

The Simple Tarot

Second Edition By Stone Riley (C) 2004

Amaze and delight your friends by actually giving them good advice and useful suggestions.

A Tarot deck specifically designed for practical use in counseling, by both professionals and amateurs.

The elaborate arcane detail of most versions has been vastly reduced while the deep philosophical and psychological content of this ancient tool have been retained by modern art techniques.

Easy to learn - a lifetime to master.

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Ask the client to bring to mind some important aspect of their situation, something for which they would like a helpful piece of advice, or a hint of how to see things. Emphasize that it does not need to be an "earth shaking" issue, but just needs to be something for which they genuinely could use a bit of wise impartial observation. Suggest that they can close their eyes.

Tell them that when the issue is extremely vivid in their mind, as vivid and real as it can be, they should reach out and pick a card. When they do so, have them turn it over and look at it. Study this card with them and discuss what it might mean. If necessary as an aid to the conversation, invite them to explain what the issue was.

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Note: Your experience in having serious conversations with people about life's difficulties will be far more useful than any prior experience or training with Tarot.

How to get started

Here's a good method to try first.

Sit beside the client at a table. Turn all the cards face up and briefly glance at them in a quite informal way. Explain that the pictures all speak of human life. Tarot was developed by many people over many years as a tool to help us sort out our confusions.

Turn the cards face down and mix them up. Ask the client to help with this. Still face down, spread them neatly across to left and right.

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Proceed as needed with more cards, on the same or other issues. Feel free to pinpoint the details of an issue or request clarification. When otherwise finished, you may want to ask a final question: "Please, what else should we know?" When all is finished, express gratitude for what was learned, close the deck respectfully and put it away.

Further Study

There are many books, good and bad, about Tarot but it is far better to study the deck itself. At the start of each week choose a few cards to carry with you. Watch for things represented on the cards to appear in your life. Indeed, the essence is this: Learn to read the pictures real life presents to us.

- Peace through justice. -