

# TAROT - Cards, Readings

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# 1. Achieving a Better Relationship Through Tarot

by Joani Collins

## Example dialog between querrent and Tarot reader:

**Querrent:** "It's near Valentine's and I'm not in a relationship!" or possibly worse, "My relationship is on the rocks!" In either case, "Oh, Tarot Master, what is the instant fix?"

**Tarot Reader:** "Hmmm, I seem to have misplaced my magic wand. I don't suppose you would accept some guidance on some of your past issues and current attitudes that are impeding the possibility of your finding a meaningful relationship?" or maybe, "Some insight to some issues that your partner needs help in overcoming for your mutual benefit?"

**Querrent:** "Oh you Inept Tarot Reader, what help is that when everyone's desk but mine will have flowers on them on the 14th!? Skip the bull and tell me that there is someone perfect for me that will show up in time to click that order button at FTD!"

While humorous in this exaggerated example, it saddens me to report that the typical relationship inquiries that I have received in my eight years of reading professionally aren't that far off.

So, if the majority of "seekers" are so plastic, why say so publicly? Why not promise the required knight in shining armor, take the money and run?

Because, one, it would demean every principle I believe in and, two, I think the people I'm writing this article for, beginning students of the esoteric sciences and those curious about Tarot in particular, need to know how to approach the cards if they are trying to read for themselves or others and how to approach a reader if seeking professional guidance to maximize the assistance and knowledge they receive for their efforts or money.

The key to approaching Tarot is the realization that it is not a Magic 8 Ball but a tool that shows the reader a story of life and all its complexities; true desires, fears, hopes, past experiences, current intentions, current actions, outside influences, possible paths and potential outcomes.

This kind of insight is not trivial so it is best not to ask trivial questions. Instead of "Where is my Prince Charming?", why not try "Are there any thoughts, actions or beliefs I currently hold that are keeping me from being in a caring, sharing and committed relationship? If the cause is external, what form does it take and what approach would be best to overcome these obstacles? or should I accept this state at this time for my own best interests?"

If you are brave enough to ask this type of question and open enough to consider the answer, I believe you will discover the self-knowledge and path to self-improvement you are seeking for Valentine's and for Always!

## 2. Chiron and the Tarot

by M.Z. (Mary) Hawkins

As a professional Tarot reader and psychic who has been studying and working extensively with Chiron for over a year, I am always very interested to see how other Tarot readers / astrologists define Chiron in relation to the Tarot.

It has been noted that in Tarot, Chiron can be associated with Major Arcanum I, The Magician, Major Arcanum XII, The Hanged Man (who voluntarily "hangs him/herself up" in order to gain wisdom for the good of mankind), or Major Arcanum IX, The Hermit.

Teresa Archuleta-Sagel notes that The Hermit seems to fit Chiron like a glove, as both are associated with Virgo, the sign of healing, work (duty) and the environment. The Greek words for Chiron mean "the hand," and many astrologers look to Chiron's placement in a chart to determine what, if any, role one might play as a healer (generally as an alternative, or holistic "hands on" healer).

### Mythology of Chiron

Chiron's mythology tells us that Chiron was a centaur -- half horse and half man -- a product of an illicit union between Saturn (Cronus) and the sea nymph, Philyra. When his mother saw "the monster" she had given birth to, she abandoned him. Nonetheless, the little orphan grew up to be a master teacher of many subjects including astrology and medicine. He founded the first healing temple, The Chironium, at least a thousand years before Asclepius, purported to be the founder of Western medicine, founded the Asclepium. Thus, Chiron is actually the founder of Western medicine.

Chiron taught his students how to become "sacred warriors"; how to follow their quests and then go to death peacefully when the time comes. He taught his students how to access multidimensionality and balance polarization and duality. Today we might call such people "shaman," - Those who have learned to walk in other dimensions, work with duality, synthesize male and female, human and animal, mind and body, life and death.

### Chiron, the Natal Chart and Tarot

In the natal chart, Chiron will point out where a person will suffer his or her "soul wound." The wound will be opened in order to gain the wisdom necessary to help heal self and others of physical or psychic pain. Barbara Hand Clow (and other astrologers) has heavily researched Chiron. She notes that Chiron squares, oppositions and returns are key life passages that will show where/when/how a person will be "wounded, healed or wound others."

Getting back to the Tarot, in *Liquid Light of Sex*, Barbara Hand Clow theorizes that there is no Tarot card for Chiron in the Tarot deck -- that Chiron **is** the Tarot card reader!! (Hand Clow also associates Chiron with Virgo and postulates that Chiron, not Mercury, is the ruler of Virgo.)

In *The Tarot Book*, Jana Riley, draws on previous research by Gary Ross, editor of the *Tarot Network News*, theorizing there are two new archetypes emerging -- or ancient ones re-emerging. Ross suggested these \*new\* archetypes have already been depicted via the \*extra\* cards in the Crowley - Thoth deck, where coincidentally, the artist painted and included two extra Magicians (Magus) cards! Ross speculated that the additional Magician in the Crowley-Thoth deck is 000-FUSION, relating to Chiron -- and the alternate Magus in that deck is 00-STARMAKER, relating to Persephone. If Ross, Riley and others are correct, this would result in there being 24 archetypes in the Major Arcana instead of the 22 Tarot professionals are familiar with.

I have come to believe that 000-FUSION in the Crowley-Thoth Tarot deck is indeed Chiron, making it Major Arcanum XXIII and that 00-STARMAKER is Nibiru (the 12th planet) and Major Arcanum XXIV.

That 000-FUSION of the Crowley -Thoth Tarot deck is Chiron resonates deeply with me. In *The Tarot Handbook*, Angeles Arrien shows the nine archetypal constellations of the Major Arcana found within the Tarot. For example, the High Priestess Constellation consists of 2 of Discs, 2 of Wands, 2 of Cups, 2 of Swords, II -High Priestess, XI-Lust/Strength and XX-Aeon. The universal shape, or matrix of the High Priestess Constellation is the The Arrow, with the keywords sense of direction known, in tention of hitting the mark. As far as I know, Arrien has no constellation to date that incorporates 000-FUSION or 00-STARMAKER. However, I propose that these additional constellations exist.

