skewed take on life. But that's just to name but a few - my bookshelves are bulging and I hate to part with any of my books, so I have had to resort to the library for reading matter.

Favourite or most used spread?

It's difficult to say - I always try to use a spread that is relevant to the question - sometimes one that I have found and other times one that I have designed specifically. For general issues, the Celtic Cross works well. For short readings, particularly the TABI Free readings, the three card "What You Know", "What You Don't know" and "What you Need to Know", seems to be the most appropriate for many questions.

Do you use reversals or other system ie Elemental Dignities?

I do use reversals, but do not go out of my way to introduce reversed cards into the pack. Therefore, any reversed cards that do appear must be significant.

Do you use other disciplines in your readings ie quabalah/astrology?

I am interested in all aspects of Tarot and also Astrology, but I try to keep readings simple and my style tends more to the concise and pertinent, rather than tangential ramblings. I am still researching the wider meanings and correspondences of the cards. At some stage, I may even design a deck!

Do you add psychic impressions to your readings?

I certainly don't make any claim to be psychic. To a greater or lesser extent I may be psychic and have accurately predicted things or picked up on things which were not apparent. However, possessing psychic powers is a claim that is often used by charlatans, a group with which I would

not wish to be associated. Therefore, I tend to put it down to insight and instinct - or perhaps that's just my need to rationalise coming out!

Do you rephrase? Why?

I try not to rephrase, but then I find that the words of the question aren't really that important. When I read, I create a mental image of the situation and concentrate on that. I do request that the querent rephrase if the question is either too closed, confused or trying to answer too many issues at once.

Are there any questions/subjects you wouldn't take on?

Definitely - anything medical or legal is a no-no. I had one client ask if she was pregnant - I advised that she buy a pregnancy test or visit a doctor! I also won't do readings about third parties. I see the Tarot as a medium for personal guidance and development, not a means for spying on other people.

What is your favourite theory for 'how tarot works'?

That's a difficult question and I don't really know, but to pinch an expression from Dirk Gently, I'd suggest that the best explanation is "the fundamental interconnectedness of all things".

How would you describe your reading style?

Practical, down-to-earth and genuine.

Do you read professionally?

I have relatively recently started offering professional email readings on the Internet. This allows me to fit readings around my working and home life, which are both very busy at the moment. I also do readings in person, though these are mostly for friends and acquaintances at present. I hope to do some public reading for TABI at forthcoming fayres, but as I am expecting a baby soon, this is unlikely to be until later in the year.

How can querents contact you for a reading?

Via my website www.gwiazda.me.uk - which lists and describes all my main decks, my code of practice and a few other things that may be of interest. I will be adding a guestbook facility shortly, so even if you don't want a reading, have a browse and leave some feedback!

If you would like to request a TABI Free Reading, please visit our site:

<http://www.tabi.org.uk/freereading/freeread.php>

Contact details for Ania and our other professional Readers can be found at our UK Readers Listing: http://www.tabi.org.uk/page.php?page=ukreader_listing

Would you like to apply to be a TABI Free Reader? For information, please send a blank email to reading@tabi.org.uk

TABI Training: The Quote Awards

Continuing our tradition of bringing you a selection of our current students' inspirations....

The exercise Answers From Nowhere is proving fertile ground for our students' imaginations! The exercise is designed to show how intuition can be used to find meaning in apparently random places - the students are asked to think of a problem that concerns them, then go to a library or bookstore and open any book at any page. The challenge is then to relate whatever passage is found there to the problem. One of our students 'drew' the following quote from Angeles Arrien: 'During times of not knowing, it is considered foolish to take action and an act of wisdom to wait and trust.' As a side exercise, mentor Troi asked the group to consider what cards could be seen as representing this message, which inspired the following from student Lynne...

In the wake of the Brit Awards I submit my nominations for the Quote Awards ("During times of not knowing, it is considered foolish to take action and an act of wisdom to wait and trust.")

The Nominations:

Universal Waite Best Major Cards Category:

"Move forward by standing still"	The Hanged Man
"Waiting patiently"	The High Priestess
"Quiet yourself"	The Hermit
"Have faith in the future"	The Star

Like Gareth Gates, The Fool has lost out on a nomination at these Awards as the song he sings the loudest is "Impulse and Spontaneity" and the voters felt he travelled in a faster lane than the nominations could allow, given the quote.

