

Flow Tarot: The Tarot of the Water Element

Imagine that all the water on Earth, from the beginning of time until just this moment, could be swirled together into a single being, with a single voice. And this being stood before you, offering you all the wisdom of its experience. And all you had to was ask....

The Flow Tarot was created with the idea of communicating with the Ancient Water Element: The timeless, ageless water that has wrapped our planet from the beginning and will be here until the end.

These cards are your connection to the Ancient Water Element. Through these images, it can reveal to you some of its deep wisdom when you need it most. And its first message to you is this: Just like these cards, you too are a portal. You carry the same vast endlessness inside you wherever you go. Because you are, and always have been, a child of water. So ask the cards for guidance. Make a connection. Welcome in change or let something go. Remember how to flow. The Ancient Water Element is waiting for you....

Welcome to the Flow Tarot: The Tarot of the Water Element.

How to use the Flow Tarot

Dive into the imagery in this deck. Let it wash over you. Imagine yourself in the space, feeling the burst of water on your skin, the sound in your ears. You can read the cards using traditional tarot meanings or use it as an oracle deck by reading only the water messages. How you interpret the cards is up to you.

The Flow Tarot is centered entirely in the element of water. While most tarot decks are modeled on the cardinal elements, the Flow Tarot uses only forms of water in the suits:

Waves (Wands) - salt water, active energy, world systems, life-supporting environments

Ponds (Pentacles) - fresh water, resources, smaller networks, interconnectedness

Clouds (Cups) - rain and clouds, emotions, unconditional nourishment, renewal

Snow (Swords) - ice and snow, clarity, challenging situations, choices and acceptance

A few cards have been changed to better fit the water element as well:

The Floating One (The Hanged Man) - a card about a state only experienced in water: floating.

Darkness (Death) - a card of transformation, because water does not die.

Balance (Temperance) - a card of how living things adapt to the harsh environments

The Stars (The Star) - a card of guidance, about our connection to the stars in our skies

The Major Arcana

The Fool - The World in a Single Drop

The Fool is a card of beginnings. Of leaps of faith. It is also a reminder to let yourself go. Though there are many unknowns, just like the water drop, you are moving toward a network that's already waiting for you. What are you letting go of? What are you falling toward? What are you ready to begin right now?

The Magician: The Endless Body of Water

The Magician is a card of alchemy, blending all into one. It asks you to stretch into your entire being and reach into the far corners of what might be possible. Where are you in the Magician card? Are you the drop, rejoining the pool? Or are you the receiving waters, welcoming back a part of yourself?

The High Priestess: The Nourishing Gift

The High Priestess is a card of intuition, receiving and flow. It asks you to look for the higher meaning of what is suddenly present in your life. What message is being sent to you right now? How do you listen to your intuition? What gifts are you ready to receive into your life?

The Empress: The Abundant Source

The Empress is a card of birth and renewal. It reminds you that you are still growing and blooming. Welcome in this deep connection. Bask in the moments of change in your life. What possibilities are showering around you? Where do you need renewal? How can you connect to your own source?

The Emperor: The Vast Network

The Emperor is a card of connectivity. It affirms that there are many streams of potential running within you. When you activate the energy of this card, you are letting all of that small momentum merge into one strong, unstoppable force. What systems can you call on to align with your higher self? What goal deserves your single-minded focus. Where are you merging the many into the one?

The Hierophant: The Collective Channel

The Hierophant is a card of ancestral wisdom. It reminds you that just like the water rushing toward the waterfall, you too are a legacy of the ones who've come before you. This card asks for deep reflection. Are you where you should be in this moment? Or is the pull of a collective channel too strong to resist? Are you being true to your deepest self? Or is there another stream of wisdom calling out to you?

The Lovers: The Enduring Union, Where Water Meets the Land

The Lovers is a card of deep connection, where two seemingly opposite forces can come together. It reminds you that there are overlapping places within you too. This is where change happens. What is being nurtured in this overlap? If you are the water, who or what is the land in your life? What is being revealed in the gentle back and forth of where you are and where you want to be?

The Chariot: The Flow

The Chariot is a card of way-finding. It reminds you to take control of your life. There is a stream you are meant to be in, a course you are meant to be charting. Do not withhold yourself from the flow. Are you staying on the edges, holding back? Or are you sailing into the water, letting it carry you forward?