As the 23rd Major Arcanum, I propose that Chiron would be part of the Hierophant Constellation. This is the universal shape or matrix of The Staff or The Rod currently consisting (according to Arrien) of V-Hierophant, 5 of Swords, 5 of Cups, 5 of Wands, 5 of Disks and XIV-Art (Temperance). Placing 000-FUSION (XXIII-Chiron) at the top of the rod literally turns the constellation into a lightening rod (bridge) to higher consciousness! At the bottom of the rod is V-Hierophant symbolizing wisdom, teaching/learning challenges that are met internally and expressed externally when the principles of integration, synergy and alchemy (XIV-Art/Temperance) are at work. Art/Temperance is the union of opposition, polarity and paradox out of which a greater whole is created. Chiron, at the top is the focal point to accessing the trans formational energies of Uranus and bringing them down the lightning rod into form. Five is the number of the bridge -- the connector -- of matter/form (Saturn) to spirit (Uranus) and vice versa. Interestingly, in the Native American Tarot, Arcanum V is the Shaman -- the master teacher of initiates and the healer. What is Chiron if not a healer and master teacher of initiates? So by accessing our wisdom (V-Hierophant) we learn to use the principles of integration, synergy and alchemy (XIV-Temperance), opening ourselves up to contact, receive and conduct (like a lightening rod) the healing energies of Chiron, thus transforming our lives.

I use the Crowley - Thoth and Native American Tarot decks extensively in my work. I have found that when 000-FUSION shows up in a reading using C-T, it is always indicative of the wounding/being wounded/healing Chirotic principle. The position of the card in the spread gives further insight. More recently, I have begun checking Chiron's

placement in the natal chart, its house position and aspects, to give more information on the issue. (In such a reading, accurate birth time is critical.)

### **Chiron as the Soul Number in Tarot**

Lately I have begun experimenting with the possibility that Chiron in other Tarot decks is the soul number of the person being read for. The soul number is deduced by taking the birth date and reducing it to a single digit. For example, January 3, 1970 would reduce to  $1 + 3 + 1 + 9 + 7 + 0 = 2 + 1 = 3$ , or III-EMPRESS. Should III-EMPRESS show up in a spread I do for a client born January 3, 1970, I would evaluate III-EMPRESS from a Chirotic perspective as well as for its traditional meanings. If I am correct in my hypothesis that Chiron is represented by the soul number of the person being read for, Tarot readers who do not use the Crowley-Thoth deck could apply this technique to another Tarot deck they may use. When using other Tarot decks, I would also consider V-HIEROPHANT (SHAMAN) and XIV-ART/TEMPERANCE from a Chirotic perspective.

I also have impressions about 00-STARMAKER (Major Arcanum XXIV), but that is beyond the scope of this article. The Sumerians knew Nibiru as "the planet of the crossing." The essence of 00-STARMAKER is co-creation and working with the sixth dimensional energies (sacred geometry) to transform thought into (three dimensional) form. Working with 00-STARMAKER is much more intuition-dependent since Nibiru has not been \*officially\* sighted and no ephemeris exists for it. I am, however, leaning strongly towards Barbara Hand Clow's opinion that Nibiru rules Libra and the 7th House.

BTW, I believe that blending the disciplines of astrology, tarot and numerology is highly Chirotic and sooner or later, sustained and serious work with one of these systems will lead to exploration of the others.

Blessings,  
Mary Hawkins

## 3. An Introduction to the Tarot

by Anthony Louis

The traditional Tarot is a deck of 78 cards that has become a popular method for tapping into our intuitive consciousness. By contemplating the images on the Tarot cards, we engage in symbolic or metaphorical thinking. This gives us access to a part of our mind that we ordinarily tend to ignore. Various authors have referred to this aspect of the human mind as "the collective unconscious," the "inner self," or the "inner guide." Business minded persons often refer to this process as "brainstorming" and spiritually minded authors talk about "visualization" or "creative imagination." Whatever we call it, the Tarot is a tool that allows us to enter a contemplative, meditative state in which we can gain fresh insights into reality.

The 78 cards of the Tarot are subdivided into Major and Minor Arcana. The Major Arcana consist of 22 cards that depict the Fool's journey to enlightenment.

### Minor Arcana

The remaining 56 Minor Arcana cards (22 Major + 56 Minor = 78) are divided into four suits, just like the modern playing cards. Each suit corresponds to one of the classical four elements of Greek philosophy: Fire, Air, Earth, and Water. I will list below the four suits with their corresponding elements and symbolic associations:

- **Wands, The Fire Element (spirit):**  
Wands are fiery, enthusiastic, inspirational, and spiritually minded. Wands correspond to the zodiacal signs Aries, Leo, and Sagittarius.
- **Swords, The Air Element (intellect):**  
Swords are cutting, intellectual, rational, logical. They also represent conflict and strife. Swords correspond to the zodiacal signs Gemini, Libra, and Aquarius.
- **Pentacles, The Earth Element (matter):**  
Pentacles are practical, dutiful, business minded, earthy, and materialistic. Pentacles correspond to the zodiacal signs Taurus, Virgo, and Capricorn.
- **Cups, The Water Element (emotions):**  
Cups (like Hearts in the modern decks) are emotional, sensitive, caring, nurturing, and relationship oriented. Cups correspond to the zodiacal signs Cancer, Scorpio, and Pisces.

### Major Arcana

The 22 Major Arcana have been linked by various authors with astrological signs and planets. The most popular associations are those of the Golden Dawn movement and they go as follows:

- 0 The Fool, URANUS
- 1 The Magician, MERCURY

- 2 The High Priestess, MOON
- 3 The Empress, VENUS
- 4 The Emperor, Aries
- 5 The Hierophant, Taurus
- 6 The Chariot, Cancer
- 7 The Lovers, Gemini
- 8 Strength, Leo
- 9 The Hermit, Virgo
- 10 The Wheel of Fortune, JUPITER
- 11 Justice, Libra
- 12 The Hanged Man, NEPTUNE
- 13 Death, Scorpio
- 14 Temperance, Sagittarius
- 15 The Devil, Capricorn
- 16 The Tower, MARS
- 17 The Star, Aquarius
- 18 The Moon, Pisces
- 19 The Sun, SUN
- 20 Judgment, PLUTO
- 21 The World, SATURN

Understanding the above correlations will help the beginner to see how the cards derive some of their significance from astrological symbolism. In the next installment we will consider the numerological associations of each of the Minor Arcana cards from Ace to 10.

## 4. The Numerological Significance of the Tarot

by Anthony Louis

Many of the meanings attributed to the Tarot cards derive from numerology. In the West, numerology goes back to the philosophy of the Greek thinker Pythagoras who believed that reality can ultimately be expressed in numerical terms. We have already seen the importance of the number four in the four suits of the Tarot which are derived from the four elements of classic Greek philosophy. The fact that there are 10 pip cards is related to the fact that humans have 10 fingers and therefore use the decimal number system. Odd numbers are usually regarded as forceful, yang, or "masculine" and even numbers as stabilizing, yin, or "feminine".

