

The
Cosmic
Guide
to
Planetary
Magick

with tarot + astrology

by
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Above the Horizon Astrology
+
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All of our ancestors knew to look to the sky. They tracked the timing of the seasons as a means of survival. Knowing when to plant crops, when to harvest, and when to rest was paramount to their survival. We all continue to have access to the stars: the planets, the luminaries, the fixed stars, the constellations and beyond. We know where the planets have always been, and we know where they will always be. The dependable rhythm of the celestial bodies above holds deep information for us - not just for our survival, but for our continued soul growth. Working with the language of the planets can help us name the archetypal patterns we are living out down here on earth, as a means of self introspection and a way to see how we are all connected.

— Katie Evans
Above the Horizon Astrology

More than any other choice, owning the word *witch* for myself has brought on a commitment to dismantle all of the values, habits, and thought processes I've internalized courtesy of the cis-hetero white supremacist patriarchy. Deepening my relationship to planetary energy has been an incredibly powerful tool in that process. Tending my relationship with the planets, luminaries, and other astral bodies has offered me a way to be in devotion and ritual that feels direct and clear. As Katie says, everyone has access to the stars. A spell is an intimate conversation between my creator, the universe, and me (sometimes all the same entity, sometimes separate). Working with the planets has offered me structure and freedom in equal measure. And let me tell you, the planets have so much to say.

— Allyson Seal
The Art + Sex Witch

Working with an Altar

An altar is a throne for energy. For our purposes, that throne is for the specific planetary energy you are courting. You feed the altar with your attention, your invocations, incense, food, herbs, oils, water—with anything you are instructed to offer by way of the direct connection you have with that energy. The first section of this zine offers you suggestions of what you might put on an altar for each planet. There is always room for your intuition and instincts to guide you.

It is common to have all four elements on an altar—a candle for fire, incense for air, a filled bowl or glass for water, flowers for earth. Certain lineages have specific rules or suggestions for the objects and formations of an altar. Others use the beauty way to arrange as many or as few items as call to the devotee.

I often have a bell on my altar, for clearing and calling, as well as stones, crystals, drawings, photographs, shells—the list could go on for pages. Use the guide to help you start. I love that many of my sacred items were handmade by me or gifts from others, each with intention lovingly woven into them.

You don't need to buy anything to build an altar. Allow objects to find you.

Later in this zine I will talk more about tarot. I love to put the major arcana tarot cards of a particular planet on my altar as well as a card I draw daily from a different deck (to allow the same card to come calling me).

Lately I've been listening to the Strange Magic Podcast (more details on the bibliography page). I love that the introduction for every episode says:

Take what you like and leave the rest.

Working with The Sun

the path of self-expression

Astrology.

The sun traditionally rules the 5th house of the zodiac. This captivating luminary represents how we may shine, and shows us how to follow our heart path. The 5th house is the house of creative expression; where we learn how to fulfill these creative expressions in our lives and how we may individually contribute to the collective.

..... Possible Intentions.

When you work with the sun, your day of work is Sunday. You are inviting more vitality and growth into your life in areas of action—health, career, bank account, friendships, love, abundance, happiness. Frame your intention in the positive — instead of less depressed, more happy; instead of losing weight, gaining health and vitality.

For Your Altar.

glistening substances
things of value
gold
pyrite
citrine
tiger's eye
fire opal

onyx
lion
eagle
ochre
orange
deep gold
yellows

circles
full curves
helical scrolls
sunflowers
marigold
marshmallow
mistletoe

Tarot Archetypes.

The Sun represents growth and expansion. Allow your heart and vulnerability to take the lead in your daily interactions. Here, collaboration and co-creation are vital, transformative experiences that work on the spiritual level and the physical level.

Keywords—health, magnetism, passion.

Strength represents the beauty and vitality of the gifts and talents you offer the world.

These tools are essential for you to metabolize the fears, grief, and shadows you carry in your body. This archetype invites ease and grace to guide you.

Keywords—radiance, creativity, risk-taking.

..... Physiology & Psychology.

generation of vital force
circulation
physical growth
expansion of areas of sensitivity

operates through inspiration vs.
intellect
consciousness of ego
individuality as distinguished
from personality

Practices.

