



ETHEREAL VISIONS  
ILLUMINATED TAROT DECK

BY MATT HUGHES

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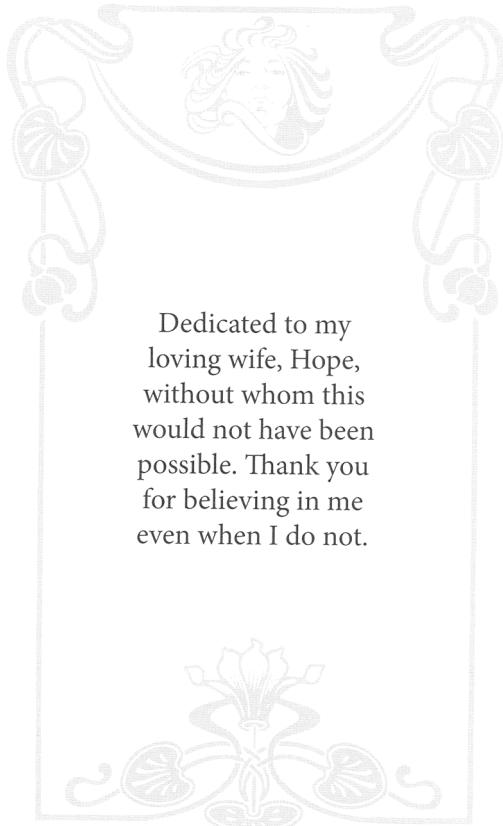


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Dedicated to my  
loving wife, Hope,  
without whom this  
would not have been  
possible. Thank you  
for believing in me  
even when I do not.



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## **Introduction**

The allure of the tarot has changed over the years. The deck started in the 15th century as a simple card game of four suits and morphed over the years into a tool for meditation, inner reflection and divination.

The Ethereal Visions Tarot Deck consists of 80 cards that are broken into two sections—24 Major Arcana (with two new cards) and 56 Minor Arcana. This deck is based on the artist's own journey of inner reflection and meditations.



# The Major Arcana

The Major Arcana (trump cards) are the foundation of the deck and tell the story of the Fool's journey. It reflects the story of spiritual awareness told through imagery.

## 0. The Fool

**Astrological correspondence:** Uranus

The Fool is the spirit of innocence in all of us as we begin our journey. This card may be at the beginning (birth) or the end (transformation) of our path. Each position marks the start of new beginnings where we are free to be creative, have boundless faith, and freely embrace opportunities!

***Upright:*** Potential, new beginnings, opportunity, adventure

***Reversed:*** Carelessness, negligence, uncertainty, apathy

## 1. The Magician

**Astrological correspondence:** Mercury

The Magician connects the spirit to the physical—he represents “as above, so below”. He is the master of all four elements: earth, air, fire and water. He is telling you that you hold all the tools to manifest your desires into reality. Creativity, skill, focus and desire are the forces he reveals to you in order to accomplish any goal.

***Upright:*** Skill, confidence, action, concentration, accomplishment

***Reversed:*** Unease, lack of planning, powerlessness, procrastination, arrogance

## 2. High Priestess

**Astrological correspondence:** Moon

The High Priestess represents wisdom and enlightenment. She is in-between two worlds and embodies the eternal

feminine spirit. She is the guardian of the unconscious who guides us to look inward and listen to our own feelings and intuition.

***Upright:*** The subconscious, wisdom, anima, serenity, mystery

***Reversed:*** Repression, mistrust, secrets, loss

### 3. The Empress

**Astrological correspondence:** Venus

The Empress is the manifestation of creation, the mother. She invites you to reconnect with the natural world and nourish what we have created.

***Upright:*** Creation, abundance, luxury, nature, pleasure

***Reversed:*** Neglect, indecisiveness, disconnection, resistance

## 4. The Emperor

**Astrological correspondence:** Aries

The Emperor is masculine energy, the father. He is able to calm chaos and offer authoritarian guidance. He exudes the traits of leader, protector, and provider but can be ruthless if disagreed with.

**Upright:** Power, structure, patriarchal energy, domination, success

**Reversed:** Rigidity, powerlessness, avoidance, chaos

## 5. The Hierophant

**Astrological correspondence:** Taurus

The Hierophant is the physical embodiment of institution. He interprets secret knowledge to share within a formal, rigid system. When seeking knowledge, he will guide you to discovery through established educational structures and traditions.