Below are some of the common meanings attributed to the basic numbers that comprise our system of numbering things:

- **0**: Zero is the number of pure potential, of absolute beginnings and endings (return to nothingness). Only the Fool Trump carries the number 0 in the Tarot.
- **1**: "One is the loneliest number..." the popular song goes. One is the first card of the pip sequence. One is the number of beginnings, of individuality, of the child emerging from the womb, of the prime force of creation. The Washington Monument is an architectural tribute to the number one.
- **2**: Two is the number of duality, of coupling, of self and other, of opposing and complementing aspects of reality, of the union of two individuals (1s).
- **3**: Three is the number of the triad, of the unit formed by duality (2) and its offspring (1), of the three faces of the goddess (virgin, mother, and crone), of the creation that is made possible by joining forces with another, the tripartite genitalia of the male and the genital triangle of the female.
- **4**: Four is the number of manifestation and material reality. There are four elements, four sides of a square, four cardinal directions of a compass, four seasons, four winds, etc. It is a number of order, structure, power, and earthly dominion. Four is the number of the prototypical complete family: a father, a mother, a son, and a daughter.
- **5**: Five is a number related to the five human senses and to the pentagram representing the human form (the head plus the four limbs). Five is the midpoint or turning point of the cycle that runs from 0 to 10. As such, five can represent a crisis point or a state of instability.
- **6**: Six represents the harmony that returns when we resolve the disruption and instability seen in the five. Being a combination of 2 and 3 ( $6 = 2 \times 3$ ), six carries with it the connotations of both 2 and 3, that is harmony, cooperation, creation, new equilibrium.



- **7**: Seven is regarded as a spiritual and introspective number. Being an odd number, it carries an active, forceful, and sometimes disruptive connotation.
- **8**: Eight is made up of  $2 \times 4$ , or  $2 \times 2 \times 2$ . Like the four, it is a number of power, manifestation, and material accomplishment.
- **9**: Nine is the last single digit in the series. It carries a connotation of completion or the ending of a cycle. It can signify the wisdom that is achieved toward the end of a cycle.
- **10**: In the number 10 we see the final ending --- the sequence of pips is over. The cycle has ended and a new one is beginning. Being one more than nine, 10 often means "one too many".

### **The Minor Arcana**

The very number of cards in a Tarot deck reflects this numerological scheme. The 10 pip cards represent a series of everyday feelings, events, and situations associated with each of the 4 suits. The four court cards represent the four members of the prototypical family: father/king, mother/queen, son/knight, daughter/page. Hence each suit consists of 14 cards (10 pips plus 4 court cards).

Mundane and family matters are thus represented by the 10 pips and 4 court cards of the four suits. This makes a total of  $4 \times 14 = 56$  Minor Arcana cards.

### **The Major Arcana**

The remaining 22 cards of the deck are the Major Arcana (major secrets) cards. These have a different numerological basis. Representing timeless spiritual truths, these cards are based on the numbers 3 and 7. The Fool, numbered 0, stands at the center of a triangle (3 sides), and each side of the triangle consists of 7 cards (connected with 7 days of the week that are named for the 7 visible planets). The Fool (numbered 0) plus the 21 lessons the Fool must learn (the other 21 Trumps) make up the total of 22 Trump cards. In numerology, 22 can be broken down into  $2 + 2 = 4$ , the number of manifestation in the "real" world. Furthermore, 21 (the number of spiritual lessons awaiting the Fool) is the sum of the first 6 digits, that is,  $21 = 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6$ , a fact that was not lost on the original creators of the Tarot deck.

By playing with these numerical relationships and their connections to the cards of the Tarot deck, one can come to a deeper understanding of the origin, structure, and meaning of the cards.

## 5. Reading the I Ching with a Tarot Deck

by R. T. Gault

That old tarot deck with the one or two missing cards may be useless for tarot reads but it's pretty nifty for generating an I Ching reading. All that needs to be complete in the tarot deck is one full suit (all 14 cards), 10 of another, 6 of another and 2 of another. I usually use 14 Pentacles, 10 Swords, 6 Wands, and 2 Cups. This will give you an I Ching reading as accurate as the ancient Chinese method of using 49 yarrow stalks.

The original yarrow straw method of divination for the I Ching was based on 16th ratios. The ancient Taoists believed that there was more Yin in the universe than there was Yang, and more static non-movement than change or movement. The original proportions in the yarrow stock method was 1/16 Yin changing; 3/16 Yang changing; 5/16 Yang static; 7/16 Yin static.

Any proportion of these ratios will do. Schoenholtz (see below) suggests 16 balls, in four colors, drawn from a box or bag. My tarot deck method simply doubles the quantities to 32nd ratios. The suits of the deck also nicely correspond to the ancient concepts of Yin and Yang, but the whole operation will work just as well as long as the proportions are the same.

**2 Cups = Yin changing (- -)**

**6 Wands = Yang changing (---)**

**10 Swords = Yang static (---)**

**14 Pentacles = Yin static (- -)**

These 32 cards are sorted out and made into a small pack where they can be shuffled and mixed with ease. To generate the 6 lines, the subject simply picks one card, which is noted, then replaces it to the pack of 32, and repeats the operation 5 more times.

**Example** (I Ching hexagrams are built from the bottom up):

6th line: Pentacles. Yin static.    ---    ---

5th line: Wands. Yang moving.    >-----

4th line: Wands. Yang moving.    >-----

3rd line: Swords. Yang Static.    -----

2nd line: Cups. Yin moving.    >---    ---

1st line: Cups. Yin moving.    >---    ---

This turns out to be Hexagram 31, **Hsien**, "Influences" or "Wooing" (better meaning: "Mutual Attraction"): Lake (**Tui**) above, Mountain (**Ken**) below.

