

Pick a Card... Any Card

By Bianca Lennon and staff

The fool, the emperor, justice, the hanged man. Looking for answers about love, relationships, money, and more? Tarot cards could be the solution. Psychics and fortune tellers have used tarot cards for hundreds of years. There are many uses such as prediction, self-help, and guidance. Every card has its own meaning and depending on its position, it will provide a detailed perspective on current situations.

“I like to collect them mostly for the art,” said Teacher Loan Nguyen.

In a deck, there are a total of 78 tarot cards, so it can take a while to really find the card that speaks out to an individual.

“Temperance is my favorite card. In summary: it’s a card that symbolizes balance, patience, and finding meaning,” said Nguyen.

Depending on a cards position, the significance of it can completely flip.

“When temperance is in reverse, it’s a lack of balance or having too much of something in your life,” said Nguyen.



The cards can help one reflect, take a step back, and encourage readers to focus on what’s important.

“Sometimes I need the reminder that too much of something is not always a good thing --- I’m a total maximalist, and the mental, emotional, and physical clutter in my life sometimes needs a good purging,” said Nguyen.

Lauren Krup, staff at Roosevelt, has been doing serious readings for herself and friends for the past 10 years.

“My grandmother showed me how to read playing cards when I was in the fourth grade,” said Krup.

Tarot cards can change the way one perceives life.

“I have become more open

to different experiences. I also realize the value of patience. Sometimes you can pull cards that seem bogus or scary, but if you give it time, the messages become more clear and helpful,” said Krup.

For those who are interested in reading cards, it can be difficult to know where to start considering there are so many different decks.

“I would recommend the Modern Witch Tarot by Lisa Sterle. It has been modernized and includes representations of people of color, LGBTQ+ community, and disrupts gender norms,” said Krup.

When looking for tarot cards, be prepared, as the best ones may be found in questionable places.

“My favorite sets are bought used from a very quirky (and stinky) natural healing place, a set that looks like Mucha’s Art Nouveau style, and a set with all cat pictures,” said Nguyen.

Tarot can serve many different purposes, not all as intense as the others.

“If you want to learn a cool party trick, tarot is great. If you want to explore hidden places in our personalities, tarot is a great tool. It depends what you are looking for,” said Krup.

To prevent danger, readers must make sure to keep a positive mindset and monitor how the cards are being used personally.

“I would warn folks that it can become addicting to do readings and to collect decks. The cards themselves can do no harm. Tarot cards are a tool for personal growth. However, if you take it to a dark place, it can become dark,” said Krup.

Tarot cards serve as a great opportunity to dive deep into personality and serve as guidance in hard decisions. The cards are for anyone and everyone, not just the experts.

Major Arcana

The Major Arcana cards reveal messages about the big picture of your life and its long term direction.



The world card may be giving you permission to do whatever you want. Even if you make a mistake, it will be turned to the greater good. Express yourself, stay active,



The tower card signifies transformation. Stressful situations are likely to be created. You are the



The moon advises that you trust your instinct. Don't try to control what you perceive. A better approach would be to meditate. Do nothing and let nature carry you forward. This may be your best option in



The wheel of fortune advises you to follow the flow of events. Spiritual awakenings could arise now. You are protected as you go around the wheel and



The death card advises you to detach from old ways. You may want to close accounts and complete unfinished tasks. It is time to



The strength card advises you discipline yourself. Influence others by setting an example of integrity. Clearly distinguish between your ego and intuitive self.