Universal Waite Best Minor Cards Category:

"Taking a break"	4 Swords
"Meditate and contemplate"	4 Cups
"Pondering"	7 Pentacles

Universal Waite Best Backing Group Category:

"Keep trying"	Page of Swords
"Maintain balance"	Temperance
"Holding out"	9 Wands
"Believe in yourself"	Page of Wands

The Adventures of Madame Fifie

TABI's interactive tarot story - where you play the title role...

Previously on *The Adventures of Madame Fifie*...

Your querent was a large, jolly lady who called herself Mrs X, and was concerned that her equally large and jolly husband wanted to work all over the festive season rather than take her on holiday...

Reading by UKTT member Claire:

1. (Past) Queen of Pentacles: a large motherly woman with strong constitution, with a good head for business, kind-hearted and charitable, also has a taste for luxury. Sometimes moody, but generally very caring.
2. (Present) 5 of Wands: an exciting challenge that raises the adrenaline. The card indicates a good time to hold negotiations concerning business. Also a desire for a change in work conditions, many challenges from co-workers, family strife. Believing in own ego, will and ideas over others'.
3. (Future) 10 of Wands: Difficult tasks to complete, maybe some obligations have to go, otherwise the price may be high in health and anxiety. Many changes at work or in social circumstances, laying down burdens, new business methods, or new job opportunity. Social life becomes more active, travel for business or pleasure. A good change.

So, you tell the good Mrs X, they must indeed slow down otherwise they could pay high in the health department. (After all Mr X is not in best shape, and maybe this year he should cut down on the extra mince pies and sherries.) So, you tell her to use her feminine charms to persuade her husband round to her way of thinking, and that she may have her wish granted, that they will be going on their much earned cruise.

After which, she gives you a big kiss (but no mistletoe!), and wishes you a very merry Christmas and prosperous new year.

And now – the new Adventure...

Scenario by Ania

Darkness is settling its silent cloak over the landscape as the last, cold rays of the Winter sun disappear in a sullen, red blaze over the horizon. The lamps begin to wink on all over the Fayre, competing with the emerging stars, until only the huge yellow moon hanging low in the sky is bright enough to be seen against the orange glow.

You shiver slightly against the sudden chill, drawing your shawl about you as you retreat from the doorway of your tent, back inside to the glowing comfort of your brazier. Suddenly the

flames gutter and dance. You feel that someone has entered the tent and turn to greet them, but there is nobody there. Perhaps it was just a sudden gust plucking open the flap of your tent to let in the night air, you think to yourself. Sighing, you divert your attention back to the task of refuelling the brazier. But the uneasy feeling that you are not alone persists and you turn once again to see a small figure seated at your table.

"Hello. I'm sorry, I didn't notice you there", you say warmly.

The figure looks slightly embarrassed and fiddles with something in his pocket, examining his large, hairy feet as they swing to and fro below the seat. Looking up, he smiles and replies, "Hello. I think that I may need some advice".

"That's what I'm here for...", you prompt, smiling and thinking what a strange little man he is, while wondering how he managed to slip past you unnoticed.

"Well", he begins, glancing around to make sure that there's no one else about. He leans towards you. "It's like this...", he continues nervously, "...a certain item has come into my possession...one that I need to dispose of..."

"Ah, you'll be wanting "Three Balls" Cohen's stall", you say, adding "...the pawnbroker" for clarification.

"No, no", he says impatiently, "that's not what I mean at all."

"It's a dangerous thing...it must be destroyed...but I don't know if I have the courage... or the strength to go on and do what must be done. It's a terrible burden." He looks up at you mournfully, suddenly looking very small and tired. "What should I do?...Can I succeed, or is it all doomed...?"

Suddenly, a head pops through your tentflap. "We'd best move on soon Master...er...there are some strange folk around these parts and I'd rather find somewhere safe to camp before I start supper."

"Yes, yes, Sam. I'll be along in a minute", your client nods wearily and turns back to you expectantly.

You choose a suitable deck of cards and having shuffled them and offered them to the little man to cut, you deal three cards....

What are the cards, your advice to the querent and what is the deck?

Can you guess the identity of Madame Fifie's mystery querent? Will you read for her? Send your readings to newsletter@tabi.org.uk and we'll update the Adventure next issue...

