

The Major Arcana

In traditional tarot decks, the Major Arcana is the journey from innocent or naive beginnings, the Fool, to a fully personified and complete ending, the World.

In the Flow Tarot, the journey does not follow the path of a human, but of a single water drop. It travels through the many forms and stages of its element until it comes to its completion in the World card. And from there, it starts all over again. The dew in the World card becomes the drop in the Fool card. And so the water cycle begins again.

The Fool - The World in a Single Drop

There is a whole universe inside a single drop of water. It falls freely, moving through air to bring renewing moisture to wherever it may land. It can bring life to new places, and it can nourish life that is already there. It is the single delivery system that can alter entire planets. All in one drop.

Like the drop, you hold all potential in your being. You hold entire worlds within you. You do not have to dictate how to fall or where you will land. Just let yourself go. The journey may change you, shape you, but you will not lose who you are. Even if you fall to the deepest depths. Even if you turn to ice. Even if you rise up and become lighter than air and float to the highest clouds.... You are still the same.

This card is a reminder to let yourself go. There are many unknowns. Do not force yourself into being something that you're not. You are moving toward a connection that's already waiting for you, a network that's welcoming you. Whatever your next destination is, whatever vessel you might fall into, you will not lose the sense of who you are. It is still there. And when it is time to move from that, you will flow intact to the next cycle of your life. What are you ready to begin right now? What are you letting go of? What are you falling toward?

The Magician: The Endless Body of Water

In the continuing journey of the water drop, the Magician brings the combination of the single into the many. The drop folds into the water, blending and swirling with other drops. The force of the energy causes ripples that reach out to places unknown. It is a beautiful moment of inner absorption and outward energy, all at once. And this combination, over and over, is what causes the oceans to fill up, the waves to lap at the earth's shores and water around the world to nourish ourselves and our planet.

You embody the endless waters, the never ending flow. As long as you are alive, moments will accumulate in you, run through your life, and spread out from you, stretching past horizons where you can no longer see them. But they are still part of you. Let your life force ripple out from you.

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

A bright white cloud rises up. The weighted darkness beneath it breaks open. There is no sky, no ground. Simply the gift of rain, isolated in the moment of falling, giving itself from the cloud.

The High Priestess card brings you the nourishing gift of a luminous rain shower. It is unconditional. It falls on all parts of the earth, without consideration of what is happening below. It is simply given. Rain

is your birthright. It brings life to you, no matter where you are. You do not have to do anything for it. You do not have to prepare or pray or be special in any way. It is your gift, freely given.

The rain in the High Priestess card is a reflection of the waterfall in the Hierophant card. The rain in this card represents intuition and lofty ideas, while the Hierophant's waterfall brings the same notions down to earth.

The High Priestess card asks you to look for the higher meaning of what is suddenly present in your life. How far has it traveled to get to you? A card of intuition, receiving and flow, the High Priestess asks what gifts are you ready to receive into your life?

The Empress: The Abundant Source

Imagine you are standing at the edge of this pool, listening to the water softly fall along the rocks. The spray gently hits your feet, drips from your fingers. The pool is warm and beckoning. Delicate plants grow safely here... You wade in, and let the water make you new again.

The Empress card swirls with the magic of beginnings. It reminds you that you are still growing and blooming. Welcome in this deep connection. Bask in the moments of change in your life. The Empress asks you to honor these gentle beginnings, no matter how much you have experienced in life. Growth is a circle. Let possibilities shower around you. Welcome the renewal that springs from deep within. How can you connect to your own abundant source?

The Emperor: The Vast Network

You are standing at the convergence of many streams. You hear the roar of water; you feel the pounding beneath your feet and the spray on your fingers. It is fast, it is visceral. This is the energy that moves things, this is the energy that travels far, that wears down mountains.

The Emperor card reminds you that there are many streams within you, many forces, some moving towards each other, some moving seemingly apart. When you activate the energy of the Emperor card, you are letting all of that small momentum within you merge into one strong, unstoppable force. What systems can you call on to reach your goal? What deserves your single-minded focus. What are you do you want to unleash in yourself? What small streams are merging into a powerful river?