Strength: The Quiet Power of Water

The Strength card asks you to look at the ways you are powerful. Not in the short term, but in the long term. Where can you draw on patience to see your goals to fruition? What is your own quiet power? How are you honoring it on a daily basis?

The Hermit: The Unseen Connection

The Hermit is a card of solitude and inner wisdom. It asks you to look deeper at the places where you have gone still, at the places you often overlook. What truths are hiding in the shadows? What guiding light can you shine into your soul? What messages are waiting for you to turn inward and listen?

The Wheel: The Cycle of Regeneration

The Wheel is a card of change. It reminds you that regeneration isn't just isolated to one single moment, place or species. It is a whole connected turning. What is being turned over in your life? What is being burned away and made new? If you let it, just how far could this spiral of change reach?

Justice: The Inner Reflection

The Justice card reminds you that mirrors show you what you cannot see. Dig deeper for the inner truth beneath the shimmering surface. Are you in alignment with your higher self? Or are things not as clear-cut as they once seemed? What steps can you take now that honor who you are growing into?

The Floating One: Between the Worlds

The Floating One encourages you to take a break. Pause between what you've already done and what you still need to do. Meditate on your situation and realign with what makes you feel complete. What are you between? How can you change your perspective? Where can you find places to pause and float?

Darkness: The Deep Transformation

The Darkness card reminds you that, like the water that slips into underground caverns, you too have periods where you must go within. Don't be afraid of the dark. You are being guided toward total transformation. What is leaving your life to make space for the new? What has been transformed by the dark? What is ready to slip softly back into the light?

Balance: The Harsh Extremes

The Balance card carries the message that you too will go through times of extremes. You are finding balance between letting go of what you don't need and holding back what you do need. What clarity does the stark contrast bring you? What steps can you take to feel nourished in the midst of extremes?

The Devil: The Drought

The Devil is a card of lack. It asks you to explore what is missing from your life. Droughts, by their nature, are cyclical. Learn what you can from this time of absence and wait, until what you are seeking flows easily again. What is your silvery stream of water? What is your desert? What are you wishing for? What immediate steps can you take to bring yourself closer to fulfillment of your needs?

The Tower: The Looming Storm

The Tower is a card of unexpected change. It reminds you that, like thunderstorms, change is also part of a cycle. In the face of uncertainty, the Tower card asks for introspection. What are you truly fearing? The storm in front of you, or the imagined possibility of how bad it might be? What will be different when the storm passes? What will be revealed? What will be washed away and made clean?

The Stars: The Illuminated Path

The Stars is a card of destiny. You are finding your way through the dark. Take in the fullness and magic around you, inside and out. What lights are calling to you, pulling you forward on your path? Where is your guiding star? What is your most heartfelt desire? What course can you chart to get there?

The Moon: The Gentle Guide

The Moon is a card of soul guidance. Hold space for this soft illumination. Open your hands and wait. Accept both the mystery and clarity of the moment. Where do you need guidance in your life? What patterns, routines or cycles underpin your days? What is revealed by the contrasting lines of night?

The Sun: The Radiant Companion

The Sun is a card of unbridled positivity. It reminds you that nothing is required of you to be happy or receive goodness into your life. Just savor the moment. Where are you welcoming abundance into your life? What or who brings you the truest joy? Where can you say 'yes'?

Judgement: The Deep Unknown

The Judgement card calls you to make choices. While you may be swimming among some deep not-yet-knowns in your life, the Judgement card invites you into a deeper knowing. It nudges you to be honest with yourself. Are you descending into the depths to explore your inner self more? Or are you rising to the surface, ready to follow the light toward your goal?

The World: You are Complete

The World is a card of deep soul fulfillment. Take a moment. Celebrate how you got here. Look ahead to what's next. The World card affirms it: You are complete. What are you grateful for on this journey? How do you celebrate success? Where will the cycle carry you next?

The Minor Arcana

Waves

Ace of Waves - A Ripple of Energy - The Ace of Waves reminds you that the smallest wave, when amplified, can generate a powerful world-altering force. What small waves are breaking on your shores? How far could change you, if they grew into a powerful force in your life?

Two of Waves - Surging Power - Amplifying the power of the Ace, the Two of Waves shows how the power of waves can grow in magnitude and come into their true power. How you can harness this surging energy of the waves. What is building within you? What is asking to be made into reality?