***Upright:*** Tradition, guidance, spirituality, orthodoxy, institution

***Reversed:*** Hypocrisy, rebellion, corruption, disobedience

## 6. The Lovers

**Astrological correspondence:** Gemini

The Lovers represents the union of duality. They signify a force that binds two entities together to create wholeness—whether it is a relationship, an event, a personal decision, or ideas. The Lovers asks you to have open communication with yourself and examine your motives and values when contemplating which path to take.

***Upright:*** Unification, choices, harmony, relationships

***Reversed:*** Separation, imbalance, conflict, disconnection

## 7. The Chariot

**Astrological correspondence:** Cancer

The Chariot represents willpower, determination, and self-assurance in any challenge. The charioteer reminds us to be steadfast and exude self-control in situations that arise in order to ensure victory over any obstacle.

***Upright:*** Conquest, control, victory, motivation

***Reversed:*** Aggression, self-doubt, defeat, loss of control

## 8. Strength

**Astrological correspondence:** Leo

The Strength card reminds us that true power comes from within. Through patience, gentleness and compassion one can overcome obstacles without resorting to physical aggression. The



woman and the lion signify that we need to tame the beast within ourselves and find balance.

***Upright:*** Inner calm, courage, control, patience

***Reversed:*** Struggle, anger, rage, pride

## 9. The Hermit

**Astrological correspondence:** Virgo

The Hermit advises you that now is a time for reflection. You must look inward for truth and wisdom, for you have all the knowledge you need inside. Be calm and reflective; do not let the outside world distract you from the messages you hold within.

***Upright:*** Introspection, enlightenment, solitude, reflection

***Reversed:*** Isolation, foolishness, withdrawal, depression

## 10. Wheel of Fortune

**Astrological correspondence:** Jupiter

The Wheel of Fortune shows that opportunity is abundant. All things have a cycle, both good and bad. One makes you appreciate the other and each can offer new options to the situations faced.

***Upright:*** Luck, change, karma, destiny

***Reversed:*** Misfortune, chaos, bad luck, resistance

## 11. Justice

**Astrological correspondence:** Libra

The Justice card reveals that an outcome will be determined from the decisions you have made. It is a reminder that future actions can be changed by the lessons you learn in the present. It is an indicator that a decision needs to be made.

***Upright:*** Truth, fairness, equality, balance

***Reversed:*** Dispute, dishonesty, lack of accountability, corruption

## 12. The Hanged Man

**Astrological correspondence:** Neptune

The Hanged Man is an indication that it is time to end old ways and release the restrictions that are holding you back in life. It is a time for inaction and reflection in order for new opportunities to manifest. You must be willing to sacrifice something to gain something new.

***Upright:*** Sacrifice, release, new perspective, surrender

***Reversed:*** Indecision, delusion, delay, missed opportunity

## 13. Death

**Astrological correspondence:** Scorpio

Death is the harbinger of transformation. He is a reminder that you must shed what is old and familiar to become something new. You must break old habits and release that which is hindering you to make room for something greater.

***Upright:*** Change, endings, beginnings, transition

***Reversed:*** Resistance, stagnant, immobility, obsession

## 14. Temperance

**Astrological correspondence:** Sagittarius

Temperance appears when there is a need for balance of opposing areas in your life. You are being asked to be patient and re-examine priorities in your life that are in disharmony.

Temperance assists us by pointing you to life's meaning and purpose.

***Upright:*** Balance, harmony, purpose, moderation

***Reversed:*** Competition, frustration, excess, imbalance

## 15. The Devil

**Astrological correspondence:** Saturn

The Devil shows you that the problems that constrain you are an illusion; the binding is of your own. It is time to ask yourself what is it that holds you back and are you truly helpless to change the situation?

***Upright:*** Addiction, obsession, control, materialism

***Reversed:*** Detachment, freedom, awareness, vulnerability

## 16. The Tower

**Astrological correspondence:** Mars

The Tower shows up when you are living in an illusion. You must remove the mask and expose the truth of the situation in order to change it. Change is difficult; you will be shaken, the familiar will be broken down and removed from your comfort zone. The Tower reminds you to let go and let the ego fall away.