The Hierophant: The Collective Channel

With each drop over the edge, the waterfall is smoothing out its track and carving a deeper channel. And with each bit of depth reached, more water will fold itself into this path.

The Hierophant card reminds you that just like the water rushing toward the waterfall, you too are a legacy of the ones who've come before you. They have smoothed the channel, worn down the way. There is a pull to follow, whether you chose to or not. Where the High Priestess's dreamy rain encourages you to turn inward and listen to the call of your intuition, the Hierophant's waterfall calls you to stay grounded and listen to the wisdom of those who have come before.

This card asks some tough questions. Are you where you should be in this moment? Or is the pull of a collective channel too strong to resist?

Past the edge of land, the water is in free fall. For a moment, the entire river is returned to individual drops, all tumbling toward the same place. Only some will return to the river; other drops will rise up

into mist. This reflects the deeper nature of the Hierophant card: No matter how strong the force is, you can still change. 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 the Water Meets the Land

Across the Earth, the magical place of change is always where the water overlaps the land. It happens in saltwater and freshwater, in sun-warmed ponds and in snow-edged lakes. This ebb and flow, this back and forth is where life blooms. Creatures are nurtured. Edges are softened. It is the enduring union of our planet, the give and take of land and water, constantly renewing each other.

The Lovers card reminds you that there are overlapping places within you too. The place where these two opposite forces overlap is never clean. It's never tidy or neat or organized. It rushes in fast, spills over its borders, then runs away again, taking bits with it. But this is where change happens. Ask yourself, what is being nurtured in this overlap? Who can you call on to support you in this moment? If you are the water, who is the land in your life? Is it another person, a hobby, a goal or a destination? 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 currents run through all water, flowing everything toward the sea. In the sea, these currents form undersea streams or coastal riptides. In freshwater rivers, the little ripples that gently course over the time-worn rocks, can turn to rapids around the next bend.

The Chariot card reminds you to take control of your life. Do not withhold yourself from the flow. There is a stream you are meant to be in, a course you are meant to be charting. Find the flow, and let it carry you. Trust yourself to move with it. And trust that the flow will bring you where you need to be.

Like the dragonfly, you do not know what the currents will be like. Will you slip into a state of flow, or will it sweep you away. Are you staying on the edges, in the safer water, clinging to the reins and holding back? Or are you moving into the slipstream to let it carry you where you need to be?

Strength: The Quiet Power of Water

The Strength card reveals to you the true power of water. It's not in the pounding surf, nor the rising of floodwaters. Instead it is the steady drip of rain down the rocks. After years and years of this, the water has slipped into the crevices and widened them into canyons. The smallest cracks and the deepest gorges are formed exactly the same way: by water and time.

Like the water in this card, you have a quiet power in persistence and resiliency. You can continue, you can overcome, you can break through the seemingly unbreakable. The Strength card asks you to look at the ways you are powerful. Don't focus at the short term, look at the long term. Where can you draw on patience to see your goals to fruition? What things are already changing for you, in small ways, that can have a big outcome? What is your own quiet power? How are you honoring it on a daily basis?

The Hermit: The Unseen Connection

Beneath the dark, undisturbed waters of the swamp is a rich web of life. Tree roots sink through the mud, leaves rot and turn the water perpetually dark, creatures hide in the safety of the shadows, while other creatures use the shifting roots and leaves as cover to hunt. Though from a distance it may appear lonely, or even almost sleeping, the swamp is alive with activity.