Book Review: The Complete Book of Tarot Reversals

Written by Mary K Greer

Reviewed by Amanda Westall

Publisher: Llewellyn Publications First Edition, 2002 ISBN: 1-56718-285-2

When the Editor of the TABI newsletter contacted me to ask if I could review this book for the next issue I was flattered and slightly spooked, sure that she had somehow mysteriously known of my recent experiences with it. I said excitedly “Yes sure, I have that one – no worries!” To which Shelley answered; “Yes, I know, I saw you rave about it on some list or other!” - That’ll teach me to rave about books on-list... However, on to the review!

A few months ago (about 6, I think) certain cards kept appearing upside down in my readings – so I turned them the right way round and carried on. However this made me slightly uncomfortable, I felt that I was failing to show my cards the respect they deserved, indeed demanded. They obviously thought so too, as no matter how certain I was that I had straightened my decks, cards kept falling upside down. After about the 6th such occurrence (yes, I am stubborn) I gave in and left the card reversed. My problem now was how to read them? – bits and pieces were given to card reversals either in some of the LWB’s - (though some LWB’s avoid the subject like the Tarot Plague!) Or even a brief paragraph in one or two helpful beginner’s books which help with traditional translations – but these weren’t enough for me to sink my teeth into, play with and to encourage my own individual interpretation.

I kept my eyes and ears open for a suitable guide, and hey presto! Troi mentions this book in a mail on the TABI Free Readers site, in response to a query where a reversed card reading fell a little short of the required mark!

3 days later, courtesy of Amazon, it arrived! This is a gloss covered book with a lovely picture of the Hanged Man (the right way up) on the cover – Mary Greer says that to her this card epitomises reversals “The Hanged Man: The Art of Reversing Adversity” is one major heading near the beginning of the book.

One of the important and instantly beneficial factors of this book is that Greer doesn’t colour reversals black or treat them merely as negative in opposition to the upright positive – she also encourages the reader to develop their own intuitive responses to reversed cards. Greer writes “I began this book with the intention of rectifying the “erroneous” idea that reversed cards represent an opposite, often negative aspect of the upright meaning of a card – Reversals are certainly not evil” she goes on to stress, “but they sometimes represent adversity: the kind that teaches us what we are capable of. By struggling with reversals we learn to respond with integrity and a determination not to turn away from the teachings of circumstance.” Following this theory, I figured that I was meant to learn reversals, that by initially completely messing up a reading whilst using reversals, and being honest enough to ask advice on TABI’s Free Readers forum and then buy the book – maybe my cards would know that I was trying to take this lesson on

board? So far so good – the decks in which I keep the cards upright have so far shown no further inclination to throw cards at me upside down!

Chapter one starts with Greer giving examples of synchronicity which played a large role in her life whilst writing the book, this glimpse into her life makes her appear warm and approachable – unlike some Tarot writers whom appear so far above us lower mortals that reading their works somehow makes me feel unworthy, and the book a struggle. Having said that, this is a basic book, a wonderful beginner’s tool to reversals – intended, I feel, to be used as a reference book and one moreover that anyone can read.

Those Tarotists who like to go in-depth into the advanced areas of tarot Qabbalah, Numerology, Symbolism, etc may find this book a little light. Not to say that these areas are not covered, just that they will not find the tone as learned as they may like. There is the usual and even obligatory nod to Carl Jung, with a piece under the heading of “Synchronicity, Archetypes, Duality, and Enantiodromia” - but this remains light enough for even my superficial tastes, and succeeds in making me feel that perhaps I may look further into these theories.

As in most beginner’s books Greer covers the basics of shuffling (to incorporate reversed cards) dealing, spreads and how to gain an overview from the number of reversed cards drawn and following patterns of reversed cards. All good stuff!

The second chapter gives twelve ways of using reversals, and this I found invaluable! Here they are in brief to give you a taster...

- 1) Blocked or Resisted
- 2) Projected
- 3) Delayed Difficult, Unavailable
- 4) Inner, Unconscious, Private
- 5) New or Dark Moon
- 6) Breaking Through
- 7) No or Not – Lacking
- 8) Excessive, Over or Under-compensating
- 9) Misused or Misdirected
- 10) “Re” words, Retired, Retracted, Reviewed, Reconsidered
- 11) Disease into Remedy – Rectification
- 12) Unconventional, Shamanic, Magical, Humorous

The last I find particularly useful. Greer continues to cover additional reading techniques, patterns, interaction with other cards and so on. She emphasises that reversed meanings can often apply to upright cards in negative positions. For that reason alone I feel that this book should be on every Tarotist’s shelf – at least for the first few years!