***Upright:*** Upheaval, change, awakening, shock

***Reversed:*** Denial, avoidance, fear, reluctance

## 17. The Star

**Astrological correspondence:**  
Aquarius

The Star is the light you seek when you enter a new phase of life. She reminds you that you are connected to the

universe and all the wisdom you seek is available. The Star shows you that now is the time to embrace new ideas and growth.

***Upright:*** Renewal, hope, serenity, clarity

***Reversed:*** Confusion, despair, test of faith, negativity

## 18. The Moon

**Astrological correspondence:** Pisces

The Moon is transformational; you are at a time of metamorphosis. You become aware of your shadow self and the lessons that lie within. The card reminds you that fear is an illusion and you will need to purge negativity and tap into your inner awareness for answers.

***Upright:*** Intuition, illusion, fear, subconscious

**Reversed:** Frustration, confusion, unhappiness, disbelief

## 19. The Sun

**Astrological correspondence:** Sun

The Sun card shines down confidence and awakening upon you. It is a time to embrace the joys in life and leave darkness and confusion behind.

**Upright:** Positivity, success, joy, optimism

**Reversed:** Selfishness, egotistical, sadness, depression

## 20. Judgement

**Astrological correspondence:** Pluto

Judgement shows when it is time for self-evaluation. You are at a crux for reaching a new life and must purge those things that would hinder you from being renewed.



***Upright:*** Rebirth, absolution, renewal, freedom

***Reversed:*** Self-doubt, rejection, blockage, stagnation

## 21. The World

**Astrological correspondence:** Saturn

The World is the final destination of your journey. You have a deeper understanding of your role in the universe and all of your efforts have come full circle.

***Upright:*** Completion, satisfaction, travel, fulfillment

***Reversed:*** Regret, incomplete, lack of closure, doubt

## 22. The Well

**Astrological correspondence:** Gaia

The Well is the birthplace of ideas, inspiration, and transformation. All things are birthed from this Creatrix and knowledge flows freely to those who seek it.

**Upright:** Nurturing, opportunity, nature, creativity

**Reversed:** Destruction, endings, cold, stagnant

## 23. The Artist

**Astrological correspondence:**  
Ophiuchus

The Artist is the vessel of creation. This card signifies mankind and shows when you need to open to the knowledge that is available if you stop and set aside the distractions of the human condition and listen.

***Upright:*** Visionary, interpreter,  
creation, passionate

***Reversed:*** Unstable, judgemental,  
restless, greedy





## **The Minor Arcana**

The Minor Arcana consists of four suits: Cups, Pentacles, Swords and Wands. Different elements represent each suit and shine a light on the aspects of everyday life.

Each suit contains 14 cards: 10 numbered cards (Ace-10) and four Court Cards (King, Queen, Knight and Page).

### **CUPS**

The Suit of Cups delves into your emotional state and relationships. The suit appears when you need to pay attention to your own intuition when making decisions.