Grounding. Drop a cord from the base of your spine to the center of the earth. Pull that energy into your body through each lower chakra. Send a cord up from the heart, through each upper chakra, connecting to the sun and the stars. Pull that energy into your heart. Imagine the mix of both energies radiating out from your heart.

Sun meditation. Sit or stand in the sun, eyes closed, spine neutral, palms upward.

..... Offerings to the Sun.

st. john's wort
calendula
chamomile

almonds
honey
sugar

juniper essential oil
frankincense e.o.
cinnamon essential oil

Working with the Moon



the path of renewal

Astrology.

The Moon, ruler of the 4th house of the astrological zodiac, governs your unconscious and your emotional instincts and desires. The moon also represents your early childhood environment and conditioning, your lineage, and how you are psychologically rooted in this lifetime. The 4th house is the house of home and family, encompassing how you have integrated your learning from the first three houses. The moon is how you feel safe and seen.

..... Possible Intentions.

When you work with the moon, your day of work is Monday. Here, you cultivate the clairs - clairvoyance, clairaudience, clairsentience, claircognizance. Keeping a magical diary to track the information as it comes can be a powerful way to receive confirmation. The moon also communicates with you through dreamwork. Other intentions include things of a cyclical nature, astral travel, and the subconscious.

For Your Altar.

crystal
pearl
opal
moonstone
carnelian
calcite
silver

aluminum
white
pearl
opal
pale blues
iridescents
silvery hues

irregular curves
crooked lines
night-blooming plants
mushroom
water lily
white poppy
white rose

Tarot Archetypes.

The High Priestess offers you access to the divine through the vessel of your body. You carry profound inner wisdom. This card invites you to explore beyond the visionary levels of awakening to encounter the depths of consciousness.

Keywords—mystery, intuition

The Chariot promises triumph. It is an archetype that puts the power of the inner will as a direct line to success. Here we know that action and intention are essential to our forward movement, to our evolution as embodied, focused beings.

Keywords—willpower, success, determination

..... Physiology & Psychology.

vagina, uterus, ovaries
the lymphatic system
the endocrine system
the instinctive mind
imagination

impressionability
changeableness
psychic qualities
extrasensory receptivity
visionary

Practices.

When working with the moon and/or fourth house a rewarding visualization would be a rooting meditation with curiosity. Begin by visualizing how you are “rooted” to the earth in general and then explore what colors, shapes, textures adorn your “root”. Dress it up, as it were. Full participation and independent direction, ie. ownership of how you are rooted and how you can shed layers of the early childhood experiences/conditioning.

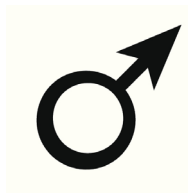
..... Offerings to the Moon.

cabbage
clary sage
cucumber

hyssop
iris
agave

lavender essential oil
geranium essential oil
ylang ylang essential oil

Working with Mars



the path of personal will

Astrology.

The planet Mars rules Aries and the first house of the astrological zodiac. Mars is initiation, will, drive, and our ego desires. The first house represents who we are, and how we arrive in this world. The ascendant (or rising sign) is the cusp of the first house and shows us how we approach life and learn who we are as unique individuals.

..... Possible Intentions.

When you work with Mars, your day of work is Tuesday. Mars (Aries) initiates. It may not always finish the project, but we need that fire, that urge to birth from consciousness and into the material world. Mars rules the head and can sometimes be too skilled at employing a singular focus. Works about basic energy, physical strength, will, self-interest, force, sexual drive, and natural vitality will blossom here.

For Your Altar.

red
scarlet
carmine
sharp angles / barbs
fine straight lines
bloodstone
malachite

citrine
kyanite
carnelian
red hematite
apache tear
gypsum
aventurine

aloe
black pepper
cactus
garlic
ginger
leek
butcher's broom

Tarot Archetypes.

The Emperor invites you to step fully into your leadership with curiosity and initiative. This card offers an ideal union of the mind, the heart, and the spirit.

Recognize your limits, learn your boundaries, and open to creative energy.

