

**WEBINAR HANDOUT – THE SUIT OF SWORDS**  
**Recorded Live on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2020**



**The Suit of Swords**

The four suits of the tarot are representative of different dimensions and different aspects of our lives. Each suit speaks of a different aspect or series of archetypal experiences that take place in the immediacy of our lives.

Each suit of the minor arcana has 10 cards plus four court cards. In today's webinar we will look at the 10 cards in the suit of Swords

The suit of swords corresponds with the element of air and speaks to us of the realm of the mind.

Given that science speaks of the power of the mind and the power of focused thought and intention, it is helpful to understand this suit as a part of an active process of personal psychological creation, and this process can be both conscious and unconscious.

The suit of swords also reveals to us the journey of the mind's evolution and the development from primitive unconscious patterns of thinking rooted in early stages of growth and through to higher levels of thought, that break through inhibiting patterns of thought and behaviour that may have contributed to the situations shown within the reading.

This suit of cards will bring to light any psychological challenges that are being faced and help to bring understanding as to how to proceed and overcome these challenges.

They will also indicate the process from fog into clarity of thought, leading to empowered acts of creative innovative thinking which actively embody our human capacity for conscious free will and choice from a position of self-awareness and self-responsibility.



## The Ace of Swords

New ways of thinking.

- New ways of thinking
- Psychological development
- Out of a conflict a new perspective will be born
- Conflict of beliefs
- Intellectual clarity
- Individual thinking
- Original thinking
- Inspiration

It can indicate original thinking, intellectual clarity, inspiration, the sudden awareness of a solution.

It can indicate a time when we need to move forwards and leap into a new direction, indeed this card can literally be like a green light to go, however in moving forwards old ways of being and old ways of doing are inherently threatened hence the aspect of the double-edged sword.

When we move forwards and find a new way of being there is often resistance, either within the seeker themselves or from those around them who have an investment in holding onto the old.

In reverse this card highlights this resistance. New ways of thinking and doing are needed, and for the seeker very often desired, however some sort of block to progress is in place.

Indeed, this card in reverse can literally indicate someone deliberately sabotaging the seeker on their pathway forwards, particularly in response to their own identity and their own unique individual capacity to think for themselves.



## Two of Swords

This card is an indication of some form of conflict or indecision

- Choices and decisions
- Stalemate
- Head in the sand
- A no win situation
- Uncertainty
- A creative choice or solution is needed
- Difficulty in making decisions

This card is actually an invitation and invites the seeker to empower themselves to make a decision.

It is often depicted as a conflict or an indecision where some sort of creative solution is going to be needed. Perhaps the seeker has put their head in the sand and is unwilling to recognise the reality of the situation.

It can indicate a no-win situation with much uncertainty, perhaps a stalemate position with either party unable to move forwards or compromise. It can also indicate a difficulty in making a choice and a pessimistic outlook.

In reverse this card suggests that the conflict has been resolved and a solution found.

It also reminds us that when we find inner peace there is always space for resolution.



## Three of Swords

The three of swords suggests that a conflict is over but there are still wounds to heal

- Transition
- Resolution
- Separation
- Leaving something behind
- A conflict is over
- Healing is needed

Inevitably whenever we move forwards in any situation, in stepping through the doorway to something new we automatically leave something behind and so this card indicates that although a conflict or a situation that was challenging or difficult in the seeker's life is now coming to an end and can be safely put down and laid to rest, there is still a process to be embraced in terms of the emotional content and the grieving of the loss of the past.

In reverse this card can indicate a reticence to move forwards suggesting someone who is struggling to let go of some form of conflict and make a decision in the face of an emotionally laden situation. However, a decision does need to be made that is clear and precise.



## Four of Swords

The full of swords implies that stillness is required in the seeker's life

- Meditation
- Spiritual cleansing
- Recovery
- Recharging batteries
- Healthy retreat
- Stillness
- Think on it
- Take your time

If the seeker is faced with a decision, this card indicates that there is a need to meditate, and to take time to think about which way to move forwards.

The four of Swords indicates that a situation has come to rest and implies that it is time to take some time out to re-charge and recover. It can also indicate a need to step back or away from a situation and get centred.

If this is the case this card highlights the need for the seeker to become more actively involved in their own self-care particularly in response to anything in their life that undermines their overall wellbeing and affects their patterns of thinking.