The invaluable thing about this book is that it can stand alone as a beginner’s reference tool. Greer includes the upright traditional meanings of each individual card and most importantly goes into almost as much detail for the minor arcana as for the major. I have found that too few reference books treat these with equal respect.

The meat and bones of this book are given over to interpretations and translations of each of the 78 cards, Greer uses images from the Rider Waite deck, though I feel this work would be equally valuable with any clone – indeed I use it with all my decks, even non RW clones. If nothing else, it gives an added prod to your individual intuition prompting the reader to look beyond the immediate and the obvious.

The final sections as you might expect, cover diagrams of spreads, with working examples; for once giving the old Celtic Cross the heave-ho and concentrating on a wide variety of three card options, in addition to the yes-no, Life Inventory, Problem Solving, Hanged Man, and Hidden Influences spreads. Enough to keep any novice going for quite a while.

Finally the Appendix section of the book gives a handy little review of keywords, for those times when you need inspiration quickly. Appendix B gives a quick (very quick) review of the Suit and number keywords, with courts thrown in for good measure. Appendix C covers Elemental Dignities of the suits and Major arcana, and Appendix D covers the reversed version of the fool's journey, which Greer quaintly calls "The Heroine's Journey". Nice, quick, little reference sections for those hurried moments.

Of the twenty or so Tarot books which adorn my bookshelves, this is the one which in the last six months has been the most referred to. My only complaint is that I should have bought a hard backed version, as this is beginning to look a little tatty! Eventually I hope to evolve out of this constant need for reassurance in card reversals, and indeed I find that I am already "checking" more than "searching" and for that I say a heart-felt thank you to Mary Greer!

The Complete Book of Tarot Reversals is available to purchase through Amazon – if you would like to support TABI, please use the link on our home page <http://www.tabi.org.uk>

Deck Review: Tarot de Paris

Created/illustrated by: J. Philip Thomas

Reviewed by Diana McMahon-Collis

Publisher: Connections, August 2002

Availability: All major book sellers; RRP £24.99

As soon as you see the box that the Tarot de Paris deck arrives in it is pretty clear this is no ordinary deck. It does not have the flimsy, throwaway feel of some other set covers I have seen. I can even forgive the omission of a box that fits the cards themselves, to make them more portable because it really is not that kind of deck. It is quite clear that this is a tarot set and, as such, includes a full size hard back book with the oversized cards. And there is an additional bonus, a highly decorated blue silk card-wrapping or reading cloth. I have to admit that, on first sight, I didn't know whether to wear it or use it to wrap the cards in! But either way it seems somehow fitting that a deck focussed on the sights and associations of the city of Paris would include some stylish addition such as a silk "scarf". So just in case you were thinking this seems an expensive deck you are in fact getting rather a lot for your money. Please see the section at the end of this review for a spread that can specifically incorporate use of the cloth. There is no "Little White Book" by the way; the much more in depth book that arrives with the deck takes its place.

The deck is described as "traditional yet unconventional ". I am not completely certain what "traditional" aspect was intended, though the deck pays a few nods or tributes to some of the Rider Waite style of images, for instance the Three of Matter shows a craftsman-with-tool image. There seems to me to be a passing resemblance in some of the images, style and colours to a few other decks, but only in isolated cards. For example the Tarot de Paris' Four of Air card has swords in a dark, starry sky somewhat like the swords in the dark, starry sky on the Gendron Tarot's Five of Swords – perhaps just an odd coincidence.

Other than these few observations and the fact that we still have the traditional 78 cards overall I would say this is a rather unusual deck, in some ways quite unique. There are of course quite a few decks around these days with oversized cards. To be specific, here we are talking about approximately 14.5 cm x 9 cm or 5 ¾ by 3 ½ inches. Whether you will like the largeness of the cards probably depends on what you intend to do with them. I was immediately struck by the thought that they would be good for tarot meditations. For a deck to hand to clients to shuffle they might be a bit intimidating. If you have worked out your own method for mixing up oversized cards, where others do not need to do the mixing or shuffling themselves, you will be fine with these.