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>-----    **Tui, "Lake," the Joyous.**

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>---    ---    **Ken, "the Mountain," Keeping Still (unmovable).**

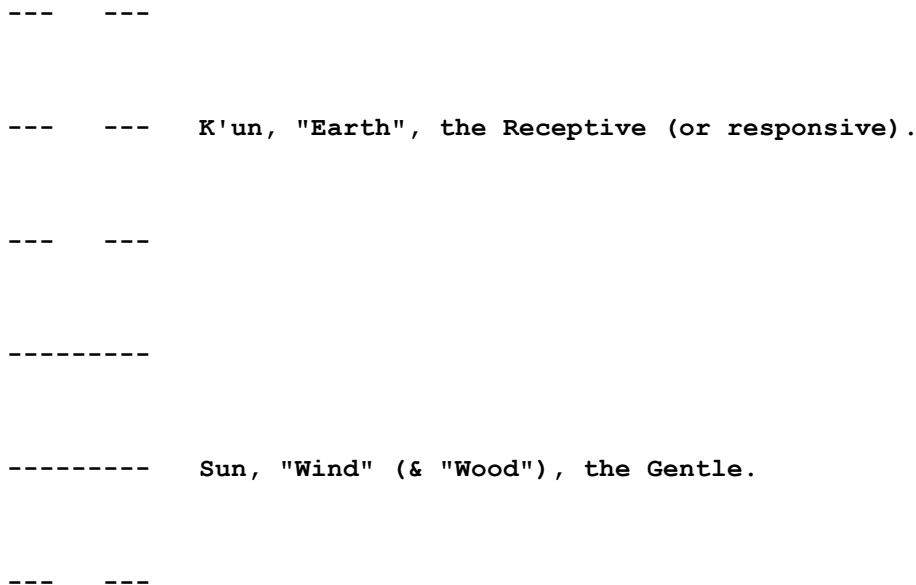
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The divinatory meaning of this hexagram is generally: "Mutual attraction. Firm correctness will lead to success. There is advantage in marrying a young girl. There will be good fortune" (Douglas). This is a surprisingly busy hexagram because it is full of moving lines denoting change (which in our method should be a fairly rare event). Each of the moving lines has a further meaning:

- **1st line:** "He wiggles his toes. Interpretation: However much a man may wiggle his toes, it will not enable him to walk. Intentions are not enough: action must follow" (Douglas).
- **2nd line:** "He flexes the calves of his legs. Evil approaches. If he can refrain from moving there will yet be good fortune. Interpretation: Being influenced by those who are not worthy of one's respect involves one in unnecessary danger" (Douglas).
- **4th line:** "He acts with a proper firmness. Such discipline will lead to good fortune and will prevent all occasion for repentance. If he is restless and undisciplined only his close friends will take him seriously. Interpretation: He must beware of giving way to unhelpful outside influences. Keeping steadfastly to the right path will attract worthwhile supporters to his cause" (Douglas).
- **5th line:** "He moves the skin that covers his backbone. There will be no occasion for regret. Interpretation: Such a movement cannot influence his actions, therefore it does not constitute a hazard in the way of his progress. This implies that purposeful movement is not advised" (Douglas).

It's easy to see why a busy hexagram with lots of change in it is not always a good thing. Our subject already has a whole pile of advise -- some of it in conflict with itself.

The moving lines change to their opposite (Yang to Yin, and Yin to Yang), to form a new trigram. This turns out to be Hexagram 46, **Sheng**, "Pushing Upward" (or "Ascending"): Earth (**K'un**) above, Wind below.:



The divinatory meaning of this hexagram is : "Ascending. Great progress and success. He need suffer no anxiety when seeking an interview with the great man. Proceeding towards the south will be fortunate" (Douglas). In Chinese symbolism, south is the place of warmth and joyful activity.

The subject will probably be relieved to know that there is no further judgements forthcoming from the I Ching on this matter!

Knowing and using the I Ching can be useful to a tarot reader, because the two divination systems have much in common, even though from two different cultures.

Occasionally a tarot reading subject is not satisfied with the read or wants a clarification. The usual procedure is to do a second read using the final outcome card of first read as the "significator" card. Almost everyone who has read tarot regularly will attest that this second clarification read is almost always a mistake. For some reason, the tarot deck does not like to be questioned, or to give out second opinions (then again, maybe it's the reader who getting fatigued and short).

I found that if a clarification was called for, it was often useful to turn to the I Ching instead. Use of a different method of divination also offers a fresh new way of looking at a problem. The fact that I had the tarot deck already in hand, meant that this method could be used without a lot of hunting around for three coins (or 49 yarrow stalks, god forbid!).

I still have no idea why the I Ching answered that I should marry the young girl, when my question concerned a new tarot class I was teaching! Divination is like that sometimes!

**Sources:**

- Douglas, Alfred, *How to Consult the I Ching* (Berkeley, 1971), pb. edition of *The Oracle of Change* (Putnam, 1971). Follows Wilhelm closely, but greatly clarifies the meanings of the hexagrams. Quoted above.
- Schoenholtz, Larry, *New Directions in the I Ching* (University Books, 1975). Chapter 4 explains the mathematical basis of the 16th method used above.
- Wilhelm, Richard, ed and trans, *The I Ching or Book of Changes* (Princeton University Press ( Bollingen, 1967), third ed. I followed his titles for the Hexagrams (above) because they are the best known. There have been further editions and revisions of this volume.

## **6. Your Tarot Archetypes in Action**

### **How to Calculate Them**

by L. A. Lothian

Archetypes are energetic imprints that exist in the psyches all of us, even though throughout history we have tended to externalize these archetypes as Gods, Goddesses, and planets. For instance, the 11 known celestial bodies of our solar system (Chiron included) are often misrepresented in astrology as forces out there, acting on us.

In truth, the planets represent archetypal forces within us--from Mercury our communicator/thinker to Neptune our inner mystic/dreamer to the Moon, our emotional nature. It is when we disown the energy of any particular planet within us, that we misconstrue the influence of that planet as a malefic trouble maker!

The 22 archetypes of the Major Arcana come to us from the shadowy realms of forgotten pre-history, in all likelihood part of a wisdom that once passed for general knowledge, yet was lost in the looting, pillaging and burning of Hellenic and Alexandrian libraries. That said, the tarot re-emerged in medieval times, was fortified in the late 19th century mystery schools a la Aleister Crowley, and with the mass distribution afforded by modern games companies, have seen a major resurgence.

Although Tarot cards have long been used as a parlor game and fortune telling device, Tarot archetypes are a key to 22 expressions of soul energy, and to the 21 steps we take on the journey of soul growth. The 22nd archetype is the Fool, who represents the vagabond traveler we all are through out the cycles of incarnations on the physical plane.

Twenty-two might seem like an awfully crowded room, a giving us a psyche of Sybil-plus proportions. However, there are really 10 core archetypes, with the remaining 12 representing a deeper level or another layer of one of these primary archetypes. One way to imagine our psyches is as a room full of 10 pregnant women, two carrying twins. The room IS crowded, it just doesn't seem unmanageable because the other 12 are nascent and dormant beings that have yet to be born. It is an evolutionary challenge as a species, then, to begin to express the 12 Higher Archetypes by giving birth to and nurturing them in our lifetimes.

So who are the all star cast? In order of appearance: Magician, High Priestess, Empress, Emperor, Hierophant, Lovers, Chariot, Strength, Hermit, Wheel of Fortune, Justice, Hanged Man, Death, Temperance, Devil, Tower, Star, Moon, Sun, Judgment, World, and Fool.