Keywords—personal power, stability, laws of society

The Tower offers you the chance to dismantle all systems within you that do not serve your liberation. I'd take the invitation before the universe steps in to do it for you by burning everything to the ground. Here, the voice of your creator is lightning.

Keywords—radical change, chaos, awakening

..... Physiology & Psychology.

generative organs
muscles
testosterone, testes, penis
rapid energy under stress
combativeness

desire
courage
dynamic force
love of family
strong sense of humanity

Practices.

Take a few minutes and close your eyes. With your head facing forward, take one breath in. As you exhale, turn slowly to the right. On the inhale move your head back to center. Turn to the left on the next out breath. And repeat. Breathing in and out in this way can be a physical reminder to incorporate the periphery. Embrace the Mars drive while remembering it takes more than what is visible and in front of us to help us grow and move forward.

..... Offerings to Mars.

nettle
tobacco
honey-suckle

absinthe
poppy
milk thistle

helichrysum essential oil
clary sage essential oil
peppermint essential oil

Working with Mercury



the path of curiosity & knowledge

Astrology.

Mercury rules both the third house and sixth houses of the astrological zodiac. The third house is where we begin to explore our early environment, learn how to communicate and connect with others; where we discover our opportunities and limitations. A messenger between worlds, Mercury governs our curiosity and the search for knowledge in practical terms. The sixth house is where we learn discernment and the necessity for self-improvement so we may be of service to others.

..... Possible Intentions.

When you work with Mercury, your day of work is Wednesday. If you are inclined to mix and mingle your planetary magick, Mercury's messenger nature works well in combination with other planets. Court Mercury when you are cultivating healing powers, particularly hands on healing. Other intentions include inquiry connected to reason, invisibility, and communication.

For Your Altar.

opal
jade
serpentine
agate
lodestone
slender curves
short incisive lines

cinnamon
cloves
celery
chickweed
licorice root
lily of the valley
cardamom

slate
spotted colors
yellow
light green
bergamot
endive
male form

Tarot Archetypes.

The Magician pulls the life force of the universe into physical reality. This archetype invites you to turn potential into reality, to channel energy into form.
Keywords—receive and direct power, unified will

The Hermit is the keeper of the light within. It is with this archetype that you experience the divine through direct communion. It promises a guide to aide you.
Keywords—self-reflection, meditation

The Lovers archetype invokes a choice in relationship, often but not always of a sensual nature. With either choice, both shadow and light propel you forward.
Keywords—commitment, choice, cross-roads

..... Physiology & Psychology.

the hands “as instruments of intelligence”
cerebro-spinal nervous system
sense of sight
tongue & organs of speech

sciatic nerve
Concrete mental faculties
thought & understanding
reason
intellect in the abstract

Practices.

With a strong or heavily aspected Mercury or third/sixth house we may need to “unplug” regularly. This for the purpose of discerning what your own beliefs are vs. that of others and what may no longer serve you well. A good exercise would be to visualize a mailbox or receptacle outside of your home. Picture sorting through your internal file cabinets of information and effortlessly choosing what you wish to send out into the world. Maybe no one will read what is in the letters or files; but the act of letting it go will build that muscle of discernment.

..... Offerings to Mercury.

azalea
carrot
fennel

lavender
thyme
star anise

helichrysum essential oil
geranium essential oil
spikenard essential oil

Working with 4 Jupiter the path of expansion

Astrology.

The planet Jupiter rules the ninth house and is the traditional ruler of the twelfth house before Neptune was discovered. Jupiter represents our process of understanding and the search for meaning. The ninth house is where we seek to expand how we see and understand life. Jupiter is the largest planet in our solar system and expands all it touches, urging us to discover larger fields of existence.

..... Possible Intentions.

When you work with Jupiter, your day of work is Thursday. This planet is the energy of expansion. Turn here when you want to grow your business, your family, your wealth, your influence. Possible intentions include creating more opportunity in your life (please note, opportunity finds you where you are at), also expansion and optimism. Works involving faith and law are potent under the influence of Jupiter.

For Your Altar.

royal purple
violet
deep blue
full generous curves
amethyst
turquoise
lapis lazuli

sodalite
azurite
copper
tin
aniseed
apricot
asparagus

chestnut
nutmeg
rhubarb
strawberry
sugar cane
fig
lime

Tarot Archetypes.