As you may have already gathered, we do not have the usual Disks or Pentacles here, we have "Matter". Under the description of the Three of Matter in the book the author says "The disk icon adapted to the suit of Matter is actually a bronze tile set into the cobblestones in front of the Notre-Dame cathedral. Known simply as the point Zero, it is the ancient marker of the geodetic

center of Paris – from its center, every other location in the whole of France was measured. Similarly, it would seem that mankind has continually chosen the Three to map its concept of God. Three of these disks together may be translated as the “workings of matter”. This description actually gives a good idea of where the author is coming from overall, with this deck’s concepts. Remember that scarf we talked about earlier? It features the Rose Window from Notre Dame Cathedral.

“Extraordinary photo-montaged tarot images utilize famous statues, objects d’art and monuments that express the spirit of Paris” is a description that provides the essence of the cards. It is clear that the author’s heart and soul has gone into capturing the right images – apparently he took 3,500 over many treks across Paris, to end up with the right ones. His vision for the cards began long before the final publication – 21 years in fact, so it seems like a lifetime’s work. But there was a long gap at one point, after he had produced the Major Arcana. The sponsorship for the Minor Arcana to be created to complete the set did not appear until 2000.

But back to the details of what kinds of suits we have here. We have Matter, Water, Fire and Air, so there is a somewhat elemental focus. These are not quite the traditional elements of a discipline such as astrology, for example. But the correlations with the traditional tarot suits that most tarotists are familiar with are, respectively, Pentacles, Cups, Wands and Swords.

In a moment we will look at the Major Arcana in some detail too but if you will bear with me for a moment I would like to say something about the colouring of the images. It is really quite spectacular. Or it is if you like rather dreamy images with soft colours that flow into one another gently. In some cards we have beautiful sunset and muted rainbow colours in the background (e.g. in the “Spirit of Matter” card). In others we have deep violet and indigo, complementing the greys and whites of the stone statues depicted. Yet in other cards there are soft pinks and yellows, whilst others have mixed blues with rich green details picked out. There was originally a sepia colouring scheme used for the Major Arcana. Anyone who has seen the unusual Mountain Dream Tarot deck² (based on photographs) will have a feel for how sepia can work for tarot cards. There is still a feel of this scheme in parts of the deck, especially where the historical statues are concerned, but the overall colour spectrum is wide-ranging. With the long gap between the creation of the Major cards and the addition of the Minors, the artist who has authored and illustrated this deck has been able to improve the initial output with updated techniques thanks to modern computer technology.

To backtrack slightly, you may be wondering about that “Spirit of Matter” card! Well, again, we have a deviation from traditional or established categories in tarot with the Court cards. Instead of the often typical Kings, Queens, Knights and Pages we have Kings, Queens, Stallions and Spirits. So our Spirit of Matter card here is like the Page of Pentacles in the Rider-Waite-Smith style of categorisation for Court cards.

In case it is not obvious, the author of this deck is well read in tarot. Therefore he is well aware of the typical representation of a Knight. In Tarot de Paris he has taken his cue from the artworks themselves. He explains that the steed is “such an omnipresent symbol of harnessed primal forces in Paris that [he] decided to avert attention away from the heroes mounted on

² Images can be seen at Aeclectic - <http://www.aeclectic.net/tarot/mountain-dream/index.html>

them.” Whether you will like such deviations or not, in using this deck, is bound to be a personal thing. For me it means one more thing to think about if I am using the cards for a divinatory purpose in spreads to find answers to questions, let’s say. But I appreciate that the author has really thought through his choices and, it appears, has wanted to let the artworks that originally inspired the entire project speak in their own special way. I also feel that the more unusual cards of the Minor and Major Arcana would come into their own for meditation purposes. There is something really charming about the Spirit of Water card, for instance, which has a little nymph-like creature inviting us to test the waters of the pictured River Seine so that we might “explore the depths of love and artistic passion”.

I suppose I have so far focussed more on the Minor Cards in any great detail because it personally matters to me whether I will be looking at groups of “pips” or distinct, carefully thought through images. It is simply that the latter, however unusual they may be, tend to speak more readily to my imagination. And because I will often find that a certain deck is ideal for particular clients or for addressing specific kinds of issues, through the nature of its imagery, if it is one of the more pictorial and highly decorated kind. Here I am certainly not disappointed. All of the cards in this deck are striking, including each Minor Arcanum. Although they contain a lot of detail this never seems to be detrimental to the overall message being offered. It is as though you can read them on two levels. The first is according to an instant, striking message from the main imagery. The second means you can add in more factors thanks to details such, for example, the prism pattern in the background of the Ace of Matter card. The foreground shows the main image which is the glass pyramid structure of the new Louvre art gallery. Read what you will into the layers of the imagery. You can also take all the fascinating details of explanation that the author includes in the book for his choices regarding this card, including historical spiritual/magickal pointers such as “a Masonic reference to the hermetic prima materia”.