Three of Waves - Dive Deeper - The Three of Waves invites you to explore what is waiting beyond the crashing surf. What is being uncovered in your life? Where is there an opportunity for new discoveries? How can you see things from a different perspective?

Four of Waves - Sanctuary - The Four of Waves brings you a message of celebration. Enjoy your friends, move with your school of fish. Celebrate this moment. There is harmony and peace all around you. Where do you feel totally at home? How do you celebrate success?

Five of Waves - Flow Around Adversity - The Five of Waves addresses a point of conflict in your life and asks how you can move past it. Is there a shark swimming through your life? What coordinated steps can you take to push past this or keep it moving past you?

Six of Waves - Belong - The Six of Waves reminds you that there are places you belong. Places where you are loved and safe. Where your goals are met. Lean into this sense of belonging. What are the places call to you? Who are the people in your life who feel like home? Where do you feel most belong?

Seven of Waves - Endure - The Seven of Wands comes to you with a message of endurance. Sometimes you need a hard shell to protect you from what life has to throw at you. What do you drawn in to protect yourself? How do you honor your boundaries? Where do you reveal your soft side?

Eight of Waves - Synchronicity - The Eight of Waves reassures that you are moving in harmony with your goals. Listen to where your intuition is guiding you. Can you feel a network of support around you? What possibilities can grow from this support? Where are the synchronicities in your life?

Nine of Waves - Persevere - The Nine of Waves reminds you that you do not have to exert power to be powerful. There is strength in your resilience. Keep going. You have the power of an ocean at your back. What small steps can you take to reach your goals? What does resilience look like in your life?

Ten of Waves - Let Go - The Ten of Waves carries a gentle message of to let go of the things that have become too heavy to carry. Take a breath. Rest. What are you being asked to let go of in this moment? Do you need to keeping pushing them forward? Or can they be left behind on the beach?

Page of Waves - Delight in Adventure - The Page of Waves asks you to live into your joy. Don't hold yourself back. Move and feel and leap and turn and take it all in. What creative spark is calling to you? Where new endeavor are you being pulled to? What joy are you ready to receive?

Knight of Waves - Seek New Horizons - The Knight of Waves is here to take you on a journey, to move you and inspire you. Go with it. What goal is shining on a distant horizon? What journey have you been putting off? Where are areas you can be spontaneous, bold or adventurous?

Queen of Waves - Radiate Harmony - The Queen of Waves floats to you with a message of harmony. You have reached a point where you know who you are. You are self-actualized, self-aware. What makes you feel the most alive? Where does your creative spirit and knowledge shine the way for others?

King of Waves - Brave Any Depth - The King of Waves invites you to take the long view. Take steady strides to get where you want to be. Take your time. You'll make it. What visions do you have for the future? What legacies are you making now? What personal growth can support this?

Ponds

Ace of Ponds - One Source - The Ace of Ponds brings you to the source of your material resources. It is a card of vast potential. What is the tangible beginning of the thing you desire? What future goals are you watering now? What message from this source can help prepare you for future endeavors?

Two of Ponds - Many Paths - The Two of Ponds invites you to see the many ways you are moving ahead. No one journey is the same. And sometimes it takes many paths to get there. Where can you be more flexible? How do you honor the many the many pieces of yourself?

Three of Ponds - Blending Energies - The Three of Ponds is a card of collaboration. It opens up what is possible when you pool your resources. What in your life is being brought together in one place? Where are you being asked to work together with others?

Four of Ponds - Smoothest Route - The Four of Ponds asks you to find ways to move around obstacles. Flow. How can you move around people or situations that keep snagging your energy? Is there an easier path? What would you have to let go of to get deep into the flow?

Five of Ponds - Scarcity - The Five of Ponds brings you the message that sometimes you must find the thing you need, instead of waiting for it to come to you. Where is nourishing rain falling in your life? Where is it absent? What changes might help you reach what you need right now?

Six of Ponds - Sharing Abundance - The Six of Ponds focuses on the positive benefit of shared resources. How do your actions benefit others? What are you putting into the universe, and in what ways does it come back to you? How is it nourishing your current goals and grow your future ones?

Seven of Ponds - Embrace Change - The Seven of Ponds reminds you that no matter how smooth the path has been, there is always room to change. What milestones can you celebrate along your journey to this moment? Are there new pathways, new paths or opportunities you've been putting off exploring?