Wheel of Fortune tells us that change is the constant in nature. This archetype invites a gentle hold on the nature of reality as the spider weaves your dreams into reality through what might be discomfort and loss, luck and chance.

Keywords—change, luck, opportunity

Temperance invites you to the middle road. Cultivating harmony comes from seeking equilibrium. It is this balance that creates magic and alchemy through your discernment and attention. Here you are encouraged to choose movement over stagnation.

Keywords—balance, patience, alchemy

..... Physiology & Psychology.

cell nutrition and development
flesh building
formation of hemoglobin
abstract and creative faculties

idealism
optimism
harmony
self-indulgence
fruitfulness

Practices.

When we enter the ninth house we are seeking lands outside of us, literal and figurative. We know there is more beyond our reality and Jupiter wants to take us there. These travels can take place inside of us. Being open to new ways to experience life is Jupiter to the core. Any meditation practice is going to “feed” your Jupiter. Just ask Jupiter to show you what you need to see and how you may be open to what is beyond you.

..... Offerings to Jupiter.

daisy
dandelion
mint

myrrh
sage
almond

jasmine essential oil
clary sage essential oil
spikenard essential oil

Working with Venus



the path of love & beauty

Astrology.

Venus rules two sections of our sky: Taurus, the second house - and Libra, the seventh house. More than the Goddess of Love, Venus governs what we love and value. In the second house we learn what we have or own. Our possessions are more than physical objects, we ourselves are our greatest possession and what we have to offer the world. In the seventh house we learn how to meet “the other”. Participation is key with the seventh house. Learning to connect with others will lead to the development of our individuation.

..... Possible Intentions.

When you work with Venus, your day of work is Friday. Here is a planet about love and beauty including self-love, compassion, objects of desire, pleasure, harmony, and cultivation of the arts. Works of healing and garden magick also fall under the auspices of Venus.

For Your Altar.

emerald
sapphire
coral
chrysolite
carnelian
moss agate
copper

brass
curved lines
rhythmic scrolls
sky blue-pale green
lemon yellow
tints in general
pink

artichoke
damiana
marshmallow
cloves
coriander
red cherry
grapes & vine plants

Tarot Archetypes.

The Empress reminds us that the first step to enlightenment is sensuality. It is our ability to feel the vitality of all things that weaves life into being.

Keywords—fertility, love, gentleness

The Hierophant represents an initiation into the secret nature of existence, one that invites you to take complete responsibility for how you respond.

Keywords—mentor, wisdom keeper

Justice is the archetype that uses a sword to cut through illusions to discover truth. Here, truth shines out like a beacon, promising the balance of the scales.

Keywords—fairness, accountability

..... Physiology & Psychology.

adrenal glands
sense of touch
estrogen
generative system
veins

friendship
pleasure
comfort
enjoyment of elegance
fruitfulness

Practices.

Bring Venus into your life more by adding a sensory component to otherwise mundane tasks: light a scented candle while doing your taxes, listen to music while cooking, use lavender or some other fragrant dish soap to do your dishes. We live on a very beautiful planet and Venus wants us to remember that we are here to appreciate nature on a daily basis.

..... Offerings to Venus.

apple
daisy
daffodil

rose
pomegranate
peppermint

melissa essential oil
neroli essential oil
cedarwood essential oil

Working with ち Saturn

the path of boundaries
& limitations

Astrology.

The planet Saturn traditionally rules the tenth house of the astrological zodiac. The tenth house represents our career, in the modern world: our role in our community, how we structure our reality, and the legacy we will leave behind. The lesson of Saturn and the tenth house is to participate cooperatively for the better of our community and world.

“Individual success is a myth.” ~Dane Rudhyar

..... Possible Intentions.

When you work with Saturn, your day of work is Saturday. This planet offers potent energy for doing the work beyond the self—you’ve got to get up-close and personal with your limitations and the life energy hidden within the shadows of your body if you want to dismantle it. You’ve got to see the prison before you can find the liberation. The process offers understanding, freedom, rapture. Saturn is good for works concerning healing and protection, making yourself invisible to everything that does not wish you well, and also works about time and karma.