Let us take a look over the Major Arcana now. Here, even if you are an experienced tarot card reader you are likely to have to rethink a few things before diving into work with this deck. Certainly it seems to make sense to make use of the book provided, from which it soon becomes clear the card meanings are not really deviating a great deal from the traditional ones you are likely to be familiar with. What is clearly different is the name given to each card. However, a few examples will quickly show how the concept is not that far removed. For example cards 0 to 5, for which I will add the traditional names in brackets for reference, are respectively entitled The Source (Fool), Initiation (Magician), The Veil (High Priestess), Nature (Empress) and Order (Emperor).

I wondered at first if this was a reference back to the Thoth tarot – the author lists Crowley amongst the historical illuminati who have famously written on the tarot. I cannot see that this was the author’s specific intention yet there are odd similarities, such as the figure on Tarot de Paris’ Initiation card being oddly similar to one of the three versions of the Magus that Crowley included in his deck. The colouring in the Star is oddly similar and the card that most would recognise as “The World” in many decks appears as “The Universe” in both of these. But I feel these are really quite different decks in terms of general style and the essential colour schemes favoured. What is of course similar is the use of abstract terms for some of the Majors, though Crowley’s deck probably includes more traditional names overall. Tarot de Paris does include

some Major card names that you will instantly recognise too – the Chariot, The Tower, the Sun, to name a few. But this set of Major Arcana overall seems to be taking its own direction in terms of its labelling.

The same cannot be said of its conceptual images which is, in a way, a relief. I found that even though I did not always instantly connect the trump with its counterpart in more traditional decks, I could grasp where the author was coming from in terms of ideas from the images and abstract terms. This was most easily done through a quick one for one comparison with the Thoth deck, which I decided I had better check to see if my first assumption about the Major Arcana was right (it wasn't!). Using this sort of method I feel it would not take an experienced reader long to pick up the meaning of the Tarot de Paris majors in their intended sequence, with the older styles of cards helping to inform this newer set. But you may simply prefer to work with the cards as they are, without making comparisons.

One further detail, before giving an indication of what the book contains, is that these cards do contain quite large labels for their titles. You may or may not like this but I found that, despite sometimes disliking these details on a card face, it did not really bother me in the Tarot de Paris. This may have been partly due to curiosity as to where the author was coming from with the changes in labels for some of the trumps, minor suits and characters. Because there are quite a few differences, to my way of thinking and reading – which is partly referential to traditional meanings and partly intuitive - the words were actually a help.

Before leaving a discussion of the cards, entirely, I must also say that the more I have worked with them for this review, the keener I am to work with them personally and in readings for querents. However if I was reading for someone face to face I would want to show them a method of shuffling as they are a bit cumbersome. The other side of the coin is of course that I can quite see a possible reason why the author wanted to use large cards. The scenes might have been a bit lost on anything smaller (which, for me, has been an issue with the Zerner Farber tarot deck, one that in my opinion could afford to “go large”! The Zerner Farber for anyone who is interested is a later version of the Enchanted Tarot deck with its rich tapestry symbolism. Coincidentally the Enchanted Tarot is also published by Connections, who have put out the Tarot de Paris).

Finally, then, the book. The author's preface explains how the deck evolved. This is followed by an introduction, giving a basic outline of what a tarot deck consists of and how the author's system fits in. He also defines his own ideas about what tarot is and gives a potted history of its evolution. Then there are a couple of sections detailing France and Paris's connections with tarot. Interestingly, some of the French tarot notaries crop up, such as Antoine Court de Gebelin and Jean-Baptiste Alliette. My feeling was that this section helps to pull together a few pieces of tarot history that can seem a little disparate unless you happen to be focussing on the subject of France and tarot. The author also goes into detail about Paris's “ley lines” and other factors he has identified as spiritually significant

The larger part of the text, as you might expect, covers the details of the individual cards. In each case we have an explanation of the imagery utilised, followed by a short interpretation of the card in its “Exalted” or upright position and a shorter explanation of the same in its

“Diminished” or reversed position. There is also a section at the bottom of each set of readings called “Correspondences”, which links the card to a whole range of mythical, religious and spiritual figures and concepts including those traditionally employed in the tarot. II The Veil lists La Papesse; Lady of the Lake; High Priestess, the Black Madonna; Joan of Arc; Akashic knowledge; divine mysteries. In other cards we have correspondences from systems as various as Odin’s Runes, Astrology, Alchemy and the tales of King Arthur.