**Element:** Water

**Astrological Correspondences:**  
Cancer, Scorpio, Pisces

**Direction:** West

## King of Cups

***Upright:*** Balance, generosity, strength, restraint

***Reversed:*** Intolerance, abuse, moodiness, dependency

## Queen of Cups

***Upright:*** Protection, intuition, unconscious emotion, creativity

***Reversed:*** Insecurity, dependency, dishonesty, dissatisfaction

## Knight of Cups

***Upright:*** Advancement, fulfillment, inspiration, healing

***Reversed:*** Boastfulness, jealousy, disappointment, egotism

## Page of Cups

***Upright:*** Confidence, happiness, contentment, insight

**Reversed:** Immaturity, insecurity, apathy, impulsiveness

## **Ace of Cups**

**Upright:** Compassion, purity, creativity, beginnings

**Reversed:** Repressed emotions, endings, separation, vulnerability

## **Two of Cups**

**Upright:** Health, partnership, harmony, attraction

**Reversed:** Imbalance, disconnection, unworthiness, struggle

## **Three of Cups**

**Upright:** Community, friendship, creativity, pleasure

**Reversed:** Over-indulgence, unfaithfulness, stifled creativity, disconnection

## Four of Cups

**Upright:** Meditation, resentment, apathy, discontentment

**Reversed:** Boredom, inexperience, depression, separation

## Five of Cups

**Upright:** Loss, neglect, failure, despair

**Reversed:** acceptance, forgiveness, nostalgia

## Six of Cups

**Upright:** Innocence, nostalgia, joy, reunion

**Reversed:** Scarcity, naiveté, abuse, disappointment

## Seven of Cups

**Upright:** Illusion, imagination, unrealistic desires, possibility

**Reversed:** Temptation, indecision, insecurity, overwhelmed



## Eight of Cups

***Upright:*** Abandonment, travel, loss of interest, withdrawal

***Reversed:*** Hopelessness, confusion, drifting, rejection

## Nine of Cups

***Upright:*** Happiness, satisfaction, harmony, accomplishment

***Reversed:*** Greed, materialism, unrealistic expectations, boastfulness

## Ten of Cups

***Upright:*** Abundance, satisfaction, fulfillment, happiness

***Reversed:*** Broken relationship, neglect, incompleteness, misalignment

# PENTACLES

The Suit of Pentacles relates to the physical aspects of life: work, health, finances, creative outlets, and material possessions. They appear as a mirror for what manifests in the physical world.

**Element:** Earth

**Astrological Correspondences:**

Taurus, Virgo, Capricorn

**Direction:** East

## King of Pentacles

***Upright:*** Power, influence, strength, abundance

***Reversed:*** Control, abuse, suppression, instability

## Queen of Pentacles

***Upright:*** Prosperity, pleasure, motherly, security

**Reversed:** Imbalance, reclusive, superficial, martyrdom

## **Knight of Pentacles**

**Upright:** Prepared, efficient, ambitious, practical

**Reversed:** Stagnant, lazy, careless, idle

## **Page of Pentacles**

**Upright:** Opportunity, discovery, manifestation, mastery

**Reversed:** Ignorance, immaturity, resentment, frustration

## **Ace of Pentacles**

**Upright:** Prosperity, stability, new beginnings, abundance

**Reversed:** Greed, corruption, risk, delay

## **Two of Pentacles**

**Upright:** Balance, renewal, adaptability, change

**Reversed:** Irresponsible, neglect, disorganization, unpredictability

### **Three of Pentacles**

**Upright:** Success, collaboration, solutions, confidence

**Reversed:** Competition, disharmony, interference, stagnant

### **Four of Pentacles**

**Upright:** Stability, control, influence, security

**Reversed:** Greed, loss, materialistic, mistrust

### **Five of Pentacles**

**Upright:** Isolation, poverty, poor health, insecurity

**Reversed:** Financial recovery, renewed confidence, spirituality, opportunity

## Six of Pentacles

***Upright:*** Generosity, charity, empathy, kindness

***Reversed:*** Selfishness, greed, cruelty, judgement

## Seven of Pentacles

***Upright:*** Profit, reward, investment, growth

***Reversed:*** Failure, mistrust, unemployment, re-evaluation

## Eight of Pentacles

***Upright:*** Creativity, concentration, craftsmanship, focus

***Reversed:*** Perfectionism, frustration, setbacks, obsession

## Nine of Pentacles

***Upright:*** Luxury, success, reward, appreciation

***Reversed:*** Materialism, setbacks, loss, overindulgence

## Ten of Pentacles

***Upright:*** Wealth, achievement, family, satisfaction

***Reversed:*** Burden, loss, loneliness, judgement



# SWORDS

The Suit of Swords are associated with power and conflict, but be keen to remember that swords have a double edge. They are reminders that there is a fine line between good and evil, so be mindful of your thoughts and ambitions.