For Your Altar.

orange
black
cramped forms
straight, short lines
clear-cut outlines
garnet
jet

smokey quartz
black tourmaline
all black stones
barley
black hellebore
blue bottle
comfrey

hemp
moss
nightshade
parsnip
solomon’s seal
spinach
cypress

Tarot Archetypes.

The Devil's particular flavor of liberation is sexual energy. Sexual energy is spiritual energy in the body. And yes, addictions can be loud with this card. So can creativity and playfulness. A good shorthand is have fun, but not too much.

Keywords—desire overpowering judgment, addiction

The Universe offers understanding, freedom, rapture. Here we are invited to find stagnation and bring movement to it, bring breath to it. It's the unification of the inner essence of self with the outer action in the world and it is unknowable, ineffable.

Keywords—completion, integration

..... Physiology & Psychology.

calcification
congestion
concrete creative faculties

serious outlook on life
strong sense of self-preservation
reserved

Practices.

Take a seated position and visualize your spine running through the earth, towards the very center. As your spine continues to travel through the many layers below, you begin to feel water gently holding your spine in place. As the water holds you, you become more aware of the shape of your spine - your own unique connection to this life. While the water is still embracing your spine, slowly begin to stand up. The earth is now solid again beneath your feet and above you is a sphere of light. Without looking you know the light is a star. This star is the pinnacle of you and represents your place in the galaxy. Raise your arms slowly to greet your star with the very tips of your fingers. Take a few deep breaths to feel this connection of soft groundedness below you, and this bright guiding light above.

..... Offerings to Saturn.

holly
ivy
pansy

vervain
wintergreen
willow

vetiver essential oil
thyme essential oil
juniper essential oil

Working with Planetary Tarot Spreads

Another way to work with planetary energy is with tarot or oracle cards. These spreads are based on the magical energy each astral body radiates. I've found that courting the energy of the particular planet - with an altar or an offering - is enough without forming a specific question. You might experience it differently. I encourage you to use these spreads as a way to initiate a conversation. Your actions in response to the reading are one method of talking to the planets. You can find more planetary spreads at theartandsexwitch.com.

Tending Your Deck.

I like to smudge my cards with sprays that I've made from witch hazel and essential oils. If I use smoke to cleanse my deck, I use what has been gifted to me or what I've harvested myself from my garden or out on a hike. When I do harvest, I make sure to offer a song, a strand of my hair, or a pinch of tobacco in gratitude for what I take. I also make sure to leave the plant thriving, taking only a little.

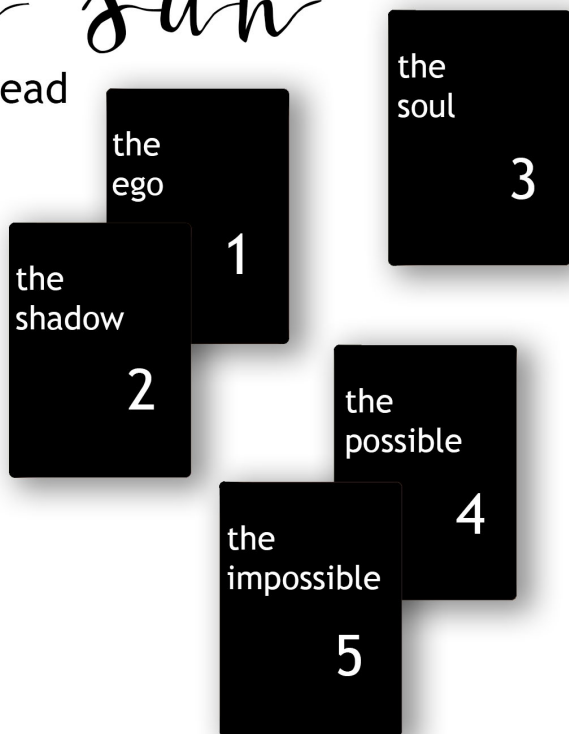
A wonderful way to attune your deck to your energy is to spread the cards out face down, sifting through them with your hands - washing them in your energy.