### **Your Primary Soul Archetype**

This is your assignment in life, your mission impossible, your destiny Young Skywalker. It is the archetype that challenges us to the greatest growth in this incarnation. In that respect, it can be seen as our most undeveloped archetype, the supporting actor of other lifetimes that has risen to top billing in this one. You can run, but you can't hide from your soul archetype. It's lessons are the mandatory course requirements for graduation in this lifetime.

## Your Higher Soul Archetype

While everybody comes into this world with a primary archetype assignment, some of us wild and crazy souls arrive with a double course load. These are arguably the old souls who've been around and around the karmic block, multitaskers who have taken on the challenge of two archetypes. On the other hand, these just as well could be souls who failed the last grade and are doing make up courses! Who knows, but my experience of what I call Dual-Soul people is that they invariably live two separate lives--part one expressing the primary archetype and part two the Higher archetype. Most often this shift occurs once the individual has mastered the primary archetype, and is free to tackle the more complex vibration of the Higher archetype. Possibly the role of these individuals is to raise the collective to a higher level of spiritual awareness. Or to just bug the hell out of us!

## Calculating Your Primary and Higher Soul Archetypes

OK, this is deceptively simple, and I've heard it before. It needs to be some algorithmic equation of Pythagorean complexity in order to be meaningful. Surprise! The most profound truths in life are always the simplest!

First, take your date of Birth and do the math below. We'll use "Dan" as our first example. Dan is born Sept. 22, 1945.

$$\begin{array}{r} 1. \quad 1945 \\ \quad +22 \\ \quad +09 \\ \quad \text{-----} \\ \quad 1976 \end{array}$$

2.  $1976 : 1 + 9 + 7 + 6 = 23$

3. Because 23 is Higher than 22 (the last archetype of the arcana) we must reduce the number (think of making gravy from watery stock!). How do we do this?  $2 + 3 = 5$

4. Dan's Primary Soul Archetype then, is 5. You will see in the next article that 5, is the Hierophant. Dan then, is a Hierophant Soul. (Think Pope!).

However, there are those with dual souls. Lets take "Sindy" as an example. She is born Oct. 17, 1956.

$$\begin{array}{r} 1. \quad 1956 \\ \quad +17 \\ \quad +10 \\ \quad \text{-----} \\ \quad 1983 \end{array}$$

2.  $1 + 9 + 8 + 3 = 21$

3. Because Cindy's number is less than 22, we retain 21. When we check the interpretation we find she is a World soul. This is a *Higher Soul Archetype*, as are all archetypes from 11 (Justice) to 22 (the Fool).
4. Now, we take the 21, and reduce that:  $2 + 1 = 3$ . We see that Cindy's *Primary Archetype* is 3, the Empress.

## Calculating Your Year Cycles

First, never forget that the year cycles are birthday to birthday, **not** calendar year.

Another simple formula. Elementary dear Watson.

1. Add together your month and day.  
Dan: Sept 22, which is 09, and the day, 22, which adds to 31.
2. Take your 31 and DO NOT REDUCE IT FURTHER. Take this number and add it to the year you wish to know about. For instance, 1997 plus 31, which gives us 2028.
3. Now, take 2028 and add the digits together.  $2 + 0 + 2 + 8$
4. From this we get 12. Dan is in a 12 year, the Hanged Man. We do not reduce this further to 3, though it is understood that 3, the Empress, is a part of his year cycle energy simply because it is a lower octave of Hanged Man. (12 reduces to 1 plus  $2 = 3$ .)

In **Part 2** we'll look at individual tarot archetypes.



## 7. Tarot Archetypes in Action Your Year Cycles

by L. A. Lothian

After you have calculated your Primary Soul (and for some, Higher Soul) Archetypes, you can interpret the gist of your Life Purpose by reading the Year Cycles 1 to 22 below, and simply substituting the word Life for Year.

If you've forgotten how to calculate your year cycles, here's how:

### Calculating Your Year Cycles

First, never forget that the year cycles are birthday to birthday, **not** calendar year.

5. Add together your month and day. Example: Dan, born Sept. 22, which is 09, and the day, 22, which adds to 31.
6. Take 31 and **DO NOT REDUCE IT FURTHER**. Take this number and add it to the year you wish to know about. For instance, 1997 plus 31, which gives us 2028.
7. Take 2028 and add the digits together.  $2 + 0 + 2 + 8$
8. From this we get 12. Dan is in a 12 year, the Hanged Man. We do not reduce this further to 3, though it is understood that 3, the Empress, is a part of his year cycle energy simply because it is a lower octave of Hanged Man. (12 reduces to 1 plus  $2 = 3$ .)

### High Priestess Year \* 2 \*

This is a year of choices: to be or not to be? Should I stay or should I go? Turn left, or turn right, up or down. A high priestess year sets in motion a cascade of decisions, none of which is easy, and all of which have one thing in common--there is no middle ground. Rich or poor, good or bad, dark or light. It's as if somebody has put the high contrast filter on your now black and white life. Jungian analyst Marion Woodsman describes it best--this is about balancing the tension of opposites in your psyche. Time to hit the dark room, process that roll of film you've kept hidden in the freezer--you know, the out takes of all your demons, monsters and bad guys. Time to print and expose them to the light of day. Can't stand your boss? What trait does she express that you repress? That neighbor is a loudmouth so-and-so. What are you afraid to be loud about? Your spouse is a freaking neat freak. Have you noticed, by the way, that you are a slob? Oh, the High Priestess sounds so damn nasty. She is also a psychic wonder woman, so take heart. She will fire up your intuition in this year, so if you start hearing voices, now is the time to listen! Past life memories are her specialty, and you can order up as many servings as you'd like. And does she like to slip under your covers and watch your eyeballs rock and roll in R.E.M sleep. In fact, High Priestess jumps right into your normally mundane dream life in this

year--forget the neurotic dreams about being late for work, naked in public, teeth falling out and having to take that exam again, and again you haven't studied. She turbo-charges your psyche and sends you into the realm of Big Dreams: precognitive, astral, archetypal, lucid, otherworldly. If you have never dream journaled, get started! High Priestess is here to wake you up while you sleep. Breakfast conversation will never be the same again.

