



CONGRATULATIONS! YOU ARE NOW A TAROT INITIATE!

All the hard work and dedication has paid off. You have moved from Tarot seeker to Tarot initiate.

I've got a few words for you before we part ways.



ON BECOMING CONVERSATIONAL WITH TAROT - OR HOW NOT TO FREEZE WHEN THE CARDS THROW YOU A CURVEBALL

Anyone who has studied a foreign language has had the experience of not knowing what the *bleep* somebody just said to you. What do you do? Most of us panic, freeze, and maybe ask the person to repeat what they just said.

When reading Tarot, the cards just sit there, unmoving, silent. The person you are reading for stares at you intently.

How do we break the silence? How do we awaken our brains from the stupor?

Back to basics.

Remember the "[what about definitions](#)" section of this book? In that section, you created a quick and dirty list of tarot card correspondences that you could live with. Call up that list in your mind (or notebook).

When you get stuck in a reading, or if you don't know how to start, do this:

- start with the first card in the reading. Place your finger on the card and state the card. For example, this is the Magician card.
- then say, "This card talks about/deals with/feels like _____." Fill in your correspondence.
- go to the next card and repeat the process. Say, "This is the 5 of Wands. The 5 of Wands can indicate arguments or rough spots."

After doing this with a few cards, the reading should open up a bit for you.

A few notes:

- If there is a card that just plain doesn't make sense in the context of the reading, go ahead and say that. You can say something like, "This is an odd card to show up" or "I'm not sure

what this card is trying to say, so I'm going to skip it and come back."

- If you have a feeling or sense around the card that has you stuck or perplexed, it's okay to ask the person you are reading for. You can say something like, "It seems like this card might be about x,y, or z. Does that make any sense to you?"

GODS OR GUIDES OR MAGICIANS? - WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE TAROT READER?

This brings us to the final, though quite important, question on our journey. What's supposed to happen in a Tarot reading anyway? To a certain degree, it's a matter of opinion and depends on the style of the reader.

What I will say around this topic is that as a Tarot reader, you are not omniscient. You are not God. You are a guide.

It's important that you don't feel like you should know everything and be able to answer every question and make unlimited predictions about the future. It doesn't work that way. Back off and give yourself a break.

As a Tarot reader, you serve as a guide through the symbolic territory of someone's life. And in this day and age, you will serve as a counselor. How heavy on the counseling end you will serve is up to you.

In certain moments, you may even assume the role of the magician by helping catalyze change in someone's life. That may happen while in the counseling role, but it can also happen in a magician/witch role. Once again, the level of emphasis is up to you.

I work in the real estate industry. It's often asked of new agents, "who do you want to work with more, buyers or sellers?" For me, this is a silly question because the answer is... I don't know. I just want to work with anybody who wants to buy or sell real estate!

As a beginning Tarot reader it may be the same for you. You won't have your role worked out for a while. And your role and style will change over time.

The main idea here is to get out there and do the work. Do the readings.

And, when all else fails, go back to basics.

Trust your intuition.

Tell the story.

That is how you become conversational with Tarot.

It's how you ultimately come to know Tarot, in the moment.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Cassandra is the owner of The Tarot Underground website, where she helps those on the path hone their intuition through the practice of Tarot so they can experience a deeper, magical connection with life.

Her homebase is San Antonio, TX, but she can sometimes be found living the nomad life in the Southwest US, and in Mexico.

Her hobbies include: primitive firing pottery, worm composting, and converting lawns to beautiful, native landscapes.

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