In reverse this card can indicate some form of burnout and a refusal to stop even though all the signs are suggesting that the seeker needs to do so.



## Five of Swords

In an upright position the five of swords indicates self-realisation as opposed to the reverse position where there is fear or denial of the reality of something

- Facing reality
- Self-sabotage
- Taking on too much
- Self-recognition
- Coming down to earth

In the upright position the seeker is ready and willing to see the reality of something and is therefore able to take the actions needed to move themselves forwards.

This card indicates that they have overcome some form of fear, and this has led to the acceptance of a situation which has then in turn led to a space of empowerment.

In reverse this card can indicate someone who is cutting someone down to size, the opposite of someone coming in to help and assist.

It can also indicate disputes or legal issues and sometimes even underhanded tactics designed to undermine.



## Six of Swords

The six of swords indicates the beginning of a more peaceful phase of life

- Travel
- New Horizons
- Journeys
- An opportunity to move to a new vision
- Seeing something in a different light and having an overview
- The mind overrides confusion
- Seeing a situation objectively
- Transition

This card suggests that although the seeker may not yet be through the turbulence of a situation the past is now behind them and the way forwards is clear.

It can also indicate someone who is able to see all aspects and all layers of a situation and is therefore no longer held back or limited.

In reverse this card can indicate that the seeker is stuck in a loop going round and round in circles or indeed sometimes going backwards suggesting insular thinking patterns that are causing them to feel overwhelmed and unable to see the woods for the trees.



## Seven of Swords

The seven of swords invites the seeker to be particularly thoughtful and careful

- A need for tact and diplomacy
- Use guile
- It is not okay to be completely direct
- Do not show or reveal your hand
- Dishonesty may be at hand
- Guard yourself and your ideas

Sometimes this card suggests that the seeker may be in a particularly difficult situation with some dishonest people around them and it is completely appropriate for them to be wary and guarded and to move forwards with considerable thought, tact and diplomacy in order to navigate their current situation successfully.

However, it can also indicate that the seekers perspective is particularly negative and that the seekers fears are actually out of proportion. In this instance the seeker is invited to remove any form of self-doubt and to take charge.

In reverse the seeker has moved to a position where they are able to overcome their despondency and are able to shift their perspective and see themselves as the source of their own empowerment.





## Eight of Swords

The eight of swords indicates the overcoming of something through facing up and stepping up

- Overcoming our demons
- Victory over unhelpful thinking patterns
- Seek external advice
- A turning point
- Stepping up
- Facing oneself

The eight of swords highlights a turning point with an opening and an opportunity to move forwards. It indicates that the seeker is ready to move forwards from a position of self-awareness having faced some form of internal or external difficulty.

Whether upright or in reverse this card says that it is now time to take action.

If they are facing any form of indecision, they are invited to allow things to emerge and not force something to happen. Facing the situation with reflection and being open to guidance will create a space of empowered decision making.

In reverse it suggests that the seeker is unable to act for fear of the consequences. It can also indicate that they are overthinking something and their fear of confrontation may have inadvertently contributed to this situation.



## Nine of Swords

The nine of Swords Is a card of deep thought

- Depression
- Bad dreams
- Dark night of the soul
- Criticism inner or outer

This card can indicate low mood, despondency and depression, and that the seeker may be battling with some form of fear or anxiety and it comes with an invitation for the seeker to journey inwards and understand where this comes from. What is the source of the conflict and the difficulty?

It can also indicate a raging inner critic that is literally debilitating and eroding their self-esteem and self-worth.

In reverse it suggests that the seeker has become grounded and insightful enough to become an observer of their situation. They know that change is needed, and they are now sufficiently empowered through self-awareness to take charge of their current situation



## Ten of Swords

The ten of swords indicates that a difficult time or situation is coming to an end

- Endings
- Transition
- Emergence from a difficult time
- Release
- Relief
- Loss
- A card of goodbye

This is a card of endings, transition, and emergence, it is time to begin anew.

The ten of swords suggests the ending of a difficult time and whilst it may involve some form of loss and pain, this card also brings relief that at last it is over and the seeker has the freedom to begin anew.

This card always indicates that something is being left behind to make way for the new.

In reverse it may suggest that the seeker is struggling to grieve with an inability to accept the loss and the ending of a situation.

It may indicate a broken heart and also an accumulation of negative thoughts and emotions associated with the hurt from former relationships.