Under the headings for the Major Cards there is also a key phrase offered e.g., XI Presence (traditionally the Strength card) has the phrase “All is Poised”, XVIII The Moon has “All is Reflected”. With the Minor cards there is rather a nice touch with a page devoted to illuminating the meanings of the Court cards. The author admits that he struggles with the ambiguity of the Courts and this is true for many of us working with tarot; I admired his honesty and really liked this inclusion. Here he offers a chart with key words “to assist the reader in understanding the performance of the court cards”. It is by no means exhaustive but is, to my mind, a useful reference in such a book.

There then follows a section entitled “Using the Tarot de Paris”, including preparation for reading the cards and a few spreads and sample readings. Top marks for including some sample readings, I say - I suppose I like to feel the deck has been tried and tested before being unleashed on the public! We might term it as roadworthy. There is the suggestion, anyway, that it is more than the concept that precipitated its creation and more than the blank cards on which the images have been printed. Here is a deck that has already been brought to life, as it were, through some trial runs. I am fascinated to know if this is the author’s favourite deck and whether he uses it regularly for readings!

Anyone who runs ten miles in the opposite direction at the mention of the Celtic Cross will not be pleased by its inclusion. However the author has included some really helpful smaller spreads that are well worth a mention. There is the Trinity Spread, which he explains he often uses as “a quick, simple layout as an introduction to an in-depth reading”. It is a three-card Past, Present, Future layout which, coincidentally, I decided to use with some clients recently for the very same purpose (i.e. as a general “flavour” prior to entering into more in-depth and focussed spreads for their individual questions). So I could readily relate to this idea. Plus there is the Rose Spread, which is apparently suited both to a personal or client reading. In this instance the silk cloth enclosed with the set can also be incorporated into the reading. This is a 6 card spread with an elemental theme. You may be glad to know that the two sample readings make use of these two smaller kinds of spreads.

Finally, the author has included details of the Paris locations of the art works photographed for each card. Plus there is an extensive bibliography reflecting the depth of his research and some biographical details concerning the author and his web-site, including a photo (it is always nice to see the human face behind the work!).

All in all I would describe this as a rather exclusive deck, ideal for tarot collectors and Francophiles (especially lovers of Paris!). But I intend the term exclusive to indicate special since I believe any keen tarotist could start to work with this meaningfully with a little practice. As a personal experiment I asked the deck what it’s greatest meaning for me might be. The card

that came up after my shuffling was the Seven of Fire. The book reading says: “Put everything on the line. If the Seven of Fire appears in a reading, it guarantees that a challenge is in the offing. You will be called out to show your stuff and test your techniques in the real world. This image confirms that you have the all-important higher ground and this alone demonstrates previous experience and training.” I had to smile since I always knew that reviewing this deck would be a challenge, it being so much different from many familiar decks. As a reviewer (and a painstaking Virgo/Scorpio mix!) with a thorough style I usually double-check any references that I make to other works or esoteric concepts, which makes my work harder but hopefully delivers a sound result. This is a deck that genuinely called for that little bit more in the review stakes, because, thanks to its author’s interesting personal journey and breadth of esoteric and cultural research, it really does have a lot to offer.

For images of the deck visit the author’s web-site at <http://www.tarotdeparis.com/> where you can also purchase a signed copy of the deck (priced in US dollars therein). Please note that the images in the gallery appear to be bordered art prints; for an idea of the overall look of the cards, the box cover and the accompanying silk cloth see the photo on the purchase page of the site. For those itching to try out the spreads mentioned above, NB those are also featured on the web-site!

Tarot Foolery: Trivia Quiz



Test your Tarot Trivia knowledge!