Eight of Ponds - Carved By Time - The Eight of Ponds reminds you that things that seem effortlessly beautiful take time. Patience. Hard work. And that they are worth it. How are you using your resources? What is asking you to show up on a regular basis? Can you see the results of your patient work?

Nine of Ponds - Safe Harbors - The Nine of Ponds brings a message of safety and prosperity. It encourages you to connect with the things and places that make you feel most nurtured and protected. Where are the places you feel safest? What are you doing to protect and enrich those areas?

Ten of Ponds - Oasis - The Ten of Ponds says you've made it. To get to this place, you have had to endure a lot of hardship. Rest and rejuvenate. What does an oasis look like for you at this moment? What needs nourishment? What can you take from this to prepare you for the journey ahead?

Page of Ponds - Boundless Curiosity - The Page of Ponds encourages you to look at things from a different perspective. Be a perpetual student. There is always something to learn, even if a situation doesn't turn out as expected. How can you approach this moment with a curious, inquisitive mind?

Knight of Ponds - Against the Flow - The Knight of Ponds brings you a message of dedication. Whether it's slogging through a daily grind, or reaching some far off goal, this card reminds you to rely on the routine. Be persistent. Where do you go against the flow? What is worth your best effort?

Queen of Ponds - Resourceful - The Queen of Pentacles affirms that you are a master of your resources. You see the larger picture, and you can make something out of nothing. What are you doing to improve your life and the lives of those around you? Where do you feel the most capable?

King of Ponds - Interconnected - The King of Ponds card carries messages of fulfillment and completion. From where you are, you can finally see the whole view. How do you provide for others? How do you sustain yourself? How far does your network of caring or support reach?

Snow

Ace of Snow - Crystallizing Moment - The Ace of Snow invites look at your surroundings with clarity. The first snowflake signals a change is coming that is likely to stick around for a while. How do you want to play a part? What do this expanded view has to offer you? What is coming into sharper focus?

Two of Snow - The Path - The Two of Snow confronts you with a reality you might not be ready to admit. You are at a standstill. The path before you is obscured, as if lost beneath the snow. What area of your life is calling you to take action? Where can you clear away emotion and come to a decision?

Three of Snow - Locked in Ice - The Three of Snow asks you to recognize when things in your life are no longer capable of supporting growth. What is no longer serving you? What relationship has been revealed to no longer be in your best interests? Where can healing begin?

Four of Snow - Accept Stillness - The Four of Snows whispers a message of pause in a world of noise. It is up to you to accept it, to tune out from the obligations and the places to you think you need to be. What is calling to you to slow down? Where can you give in to pause?

Five of Snow - Break Away - The Five of Snow delivers a swift, clear message. Sometimes there is no other option but to break from the path you've been on. Are you caught in an unfair situation? What do you need to hold your head high and walk away? What does restarting look like for you?

Six of Snow - When to Fly - The Six of Snow appears when you know you have to make a choice, but haven't quite taken that step yet. Where have you been lingering in indecision? Is the situation getting better or worse? What would life look like if you made that choice?

Seven of Snow - Deceiving - The Seven of Snow is a red flag in a world of black and white choices. Either someone is hiding something from you, or you are tempted to do the hiding. Where is your intuition directing you in this moment? Where can you find clarity in the midst of confusion?

Eight of Snow - Stuck - The Eight of Snow encourages you to take control of the things you can. Let go of the things you can't. Is there another way out? Or are you so consumed by the problem you can't see another way around? Are you truly stuck? Or are you trapped by your own worries?

Nine of Snow - Overwhelming - The Nine of Snow nudges you that the sinking feeling of being overwhelmed is not necessarily reality. Stop the cycle of unfair comparisons. Turn down negative self talk. What is holding you back in this moment? Are you seeing the whole or focused only on one part?

Ten of Snow - Perspective - The Ten of Snow reminds you that fear can sometimes be the real prison, keeping you from acting in your own best interest. What does deep self trust look like for you? How can you acknowledge your fears? What might change your point of view about this situation?

Page of Snow - Emerge - The Page of Snow asks if you feel the pull, a soul-deep tug to come into the light and begin the process of transformation. Is it the right time to break through, even though the outward signs may still be a dormant? What other changes will cascade from this first step?