### **Empress Year \* 3 \***

Picture a radiant woman in flowing moo moo dress tending her garden with loving care. If you are a man, no need to cross dress, just don the coveralls. Whatever the gender, the Empress year brings you in touch with your need to nurture and be nurtured. She is earth-mother incarnate. Watering your plants, stroking your pets, hugging your kids are de-riguer. It is a year in which frozen emotions begin to thaw: you cry at the movies, you cry at weddings, you cry at the dry cleaners. You are sucker for the underdog, the lost cause, any cause. A trip to the pound in this year is not a good idea, unless you are planning on turning your own home into an animal shelter. Key is to take this reservoir of love that keeps spilling over, and splash in it yourself! Book a massage, take a vacation, pamper your soul! If you are female, this is a year to learn about sisterhood, to find support and love from women, to meet a surrogate mother-mentor, and to come to terms with your feelings about your own mother, and being a mother. As a man, you will find yourself embracing women as friends, renewing your relationship with your sister (s), coming to terms with your mother, and with how she influences your choice in mates. The Empress is not just about love: she is about creativity that is seeded in the realm of the imagination. She is fecund and fertile, ripe and blossoming, with ideas, plans, creations. That includes procreation's: a conception, birth, or adoption in your Empress year is about the maternal urge at full throttle: this is the child who is wanted, wanted, wanted no matter what. Even though creative juices are flowing in this year, much of what the Empress seeds will not begin to sprout until the following year, when the physical manifestation of Emperor takes over, giving form to the imaginative thought-spark of Empress.

### **Emperor Year \* 4 \***

OK, time to claim your kingdom and yell out, "I'm the King of the Castle" (and you're the dirty rascal?) This year is about independence and manifestation on the physical plane. If you have unresolved Father issues, they will resolve themselves! Fathers can die in an Emperor year, and they can also come back to life, in the sense that we forgive and allow them to be people who make mistakes, rather than villainous rulers of our childhood. Issues with authority--claiming your own, bowing to another's, can be great lessons in this year. It is also a year about building up something in a step-by-step manner, something lasting and something royal. Think Cheops and his pyramids! Businesses are often incorporated, houses built in this year. However, the highest expression of Emperor is not in lording over employees or slaves, nor in marketing 101, but in learning to SERVE. The good king thrives because he puts the needs of his constituents first. He (or she) learns that true leadership is truly service. This was the message of Christ, leader among us, who said: The least among you shall be first. The good Emperor learns that having a palace (in Pacific Heights) and riches (film royalties) is not enough to claim the

one Kingdom that really matters--the Kingdom of God within. The goal of an Emperor Year is to manifest on the physical plane, Divine Expression and Intent. The Shadow side of Emperor is the short-sighted profit motive, the Machevellian end justifies the means, the folly of King Midas with his golden life-destroying touch. In an Emperor Year, harness the highest yield: forget your financial balance sheet, and remember your karmic debt. This will lead to riches beyond your dreams.

## **Hierophant Year \* 5 \***

Get ready to learn what it means to listen to yourself for a change. The ultimate goal of this year is to realize you are your own best teacher, advocate, mentor, advisor, and priest. In the meantime, watch as you look for all of these resources outside of yourself! This is also a year which challenges you to play the rules of the game or to disavow those rules. Time to be the iconoclast or the team player. Time to learn how, and now, to climb that corporate ladder, or bail out. What color is your parachute? The color of one who listens to his or her inner teacher! Dogma is the dead give-away of a Hierophant who has lost touch with his or her inner voice. These years separate the sheep from the shepherd, the believer from the outsider. Time to find your place, or make your place. Entrepreneurs blossom in this year, as do bureaucrats. It is a matter of simply identifying your niche, at least for now. Institutions can play a major role in your self-discovery, from church to state. Medicine, Law, Academics, Government bodies are just a few classically Hierophant institutions that might impact your life in this year. Shadow side of this year: trying to fit your square self into a round hole, or vice versa. This is NOT the time to follow parental/societal/cultural expectations of who you are, but to delve deeply and discover that truth for yourself.

## **Lovers Year \* 6 \***

So who is the lucky or unlucky partner? This is a year of union and separation, of seeing yourself in the mirror of relationship. Friendships and relationships which end now will end simply because the lesson for both parties is over--endings in a Lover's Year are D.O.A. and often traumatic. No resuscitating here! Existing relationships that survive the Lover's test have been forged in a crucible of soul-communion --long live those relationships (at least until the next Lovers year). Unions and partnerships also begin in this year. These run the gamut from birth of a child or grandchild to business partnership to marriage, to engagement, to the start of dating. These all share a common characteristic: they are your classic "soul mate", known-each-other-forever re-unions. Expect to learn a lot, and over a lifetime, with any relationship that BEGINS in a Lover's Year. Even divorce or death will not keep this relationship from thriving. Unions in a Lovers Year are about commitment at the soul level to furthering each other's growth by supporting, mirroring, shadowing each other: this is the cypress and the oak, side by side, sharing the same water, same sun, neither crowding the other. This is also your typical screaming Italian union, in which fireworks are the spark that keep each other growing! Hot hot, cold cold, never lukewarm!

## **Chariot Year \* 7 \***

Hi ho silver! Time to harness up your trusty steed and ride the Chariot into battle. This is a year of proving yourself in the world, of taking the reins of your life and charging forward full speed ahead. Challenges of all kinds can manifest in a Chariot cycle, from relationship to career to health, but these events are merely the obstacle course erected at the soul-level, through which you test your mettle. Think slalom ski racing, race car driving, horse racing. Cars, boats, planes and trains all figure prominently this year, with travel and/or relocation likely. No place for compromise, nor self-doubt. It is a year of risk-taking, of daring to tackle your dreams. Chariot takes what the Emperor started, and amplifies it by literally transporting it from the confines of the castle, into the world at large. Mergers, acquisitions, businesses expansion, and career lift off are common. Local becomes national, national becomes international, global becomes interplanetary. How you accomplish goals in this year may surprise you. The meek become mad dogs, the bears become bulls. Chariot fires up your yang, your Mars, your will power. At its highest expression, Chariot year challenges you to align personal will with transpersonal, to manifest beyond ego needs and become instead a powerful vehicle for the will of God. In this regard, Chariot can take you in directions beyond your imaginings and you may find yourself radically and suddenly switching directions--career track for mommy track, spiritual devotee for capitalist entrepreneur, Such changes in a Chariot indicate the Ego giving up the steering wheel and saying, you drive! There are no boundaries in a Chariot year, and if you dare to step off the edge of the world, you will find the world is yours.

## **Strength Year \* 8 \***

This year is about shedding your skin like a snake in order to become who you really are. This is a year of transformation, and for some this requires a 180 degree shift. For others, living a more authentic life entails a more gentle re-direction. Whatever the case, this year will force you to re-assess who you thought you were for what you are becoming. It's time to trade in the Ego agenda for the transpersonal model. Time to tap passion, creativity, excitement and lust for life, and what the heck, plain old lust. NO SHOULD'S ALLOWED is your motto this year. And for goodness sake, if you haven't learned to love yourself, this is the year you will finally get it! When we resist the expression of our authentic selves, this year can present as frustration, chaos, illness and sometimes tragedy. Each of these is a wake up call to a new life, to who we really are. Part of a strength year will always involve looking at ALL of who you are: this means your animal nature, your dark side, your shadow stuff! The less you have stuffed in the closet in a Strength year, the more free you are to recreate yourself and your life. Think of putting your hand in a lions mouth, and you'll have the gist of your Strength year.