It took me years to learn how to do the traditional bridge shuffle. If that practice is not one you've got down, I suggest shuffling the cards from your right hand to your left hand, shifting the order of the deck in large or small chunks. I then hold the deck between my hands, running my energy through the cards. I blow into the deck to split the deck, reordering the piles of the cards. And from here, I begin to pull cards.

The more you read with your deck, for yourself or for others, the more you'll find your way of cleansing and shuffling your deck.

The Sun

tarot spread



1. What personal identity quality do I rely on to get through the day?
2. What quality is hidden underneath this habit that needs witness?
3. What within me is calling to be more fully expressed for my soul work?
4. What is my obvious next step?
5. What is the prayer for me greater than I could imagine for myself?

The Moon

tarot spread

the
potential

1

the
action

2

the
disconnect

3

the
giving-way

4

the
triumph

5

1. What intuitive understanding is ready to surface within me?
2. What action can I take to bring potential into reality?
3. What precious knowledge of myself have I lost touch with?
4. What within me can I surrender to a power greater than myself?
5. What does forward movement look like for me at this moment?

Mars

tarot spread

the
author

1

the
compassion

2

the
boundary

3

the
tearing-down

4

1. Where am I in my authority ?

2. What part of me needs my
compassion?

3. What part of me needs a firmer
boundary?

4. What within me needs to be dismantled?

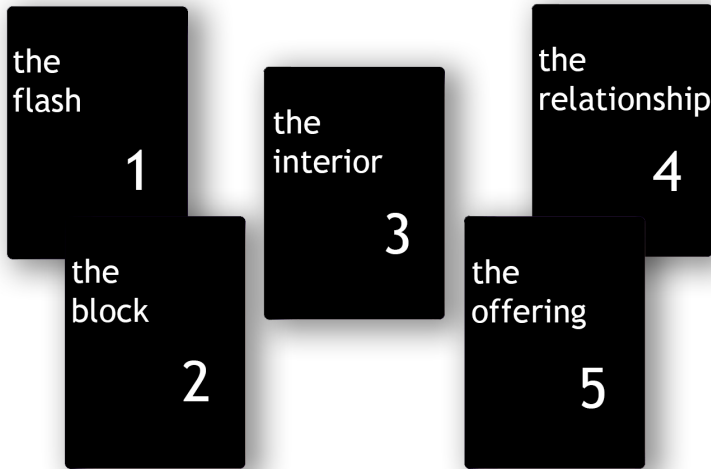
5. What flash of enlightenment opens my path of
personal will?

the
lightning

5

Mercury

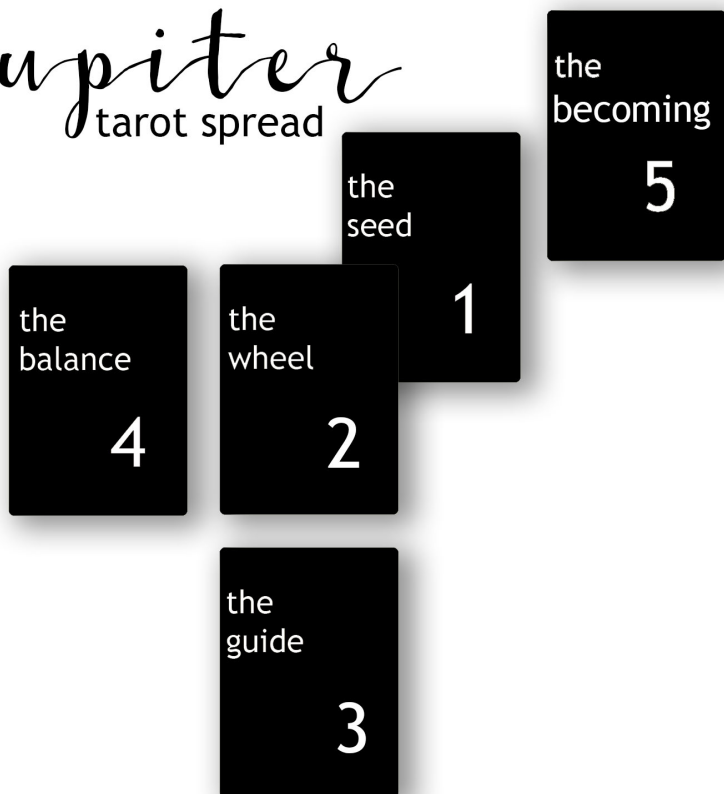
tarot spread



1. What bright spark is ready to come into form at my hands?
2. Where is the flow of energy and inspiration interrupted?
3. What inner work or meditation will support me? (pull this card from the bottom of the deck)
4. How can my community and my relationships hold me as I bring this spark into being?
5. How is my creation of service to the collective?