Knight of Snow - Adapt - The Knight of Snow challenges you to hold fast to your decisions. Stick with it. If you can be clear in what you want, then don't be afraid to adapt to make it happen. Where are you being asked to stretch to reach your goals? What will it look like when you achieve those goals?

Queen of Snow - Clarity - The Queen of Snow writes her message in the stars: You are a truth seeker. Determination and resilience has carried you far. Where has your independent streak served you best? How do you hear your own voice among all the other noise? Where do you embrace clarity?

Knight of Snow - Vision - The King of Snow presents you with the clearest view. You have a vast terrain experience at your feet and the horizon in your eyes. Chart a new course. What does it look like when you have the fullest confidence in your decisions? What new direction is opening up before you?

Clouds

Ace of Clouds - Overflowing - The Ace of Clouds invites you to wade deep into your emotions. Don't hold back. Can you let your feelings wash through you without judgement? How do you love yourself through these moments? Where do you allow emotion to spill over into your life?

Two of Clouds - Shared Space - The Two of Clouds asks you to throw open a window to what might be. There is a universe of possibilities waiting for you out there. How can you look to the future with your whole heart open? Where you can feel the edges between dreams and reality dissolve and become one?

Three of Clouds - Saturate - The Three of Clouds reminds you to revel in this moment. Spread your arms wide. Soak it all in. What experiences do you open yourself unconditionally to? What does it feel like to be whole? Like rings spreading out from raindrops, how far can your positive influence reach?

Four of Clouds - Waiting for Rain - The Four of Clouds reminds you to not get mired in what you are waiting to happen. Can you welcome this pause to refocus on what you really need? Or can you lean in to flexibility? Where can you flow around this moment until your expectations and reality align?

Five of Clouds - Blanketed - The Five of Clouds brings a gentle pause in the form of disappointment, sadness or regret. What does grief in this moment feel like? Does it obscure your view like a deep fog? Or does it weigh on you like a heavy blanket? What tender places are asking to be held at this time?

Six of Clouds - Wonder -The Six of Clouds reminds you to look at the world with wonder. Let your inner child out to play. Seek out the wonder that is all around you. What simple pleasures have you forgotten or denied yourself? How can you look at yourself and your world with tender kindness?

Seven of Clouds - Distant Focus -The Seven of Clouds card tempts you with visions of a far distant reality. But what is life like where you are standing? How do you discern which are goals worth your time, and which are merely beautiful distractions?

Eight of Clouds - Change Direction -The Eight of Clouds reminds you that change is part of the journey. Let the pull of 'something better' become a clarion call that lifts you up. There is a world of possibility just beyond where you are at this moment. Listen. What is calling to you right now?

Nine of Clouds - After the Storm -The Nine of Clouds brings the gift of fulfilled desires. The Universe is asking you to step into your happiness. Is there an unrealized dream waiting to be brought to fruition? What is your heart's desire? What path is being illuminated in your life?

Ten of Clouds - Connection - The Ten of Clouds delivers a message of heart-opening joy. Let love and gratitude flow through you, until it wraps you and the ones you care for in this brilliant spectrum of light. What does being connected look like to you? Is home a place, a person or people, or a feeling?

Page of Clouds - Rise Above - The Page of Clouds invites you to soar higher, go deeper. Embrace your spirituality. Delve into your inner awareness. What endeavors are calling to your soul? What is higher level is being revealed to you right now? How can you rise up to meet it?

Knight of Clouds - Bursting -The Knight of Clouds sweeps in with the energy of a summer storm. You are invited to get caught up in the beauty and drama too. Express yourself in big ways, give in to creative urges. What new experiences have you wanted to try? What part of you is bursting to be brought forth?

Queen of Clouds - Compassion -The Queen of Clouds brings a message of compassion and nurturing. It asks you to pause, breathe deeply and welcome in love. Where is your intuition whispering to you? What parts of you need compassionate self-love right now? Open your arms and receive.

King of Clouds - Spiraling Renewal -The King of Clouds brings you messages of duality and emotional mastery. You can be a powerful force and still bring compassionate care to others. How do you balance your emotions and achieve your goals? How can you bring support to those who need it most?

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About the Artist

Rachel Torda is an artist, writer and graphic designer. She loves creating meaningful art that connects people to the magic and mystery around us. To learn more about the creation of this deck, the meanings of the cards and messages in the imagery, please visit her website at thedreaminglotus.com