## **Hermit Year \* 9 \***

The Hermit initiates a 12-month cycle of learning, questing, seeking, teaching, mentoring, apprenticing. It is a time of completion's, of tying up loose ends, finishing projects and relationships, in preparation for a whole new cycle. Shining the light in the dark corners of your life and finding answers. Take time to be alone, to contemplate, and

to learn. Those who have never seen a psychic, see one in this year. Those who have never looked deeply for metaphysical truths, venture for the first time into this territory. Truth at all costs in this year. No white lies. Time to meet your Obi Wan Kenobi, or Crone, or Wise Old Man. This may be a real person who comes into your life this year, a spirit guide, or an aspect of yourself! Dreams will speak to you, so listen! Shadow side of this year: falling for guru worship, taking the advice of others over your own best knowing, not following your hunches, mistaking alone for lonely, and forgetting that it is your year to march to a different drum! It is OK to be the oddball this year. Go for it!

## **Wheel of Fortune Year \* 10 \***

Hold on to your hat, run for the cellar. This is the year the tornado sent Dorothy and Toto to the land of OZ. The keyword in this year is CHANGE. The motto to survive by: GO WITH THE FLOW. Understand that the changes at hand are seeded at a deep level of your soul, and this is where the notion of fate makes sense. Think of Pat Sajak as King of Karma (Saturn) and Vanna White as his trusted companion, that repository of past life memory, (moon). A look-see at the transits and progressions of these planets to your natal chart might be enough to make you shriek in this year. It is also a clue to what your karmic lessons will be, so tune in to an astrologer near you. You can run, but you can't hide from your Wheel of Fortune Year. OK, it's not all upheaval and chaos. Think then of Ganesh, Hindu Elephant God. This cosmic elephant removes obstacles from your path or puts them there. All depends on whether you are on the RIGHT PATH or not. In your Tao, as the Chinese might say. When you are off the beaten path, off track, lost in the woods, the Universe nudges or shoves you back to the road of your proper destiny. This soul path is the Yellow Brick Road that Dorothy travels, that you are traveling as well. Change of job, residence, city, country, relationship are common manifestations of the seeker re-establishing contact with Divine self, with the right way. Keep to the center of the wheel, not the bumpy rim, and journey will be smooth!

## **Justice Year \* 11 \***

This is a year in which the scales of Justice seek the balance point between an ounce of flesh and a kilo of Karma. This is not just your bathroom scale weighing the sins of chocolate and cheese puffs, but rather a Cosmic Weight Watchers that measures the ratio of spiritual muscle to karmic fat. Karma sharma, you say? Just look in the mirror at the flab of unfinished past life lessons that hang like a spare tire and saddle bags on your aura. By the time you've hit a Justice Year, it's too late to crash into a spiritual fitness course. The best you can do now is throw yourself on the mercy of the court. What if you've been doing your spiritual calisthenics all along, and your aura is trim and fit? This is your year, then, to cash in on some of your just desserts. All those good deeds and thoughts made it into your celestial bank account, and here comes the interest check. Lucky breaks, happiness, success, fame or fortune can all be your maraschino cherry of good karma. Or conversely, you might find this a year to reap what you have sown in misdeeds and ill-thoughts. From bad luck to bad hair days, the scales can tip with little warning into payback territory. If you've been a naughty soul, it's a good a time as any to say your Hail Mary's, right any wrongs, to forgive and forget, and hope Justice will prevail in your favor. What goes around always comes around, and this is the year to

learn that lesson once and for all. Legal battles, contractual difficulties, parking tickets are all external manifestations of an internal imbalance. Find your own middle ground this year, the balance point. Zen Buddhism anyone?

## **Hanged Man Year \* 12 \***

This is a two layered archetype-- Empress, with her call to creativity, procreativity, nurturing, self-nurturing, imagination and love. At the same time, you are experiencing the challenging higher octave of Hanged Man! If Empress is Mary Had a Little Lamb, then Hanged Man is the theme melody to Twin Peaks, or better yet, a depressing Pink Floyd tune. Your challenge in this year is simple (heh heh): SURRENDER. Yeah, right. Well, at least give up control, and realize that you are not going to conquer this addiction, or self-defeating behavior pattern, or neurosis, all by yourself. Sure a therapist or 12-step program will be helpful, but in the end this is about saying, OK GOD, I GIVE UP. Show me the way? You choose, I'll follow. What are you in crisis about: workaholism? alcoholism? martyrdom? Too many times, a health crisis becomes the wake up call in a Hanged Man year. So wake up before your body forces you to snap to attention. What may have been fine for years is suddenly no longer tenable to the soul within. That co-dependent no more relationship? That TV addiction when you could be meditating? That unresolved mother stuff--oh dear, did I forget to mention? You have some heavy lunar-maternal stuff coming down the chute in a Hanged Man: clear the closets, clear the air, tell mom what you think, tell your kids to be quiet! Whatever the case, do not expect smooth sailing as a mother, or with mother. This goes for you men too! Did I mention this is a highly creative year?

## **Death Year \* 13 \***

Don't worry, Death is only one side of the coin. The other is rebirth. This is not a year of physical death (phew!) but the dying of some part of who you are in order to make way for the beginning of something new. Death is a higher octave of Emperor and so expect many of those same themes--independence, leadership, authority to play out in this year. But also, be ready and willing to make dramatic shifts in your life, in your priorities, in your career, in every realm. Favorite death year examples include the corporate exec who resigned to join an ashram; the accountant who quit to become an artist. Death need not be so revolutionary, it all depends on how well you have been listening to your soul all along: if you love your work, then it will love you back in this year, with new levels of achievement and acclaim. It is when we have not been true to ourselves that life seems to betray us in a Death Year: fired from the job we hated anyway, left by the spouse whom we long ago emotionally abandoned. OK, so maybe Death can be a bit of an earthquake, but who ever said that life was easy. When you cease to be afraid, to walk into your fear, you have become complacent and are no longer growing. Death says tsk tsk, not anymore! Ways to co-operate with Death in this year? Take up bungee jumping, rock climbing, parachuting, or anything that scares you to death. Terrified of public speaking: time to sign up for an acting class. Afraid of dogs. Time to volunteer at the pound. By engaging our fears in a Death year, we say to this archetype: you don't have to sneak up on me, I am willing to grow. In a Death year, the best defense is a good offense.