1. Fill in the blank: 'Phantoasmagoric _____ Tarot'
2. Who recoloured the Universal Waite deck?
3. Which deck is used to illustrate Tarot Plain and Simple by Anthony Louis?
4. Julian de Burgh and Helena Paterson/Courtney Davis have both created decks called what?
5. 'A Keeper of Words' by Anna-Marie Ferguson is the companion book to which deck?
6. Which book by Isabel Kliegman concentrates solely on the Minor Arcana?
7. Complete the title of this Cynthia Giles book – The Tarot: History, Mystery and ...?
8. The card 'La Papessa' is more commonly known as what in modern decks?
9. The Zerner-Farber deck is a reissue of an earlier deck known as what?
10. The Xultan Tarot by Peter Balin is based on which ancient culture?

How well did you do? Go to page 43 to check your answers.

Places to Go, Things to Do

The latest offerings from the esoteric community

Fayres/Festivals/Conferences

WitchFest England - <http://www.witchfest.net/locals/england.htm>

10th May 2003, 10:00am - Midnight

Fairfield Halls, Croydon, South London

Speakers

Ronald Hutton - The Magic of Tolkien

Fred Lamond - The Real Gerald Gardner

Levannah Morgan

Sorita & David Rankine

Galatea

Phaedra McIntyre

Also:

Belly Dancing by Galatea

Ritual by David & Sorita

Bar and Restaurant

Stalls selling Witchcraft & esoteric items

Prices: (before 28th Feb 2003)

CoA Members £6.00, Non CoA Members £10.00, (after 28th Feb 2003), CoA Members £7.00,
Non CoA Members £12.00

WitchFest Wales - <http://www.witchfest.net/locals/wales.htm>

17th May 2003, Cardiff 10:00am - Midnight

Llandaff Rugby Club, Western Avenue, Cardiff.

Speakers

Teresa Moorey - Teenage Witchcraft

Sadie Hardwicke - The eight ways of magic

Peter Nash - Remembering Alex Sanders

Marion Davies - Getting back to the garden

Zena Davies - The Do's and Don'ts of psychic working

Neil Geddes-Ward - Pagan and visionary artwork

Workshops

Chris Breen - Familiars and animal spirits

Maria Hopkins - Meditation workshop

Alicen Geddes-Ward - Faeriecraft

Closing Ritual: Lead by Karin Rainbird

The bar will be open from lunchtime. Stalls selling pagan / craft items/
Raffle

Prices: (before 28th Feb 2003), CoA Members £6.00, Non CoA Members £10.00, (after 28th Feb 2003), CoA Members £7.00, Non CoA Members £12.00

Regular Meetings

Nottingham - Astrology Group meets monthly every 2nd or 3rd Wednesday for talks and practical work. Further details from Gill on 0115 970 3051

Manchester - Turn of the Cards - a Tarot discussion group on the third Thursday of every month, hosted by Madame Estelle in New Aeon Books upstairs meeting room. Starts 7pm and the cost is £2.50 (£1.50 concessions). Phone 0161 232 0934

Resources

<http://geocities.com/cartedatrionfi/>

Historical tarot site - very informative

Theme/special interest/fun decks

<http://www.hiley.demon.co.uk/er/tarot/index.htm>

The ER Tarot

<http://www.reasonablyclever.com/tarot/major.html>

Lego!

Tarot Deck Images/Reviews

<http://www.learntarot.com/decks1.htm>

Shopping

Tarot Greeting Cards

<http://www.arcania.co.uk/cattrall/tarot.htm>

Automated Reading Sites

<http://tarot.wolfcoast.com/tarot.asp>

TABI's Own Links

The Tarot Association of the British Isles Web Site

<http://www.tabi.org.uk>

Past issues of the Newsletter:

<http://www.tabi.org.uk/page.php?page=newsletter>

To request a Free Reading:

<http://www.tabi.org.uk/freereading/freeread.php>

Discussion forums:

<http://www.tabi.org.uk/forums/>

UK Tarot Talk - our General Discussion List on Tarot, for readers of all levels, hosted on Yahoogroups.

<http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/UKTarotTalk/>

Our lists for volunteers and students are available from the site and/or when you sign up for volunteering, reading or learning the tarot. See the TABI web-site for details.

Tarot Foolery Answers

1. Theatre
2. Mary Hanson-Roberts
3. Robin Wood
4. Celtic Tarot
5. Legend: the Arthurian Tarot
6. Tarot and the Tree of Life: Finding everyday wisdom in the minor arcana
7. Lore
8. The High Priestess
9. The Enchanted Tarot
10. Mayan

We hope you have enjoyed reading TABI News. Please address all enquiries to the Editor:

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