The Hermit card asks you to look deeper at the places where you have gone still, at the places you often overlook. Those quiet, forgotten or even a little frightening spots. Is it a real place or a place in your mind? Don't focus on the surface, the dark water, the fallen leaves, the discomfort of not finding your footing. Instead, look beneath. See what's thriving here. What is growing and rising up, being nourished by this waterscape? Sometimes the places where no one wants to go, are exactly where you need to be to get clarity. The moon, hung like a lantern in the sky, reminds you that even though it is dark in the card, you are not without sight. You are not alone. 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

At the edge of a patch of rough new ground rising out of the middle of the ocean, a fresh stream of red-hot magma hits the water. Vapor explodes into the atmosphere in white clouds. The magma cools almost instantly, adding another layer of blackened rock to the brand new land. This process has gone on without end since the beginning of our planet. The water and the land work in conjunction, from hot to cold, from liquid to stone, from saltwater to salt-free steam. It is not just the land that is created and renewed, it is the water as well. In the years to follow, seeds will wash onto the rocks, birds will fly over, and creatures will arrive. Beneath the water, coral will attach themselves, and sea creatures will find homes and seek food among the new rocks.

The Wheel card reminds you that regeneration, the cycles of change, aren't just isolated to one single moment, place or species. It is a whole connected turning. In small ways and large ways. Fall is not the drop of a single leaf. Spring is not the opening of a single bloom. The red hot fires of transformation may look like they are the only things changing. But it spreads out from there, supporting a whole network. This card asks what is being turned over in your life? What is being burned away? What is being made new? If you let it, just how far could this spiral of change reach?

Justice: The Inner Reflection

Water is the world's first mirror. It can present a perfect copy, melting a spectrum of colors across a glassy shoreline. Or it can paint a different picture, shattering into abstract streaks of color with barely a breeze across the surface.

Beneath the reflective water, however, the terrain might be different. Take away the reflection and the shore becomes a dull grey smudge, the lake becomes a puddle of ink.

The Justice card reminds you that mirrors show you what you cannot see. Dig deeper for the inner truth beneath the shimmering surface. A reflection can sometimes be the distance between who you are and who you want to be. Are you in alignment with your higher self? Or are things not as clear-cut as they once seemed? There is no judgement in this card. Only the reflection.

The Floating One: Between the Worlds

Pause.... Relax into the water and let it hold you. Take a moment, feel supported, and exhale that breath you've been holding. One of the joys of being in water is the floating. Buoyancy changes everything. Even the heaviest things are made lighter. Whatever burden you bring to the water, this card doesn't tell you to put it down. Instead, how can it be better held?

The Floating One encourages you to take a break. Hang between what you've already done and what you still need to do. When you float on the surface, half of you faces the increasing darkness of the water, half of you faces the increasing brightness of the sky. These liminal positions can help change your view on what's weighing you down. Accept unconditional support. Realign with what makes you feel safest. You will move from here and take up your burden again soon enough. Right now, the Floating One offers you a pause. What are you between? How can you change your perspective? Where can you float?

Darkness: The Deep Transformation

Time has no hold over water. Water never dies, only transforms to its next state. Beneath the ground is a vast network of water, in subterranean aquifers, lakes and rivers. These undisturbed pools are everywhere. Where seasons fall away, the temperature stays constant. Even passing shafts of light or occasional creatures do not disturb them. The dreamlike structures that form in these hidden caverns are the work of a millennia of solitude. And sometimes, if it's the right combination of humidity and moisture, then crystals will form. Gems that seem perfectly created to catch the light, can only be formed in the dark.

The Darkness card reminds you that like the water that slips into underground caverns, you too have periods where you must go within. Sink into the stillness, let time drift away. Don't be afraid of the dark. You are being guided toward total transformation. The Darkness card holds the cycle of endings and beginnings, of closings and openings. 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

There are two areas of water in this card: the big storm clouds far beyond the mountain range and hidden within the Saguaro cactuses themselves. Cactuses can hold water for months after the last spring rain has past, through the deep, dry months of summer, until the explosive monsoons return in fall. By the end of summer, the cactuses are thin, almost like skeletons of themselves. But they've made it. They are survivors.

In this card, you do not know if the storm is approaching or leaving. Where the storm cloud bursts over the hot, dry land, rain water often runs off too quickly. It may fall on the plants, or it may miss them entirely. In such harsh environments, there are no guarantees.

