

The Court Q&A Method

Introduction

This exclusive and innovative method to work with the Court Cards is taken from Book 7 of our best-selling Tarot series, *Tarot Life*. This series, in twelve books, provides a new way of changing your life over the course of a year using Tarot.

This method provides a way of talking with the court cards to prompt new ways of thinking about a situation for yourself or someone else. You can extend it by doing a “normal” reading once you have generated some discussion between the court cards using this technique!

We also use reversals here – to show you how elegant and easy they can be when you break them down. When you use this method you should take out the 16 Court cards and shuffle them in such a way that some cards get reversed; either by manually reversing stacks as you shuffle or by circling them around face-down on a table – being aware of any dust on the table which may scratch cards face-down.

We have provided the suggested Q&A for the cards by rank and suit, so you can see how they are constructed and also – if you wish – you can perhaps modify the types of prompts to suit your own way of reading or background. The Court of the Thoth deck may be very different in voice to the Court of the Druidcraft! This version is suitable for most Waite-Smith variants.

Step 1: Generate a Question

Shuffle the 16 Court Cards, allowing for reversals, and consider any situation in your life (or of your querent) which requires a new view. Perhaps it is something where you cannot even think of the right questions to ask for a solution.

Take out a Court Card and look at its suit (Wands, Cups, Swords, or Pentacles) and consult the list below, and select the appropriate question, depending on whether the card is upright or reversed.

Wands

Upright: What has been achieved?

Reversed: What is there still to achieve?

Cups

Upright: What do you feel about the success of the past?

Reversed: What has been learnt from the failures of the past?

Swords

Upright: How do you overcome the obstacles?

Reversed: What are the opportunities?

Pentacles

Upright: What are our resources?

Reversed: What are our requirements?

Then consider the rank of the card (ignoring any reversal) and add the following consideration to your question.

King: In the long-term for my own good.

Queen: In the long-term for the good of others.

Knight: In the mid-term for the best possible outcome.

Page: In the short-term.

So if you drew the Knight of Swords reversed, your question is “In the mid-term for the best possible outcome, what are the opportunities?” If you drew Queen of Swords, upright, it would be, “In the long-term for the good of others, how do I overcome the obstacles?”

Step 2: Get an Answer

Then draw another card and consult the relevant response, which uses reversals, taking the rank first and then the suit:

King (upright): Move slowly but steadfastly and take control.

King (reversed): Stay absolutely where you are and wait.

Queen (upright): Develop and nurture whatever is already happening.

Queen (reversed): Cut back and be ruthless, aborting what is not working.

Knight (upright): Take action swiftly.

Knight (reversed): Let others run this one.

Page (upright): Make a first step, for the sake of it.

Page (reversed): Keep everything close to home and risk-free.

And then the Suit:

Wands (upright): Towards your ambitions and vision.

Wands (reversed): Within the bounds of what others have done.

Cups: In the depths of your feelings and intuition.

Cups (reversed): Without muddying the waters.

Swords: In the light of your mind, and common-sense.

Swords (reversed): Taking it way out of the box.

Pentacles: In the sense of your gut feeling.

Pentacles (reversed): Not making any changes at all.

Example

So if you drew the Queen of Pentacles (reversed), the response would be:

Cut back and be ruthless, aborting what is not working, not making any changes at all.

If that were the response card to the first example question, the Knight of Swords (reversed), we would see that in the mid-term, all we can do is cut back and not make any new progress, just clear the ground by ejecting whatever is not presently working for us.

You can take the suggested prompts and create a better grammatical response – jumping off from the prompts.

You can continue to pick out pairs of cards in this prompt/response manner for so long as you find it useful to explore your situation – although we usually find four pairs (8 cards) is sufficient and avoids overload or conflicting messages.

You can also find a more detailed guide to the Court Cards on our free download page:

<http://www.tarotprofessionals.com/tarotarticles.html>

Our *Tarot Life* books can be purchased for just \$2.50 as PDFs or on Kindle:

<http://www.tarotprofessionals.com/courses.html>