## **Temperance Year \* 14 \***

Take Hierophant and add a touch of angel dust. This is a higher octave of the Pope energy contained in Hierophant, raising religion to spirituality, traditional medicine to energetic healing, commercial art to High Art. In this year, expect to find the rules of the game you played in Hierophant, no longer apply. Rather, in this year you learn to play by cosmic rules, leaving behind forever the instructions by Parker Brothers. Monopoly? Nah. Try Pictionary, or maybe Scrabble--drawing and writing are hallmarks of Temperance, with a quantum leap in your creative abilities that comes from channeling the muse. This is not art of the tortured psyche, the personal poetry, the abstract statement. This is universal art--it touches the humanity and the divinity in all of us. Think Oscar night, think Pulitzer. Don't forget to thank your mom!

## **Devil Year \* 15 \***

Take naked Lovers and chain them to the cloven-hoofed Pan. You don't have an orgy, but you do have a carnal moment. Passion, lust and mirth are staples of a Devil year, so don't pick this one to join the monastery. Devil teaches us about the illusions of the material world, by giving us the chance to live and play in this world. Think of Buddha before he sat by that river and got religion. By the end of this year expect to have really LIVED it up--yeah yeah, that's DEVIL spelled backward. Just like Satan speaks to us backward in old Led Zeppelin tracks, this year has a way of playing tricks on us: what we think we see often turns out to be just that: What we think. If there is any year to finally GET the Course in Miracles, and join the .00001 percent of the population who have managed to plow through it, this is it. The lesson of this year: don't change the world, change your mind about the world. Or as good old Seth, of Seth speaks, liked to say: You Create Your Own Reality. The trick, or course, is in learning how to uncreate that mess!

## **Tower Year \* 16 \***

I've fallen and I can't get up! Oh yes you can. Stop whining about that thunderbolt that blasted you from the top of your Ego Tower, to the jagged rocks below. Get out your first aid kit and pick yourself up by the shoelaces. This is the Year that you learn the basics of shock-trauma. Check out Uranus natally and transiting, if you want--won't tell you the voltage headed your way, but may give a clue to timing. Remember Dannion Brinkley, the guy who was fried by lightning while talking on the phone, then got a direct line to heaven. While up there, he got the Big Picture for the next thousand years, and even learned to turn on the lights without touching the light switch. Dear Dannion had what we might call a Tower Experience. Time to buy a lightning rod and quit golf at the country club. By the end of this year, you'll conduct more than a little electricity---you will have experienced ego death and like Lazarus, come back from the dead. Time for a new hair cut!

## **Star Year \* 17 \***

Nothing short of Divine guidance is at your disposal this year. You could meditate standing on your head on a crowded subway train, you're so centered. Astral entities, angels, guides and God are all shoving and pushing in line to get a word in edgewise: you are like a big satellite receiver in this year, the top of your head a wide open chakra. Don't worry about astral bad guys, by the time you reach the Star, you are protected by celestial armor. This is a year to follow your star, to shine you light, to be a beacon for the lowly rest of us. Oh, and don't forget to sign autographs in between bursts of brilliance.

## **Moon Year \* 18 \***

Why do cerberus guard the gates to the underworld? I mean, why not emus or squirrels. Maybe because those mutant dogs have sharp teeth and hair-raising snarls that make you think thrice about stepping into that lunar landscape. The moon is shaman territory, the underworld where Hades held Persephone captive. Is that a hint. You betcha. Having a moon year, means a probable abduction into the world of your own subconscious mind, the shadowy realm of your repressed baggage, and for some, a trip through the carnival fun house of your soul. Heavy stuff, and you have planet Pluto to blame. Transform, transform, transform. On the bright side, you could be asked to the White House for dinner... Just kidding.

## **Sun Year \*19 \***

Why do I want to hum a John Denver tune, any John Denver tune. Well, it could be because the sun is so, well, sunny. This is a good year by any standards: health, wealth, marriage, career routinely flourish under the sustaining rays of the sun: when this year shines in your life, your only job is to bask. Oh, and to share some of your radiance with the rest of humanity. It's a trade off for purgatory in the Moon year before. Everybody into the pool!

## **Judgment Year \* 20 \***

Back to the hard work. Judgment calls us to follow nothing less than our life purpose. No excuses, no calling in sick for your destiny. This archetype depicts the image of an angel trumpeting, while people rise up out of their graves. It's a Judgment day kinda thing. Key is the grave you rise up from--is it your job, your marriage, your whole darn life which has gone to hell in a hand basket, and is about as stimulating as a day with the dead? Something has to give here, and in a Judgment year it is usually the status quo. When you hear your trumpet call to new life, don't be surprised if your worldly concerns give way to humanitarian predilections--this is your Mother Theresa meets Ralph Nader year. Don't forget to keep a mailing list!



## **World Year \* 21 \***

We are the World, we are the People. For at least a season, and then another coup d'etat, massacre, genocide gets in the way. A world year is about the dance of life, about unity consciousness, about the needs of the many being the needs of the one. This is your year to get with the Enlightenment program. First stop: worldly success. Before you can be an agent of God--in the world, but not of it--you just have to get your hands on the gold, and do a Donald Trump. World years make you rich, make you famous, give you all your desires on a platter. At the end of the day, you come back to yourself. At least, that's the rumor.

## **Fool Year \* 22 \***

This is a year of trusting the universe, of being a voyager and a vagabond, of adventuring though life. The Fool is us, the journeyman through the incarnations of the physical plane and through the previous 21 archetypes. Along the way the Fool learns one thing: the only constant is change. Live by this rule of thumb in a Fool year, and trust that no matter your course, you will find a hotel, hostel, bed and breakfast or manger waiting at the end of the day. Key concept: Leaps of Faith. How foolish!

## **The Magician \* 1 \***

Due to mathematical impossibility and the cosmic plan, there are no Magician Year Cycles, only Magician souls. This way, Magicians never need to share the limelight. The Magician is the ultimate networker, schmoozer, PR woman, spin doctor and communicator. These verbally adept souls could take their fine art of communication to Sotheby's and auction each golden word. Past lives scribing and scribbling for pharaohs and kings make Magician's the perfect presidential speech writer, with kindlier, gentler nations at their disposal. At the end of the archetypal day, however, Magicians eventually tire of the sound of their own voice and the sight of their own rhetoric. (Think Rush Limbaugh at mid-life crisis). Inevitably these wordmeisters look for the meaning of life in Save-the-Sea-Cucumber causes, or any calling that in which the means does not justify the end. Down with Machiavelli, up with Ralph Nader! (Think Ted Turner and his small donation to the United Nations).