The Balance card carries the message that you too will go through times of extremes. Sometimes you will be the rainstorm — active, productive, bursting with energy. And sometimes you will be the cactus — holding on to what you have, who you are at your core, to get you through this time of duress. Above all, you are resilient. You are finding balance between letting go and holding back what you need. The Balance card asks, what clarity does the stark contrast bring you? What steps can you take to feel comfortable in the midst of extremes? What will keep you nourished through this time? And what are you certain now you can shed?

The Devil: The Drought

The ghost of water haunts the land in drought-stricken areas. Where there is blue there is green. Where there is no blue, it will inevitably turn brown. The water is gone, but the land still remembers. Rain once fell here. Perhaps it will again, but right now there is none. Wishing for water will not bring it back. Neither will searching for it. A drought effects everything.

The Devil card brings a hard message: You are looking for the thing you can't find. You see the imprint of it everywhere, the deep channels and small tributaries where it used to run. But the thing you want most, the water, is slipping away. And it may be a long time coming back. It can be easy to become despondent, believing this will last forever. But the answer is already in the ghostly lines pressed into the earth. Water has flowed here before. And it will again.

The Devil card asks you to explore what you are lacking. Droughts, by their nature, are cyclical. Learn what you can from this time of withholding, 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 storm fills up the night sky. There are no edges to see past it, to see how big or small it is. There is no land to see if it just beginning to loose its downpour, or just ending. There is only the storm, the threat of the unknown, and of what must be endured.

Every creature on Earth weathers storms. They shelter, huddle together or just let the rain pour over them in rivulets until there's no more water left to fall from the sky.

You are looking up at the overwhelming, unfathomably large wall of clouds. It blots out the night sky. The glare from the lightening blots out everything on the ground. There is only the storm in front of you.

The Tower card reminds you that change — sudden change — is also part of a cycle. The nature of thunderstorms is erratic. Some storms hit you hard and seemingly out of the blue. Others fizzle before they get to you, and still others move around you, leaving you untouched. 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? Are you preparing to endure the rain shower, or you clamping your hands over your ears — at the thunder and wishing it was over? Rely on your strength and resilience to get you through. Every creature on Earth weathers storms. Practice self care, reach out to those who support you. Acknowledge your fears, and know with certainty that this too will pass. Focus on the other unspoken questions written in the looming storm: What will be different when the storm passes? What will be revealed? What will be washed away? What will be made clean?

The Stars: The Illuminated Path

The storm has broken. An expanse of space and land is opening before you. Stars fleck the velvet night sky. As if reflecting it, glittering bioluminescence shimmers at the shoreline. Both light up the night. Both guide the way through darkness. Countless sea creatures send their glow out into the lightless depths of the water. And the myriad stars, though the source of their ancient fire may never be known to humans, still pierce our sky with their light. They call out, across space and time, leaving their brilliant, trailing mark across the darkness.

The Stars card brings you a message of guidance from afar. You are finding your way through the dark. The things that once obscured your view have cleared. Now you can take in the fullness and magic around you. Move forward. Feel the sand sink under feet, the sunset breeze on your skin. Let the colors of night wash over you. Follow the undulating edge of the water or set your sights higher. Pick a far off star. Let that be your guiding light. This card asks, what is your most heartfelt desire? What course will you chart to get there? The possibilities are endless.

There is ancient wisdom hidden in The Stars. Look up to the night sky, as all humans have done before you. Exploration on Earth has always begun by following the trail of waterways. And when humans finally leave our solar system to explore other galaxies, it will begin with the search for water among the stars. Because water supports life.

The Stars card affirms that your path is being illuminated. Set your course. Believe in yourself. Believe in your dreams. Where are your feet leading you? What far off goal is calling to you across from the night sky? The whole of the universe is shining its light just for you.

The Moon: The Gentle Guide

Even at its brightest, the glow of moon is still not so blinding that we can't look fully at it. It generously shares its otherworldly light with our own planet. It changes the ground that it falls on, remaking the world in blues and blacks. It leads our oceans, bringing our tides back and forth, keeping them rising and falling with such steady precision that the whole Earth is renewed twice a day with its movements.