Jupiter

tarot spread



1. What within me is ready for growth and expansion?
2. What is stuck? / What needs movement?
3. What help is available to me in the unfolding process?
4. How can I honor the creative balance of action and rest?
5. Who am I in the process of becoming?
(pull from the bottom of the deck)

Venus

tarot spread

the
boon
3

the
heart
1

the
vision
5

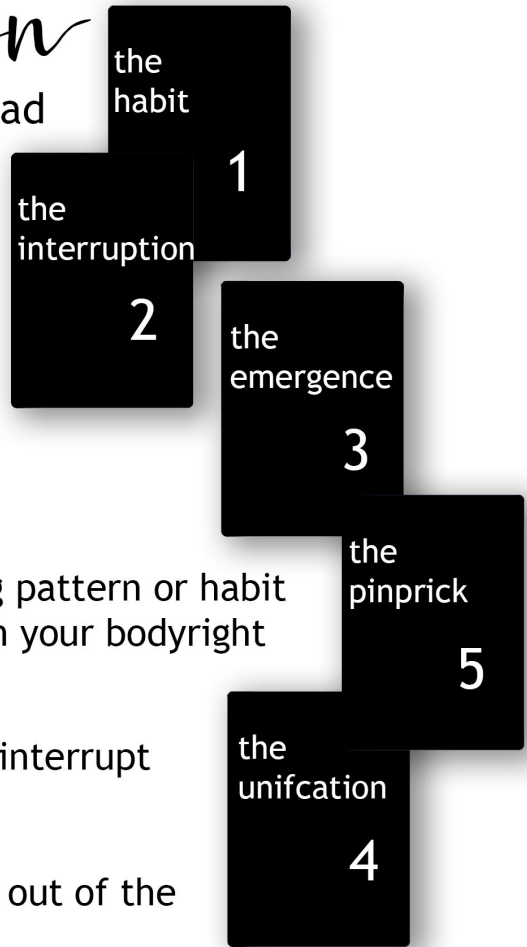
the
fear
4

the
hollow
2

1. How do I give & receive love in pleasure?
2. How do I abandon myself?
3. What wisdom speaks from my heart?
4. What am I afraid of?
5. What is here to help me see through the illusion?

Saturn

tarot spread



1. What self-limiting pattern or habit is awake and alive in your bodyright now?
2. What energy can interrupt the pattern?
3. What is emerging out of the stagnation?
4. Where can I see unification of my essence and my ego?
5. What pinprick understanding of the ineffable is offered to me?

About us.



Allyson Seal is The Art + Sex Witch. Her preferred pronouns are she and her. She identifies as gender expansive. She sees creative practice and cultivating sensuality in the body as ways to enter flow where your whole being is in the present moment of creation and connection. It is her inner work to dismantle all the systems of oppression that she has internalized. It is that on-going process in pursuit of freedom that she offers you through ceremony, ritual, and divination.

theartandsexwitch.com

Katie Evans is an astrologer, artist, and designer living in Richmond, CA. She is interested in the language of the planets and how they act as guides to help us live out our full potential in this lifetime. Through a focus on Evolutionary Astrology principles: the polarity of Pluto and nodal placements, as well as a study of the outer planets, Katie feels drawn to aid clients in deciphering their birth charts to better get to know their own path of creativity through their soul's evolution. She incorporates astrology into her designs through HartVariations, as an ode to nature and these powerful forces above.

abovethehorizonastrology.com



Much of our information comes from personal experience, from direct communication with these planetary energies in ritual, ceremony, and communion. We also looked to other experts in the field of planets and magick to support us in crafting this helpful tool for you on your journey to gain direct experience and information. We invite you to trust your voice and your knowing more than any other voice in the room (or zine).

Take what you like and leave the rest.

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