**Element:** Air

**Astrological Correspondences:**

Gemini, Libra, Aquarius

**Direction:** North

## King of Swords

**Upright:** Intellect, authority, strength, fairness

**Reversed:** Indecisive, cruel, abusive, manipulative

## Queen of Swords

**Upright:** Confidence, assurance, organized, intellectual

***Reversed:*** Cruel, distant, ambitious, emotional

## **Knight of Swords**

***Upright:*** Stubborn, determined, brash overbearing

***Reversed:*** Weak, unreliable, impatient, disorganized

## **Page of Swords**

***Upright:*** Thoughtfulness, clarity, curious, restless

***Reversed:*** Irritable, hasty, annoying, doubt

## **Ace of Swords**

***Upright:*** Focus, clarity, victory, inspiration

***Reversed:*** Insecurity, confusion, chaos, boredom



## Two of Swords

***Upright:*** Intuition, compromise, indecision, stalemate

***Reversed:*** Fear, confusion, conflict overwhelmed

## Three of Swords

***Upright:*** Pain, grief, deception, rejection

***Reversed:*** Forgiveness, recovery, clarity, introspection

## Four of Swords

***Upright:*** Contemplation, meditation, relaxation, rest

***Reversed:*** Resentment, stagnant, exhaustion, frustration

## Five of Swords

***Upright:*** Selfishness, tension, betrayal entitlement

**Reversed:** Resolution, forgiveness, understanding, reunion

## Six of Swords

**Upright:** Solutions, change, security, transition

**Reversed:** Delay, challenges, unbalanced, procrastination

## Seven of Swords

**Upright:** Betrayal, escape, deception, irresponsibility

**Reversed:** Responsibility, acceptance, challenges, commitment

## Eight of Swords

**Upright:** Isolation, imprisonment, disappointment, trapped

**Reversed:** Release, acceptance, accountability, discovery

## Nine of Swords

***Upright:*** Depression, crisis, fear, anxiety

***Reversed:*** Objectivity, perception, recovery, revelation

## Ten of Swords

***Upright:*** Betrayal, surrender, defeat, endings

***Reversed:*** Hope, recovery, acceptance, renewal



# WANDS

The Suit of Wands mirror your consciousness and gives insight into the core of what you are—both external and external. They urge you to take action in situations that arise in your life.

**Element:** Fire

**Astrological Correspondences:** Aries, Leo, Sagittarius

**Direction:** South

## King of Wands

***Upright:*** Influence, respect, leader, maturity

***Reversed:*** Intolerant, ruthless, impatient, impulsive

## Queen of Wands

***Upright:*** Creativity, growth, intuition, passionate

**Reversed:** Cold, jealous, aggressive, domineering

## **Knight of Wands**

**Upright:** Determination, energetic, impulsiveness, passionate

**Reversed:** Anger, ego frustration, pessimism

## **Page of Wands**

**Upright:** Enthusiasm, travel, creativity, exploration

**Reversed:** Lazy, pessimism, unfocused, arrogance

## **Ace of Wands**

**Upright:** Inspiration, potential, creation, enthusiasm

**Reversed:** Endings, delay, unmotivated, impatience

## Two of Wands

***Upright:*** Focus, decisions, discovery, planning

***Reversed:*** Overconfidence, stunted, undetermined, blocked

## Three of Wands

***Upright:*** Strategy, planning, strength, travel

***Reversed:*** Delay, obstacles, risk, disappointment

## Four of Wands

***Upright:*** Union, celebration, promise, community

***Reversed:*** Transition, tension, change, instability

## Five of Wands

***Upright:*** Conflict, disagreement, resistance, competition

**Reversed:** Avoidance, self-doubt,  
evasion, negotiation

## Six of Wands

**Upright:** Victory, confidence, valor,  
recognition

**Reversed:** Egotism, misdirection,  
doubt, neglect

## Seven of Wands

**Upright:** Challenge, struggle, defense,  
justification

**Reversed:** Inferiority, overwhelmed,  
judgement, weakness

## Eight of Wands

**Upright:** Action, balance, change,  
productivity

**Reversed:** Frustration, delay, mistakes,  
confusion

## Nine of Wands

***Upright:*** Courage, determination, persistence, hope

***Reversed:*** Failure, defensive, hesitation, paranoia

## Ten of Wands

***Upright:*** Burden, stress, oppression, accomplishment

***Reversed:*** Relief, simplification, avoidance, immaturity





## About the Artist

Matt Hughes is a self-taught traditional artist focusing on the aesthetic approaches referred to today as “The Golden Age of Illustration”. His style combines inspiration from the Art Nouveau movement, the Pre-Raphaelite movement, and the Symbolist movement to produce an artistic expression all his own.

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