And just like the tides, you are pulled to participate. You are called to walk the beach, to linger in the gentle surf as it laps over your feet. Heed the siren's song. The moon is your companion too.

The Moon card asks, where do you need guidance in your life? What patterns, routines or cycles underpin your days? What is revealed in the stark lines of night to be excessive or unnecessary? Hold space for this soft illumination. Open your hands and wait. Accept both the mystery and clarity of the moment, gifts brought to you like shells carried in on the high tide. Let fears rush away. You are not alone. Even in the darkest night, the moon is always there.

The Sun: The Radiant Companion

If the Moon is a planetary nightlight, then the Sun is our planet's wake up call. Both are our allies, our partners. But where the moon is subdued, the sun is exuberant.

The Sun card asks you to join in. Jump into the water. Ride the waves. Live in the moment. The sun already knows how to play. It gilds the joyful curve of the wave, streaks through the center and dazzles you. It calls to your inner child. Heed that call. The Sun card offers you a cup brimming with positive energy. Drink it in. Let it fill you up until you glow too.

The Sun card reminds you that nothing is required of you to be happy, to receive goodness into your life. Just savor the moment. Open your fingers and let the blue-green water rush past. Imagine what miracles of time and space had to happen just to bring you to this point. You are worthy of it. Let the experience wash over you. *You* are a water droplet in this spiraling wave of life. *You* are revolving around the sun in this radiant dance. The Sun card is sending its warmth to you. Tip your face up and receive.

Judgement: The Deep Unknown

The water is vast and deep. There is solace in the gentle rocking of the waves. But perhaps you've floated out too far, for too long, and your feet can no longer touch the ground. You are alone with the elements, alone on this journey. And the sun is dipping lower and lower among the waves. You know you will have to take action soon....

The Judgement card calls you to make choices. Are you descending into the murky depths to explore your inner self more? Or are you rising to the surface, ready to follow the light toward your goal? 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. Is there really more to explore? Or have you learned all you need to know from these depths. Tune out comparison. Trust yourself. Rise up. It is time do what you're meant to be doing. Draw strength from this experience, then set out for solid land with a new plan, a new goal, a new outlook. What are the deep unknowns surrounding you at this moment? How can you begin to swim toward new ground?

The World: You are Complete

The spectrum of life on our planet has all the colors of the rainbow. From the green plant life to the crystalline fresh water condensation of dewdrops. From the yellow sands to the cool blue salt water stretching to the horizon. From the purple clouds of the water cycle to the brilliant golden-orange sun watching over it all. This is the whole sum of Earth, the necessary ingredients for life on our planet.

The World card carries a message of wholeness and fulfillment among its sunrise colors. Take a moment. Let the first light of a new day illuminate you. Celebrate how you got here. Look ahead to what's next. You are in every aspect of this card. You are the beginning and the end. You are the water cycle held in one body. You hold infinite capacities within you.... For spreading unconditional love like the morning dew. For being resilient as the earth, as renewing as the surf. For being as flexible as the clouds, turning salt water to fresh. For finding space for joy, like the life-giving sun. You hold oceans within you.

The World card affirms it: You are complete.

There is also a hidden message in this World card. Yes, it is the resplendent culmination of the Fool's journey. But since our Fool is a water drop, this is not the end for it. The sun's centermost ray points the direction: It shines straight down the center of the card, spearing light through the glistening dew drop. Directly beneath it is the word, "You." The dewdrop in this card will fall, and when it does, the cycle will begin all over again. The droplet from the Fool card is the life-giving condensation the World card. The sunrise colors of this card are reflected in it. The sunlight from the World is shining through the Fool. It has been there, hidden in plain view, the whole time. Just like water, the small is always within the large, if only we take the time to really see it.

This is the final gift of the World card: You are a single drop of water in a wide, wide world. You are also the whole world, carried in a single drop. You are complete, in more ways than you'll ever know.