



Tarot and Astrology Tables: Planets






Planets and Points

<u>Glyph</u>	<u>Planet</u>	<u>Card Image</u>	<u>Card Title</u>	<u>Planet Keywords</u>
☉	Sun		Sun	Self, Logic, Action, External, Self-awareness, Ego, Essence, Spotlight, Success, Recognition
☾	Moon		High Priestess	Emotion, Intuition, Reaction, Internal, Self-reflection, Unconscious, Soul, Mother
♿	Mercury		Magician	Communication, Mental realm, Writing, Eloquence, Quick movement, Dexterity, Adaptability, Thief, Trickster
♀	Venus		Empress	Relationship, Love, Beauty, Harmony, Art, Pleasure, Aesthetics
♂	Mars		Tower	Action, Desire, Power, Energy, Aggression, Sexuality, Initiative, Courage, Passion, Motivation, Goals, Ambition
♃	Jupiter		Wheel of Fortune	Expansion, Success, Joviality, Religion, Philosophy, Wisdom, Spirituality, Generosity, Teacher, Leader, Interpretation of dreams, Commitment to Excellence/ Excess
♄	Saturn		World	Limitation, Structure, Boundaries, Time, Completion, Authority, Endurance, Diligence, Discipline, Hardship, Austerity, Solitude, Father



Tarot and Astrology Tables: Planets

Planets and Points, continued

<u>Glyph</u>	<u>Planet</u>	<u>Card Image</u>	<u>Card Title</u>	<u>Planet Keywords</u>
♅	Uranus		Fool	Community, Revolution, Inventiveness, Change, Liberation, Rebellion, Independence, Technology
♆	Neptune		Hanged Man	Imagination, Psychic ability, Illusion, Addiction, Nebulousness, Delusion, Occult
♇ or ♅	Pluto		Judgment	Transformation, Rebirth, Renewal, Deepening, Destruction, Germination, Reorganization
AC	Ascendant		Ace of Wands	Mask, Emerging, Self-expression, Persona, Assertion, Interaction, Appearance, First impression, How others see you, Image
MC	Midheaven		Ace of Pentacles	Destination, Reputation, Respect, Status, Career, Goal, Achievement, Expertise



Tarot and Astrology Tables: Aspects

Aspects

Glyph

Card Image

Card Title

Aspect Verbs



Conjunction



Sun

Mirrors, Identifies, Equates,
Unites, Intensifies, Reinforces



Sextile



Empress

Befriends, Eases, Offers, Excites,
Entices, Complements



Square



Tower

Struggles, Fights, Squares off
against, Motivates, Challenges,
Tests, Resists, Confronts



Trine



Wheel of Fortune

Harmonizes, Expands, Assists,
Relaxes, Allies, Spins its wheels
with



Opposition






World

Opposes, Plays Tug of War with,
Seesaws with, Avoids, Polarizes,
Contradicts



Tarot and Astrology Tables: Signs













Signs

<u>Glyph</u>	<u>Sign</u>	<u>Card Image & Title</u>	<u>Sign Keywords</u>
♈	Aries	 Queen of Wands	Courageous, Initiating, Charismatic, Pioneering
♉	Taurus	 King of Pentacles	Comfort-oriented, Stable, Values Luxury, Conservative
♊	Gemini	 Knight of Swords	Pursues Intelligence, Adaptable, Quick-witted, Social
♋	Cancer	 Queen of Cups	Maternal, Nurturing, Intuitive, Compassionate, Domestic
♌	Leo	 King of Wands	Dramatic, Confident, Noble, Flamboyant
♍	Virgo	 Knight of Pentacles	Precise, Detailed, Service-oriented, Values Perfection



Tarot and Astrology Tables: Signs






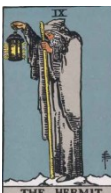
Signs, continued

<u>Glyph</u>	<u>Sign</u>	<u>Card Image & Title</u>	<u>Sign Keywords</u>
	Libra	 Queen of Swords	Balance, Partnership, Justice, Indecision
	Scorpio	 King of Cups	Passionate, Intense, Transformative, Deep, Secretive, Death and Rebirth
	Sagittarius	 Knight of Wands	Exploratory, Integrative, Philosophical, Enthusiastic, Questing, Adventurous, Quick
	Capricorn	 Queen of Pentacles	Practical, Dependable, Disciplined, Systematizing, Determined, Self-controlled, Restrained, Authoritative, Dutiful, Rule-bound, Regimented
	Aquarius	 King of Swords	Revolutionary, Community-oriented, Idealistic, Humanitarian
	Pisces	 Knight of Cups	Empathic, Sensitive, Spiritually-oriented, Psychic



Tarot and Astrology Tables: Houses

Houses

<u>House</u>	<u>Card Image & Title</u>	<u>House Keywords</u>
1 st House	 <p>Emperor</p>	Early environment, personality, physical body, outer expression, personal identity
2 nd House	 <p>Hierophant</p>	Money, resources, possessions
3 rd House	 <p>Lovers</p>	Communication, primary education, short journeys, siblings
4 th House	 <p>Chariot</p>	Home, mother, real estate
5 th House	 <p>Strength</p>	Children, creativity, romance
6 th House	 <p>Hermit</p>	Service, jobs, health, routines, habits, work, drudgery, nutrition, small animals



Tarot and Astrology Tables: Houses

Houses, continued

<u>House</u>	<u>Card Image & Title</u>	<u>House Keywords</u>
7 th House	 <p>Justice</p>	Partnerships, relating to others, legal issues, open enemies
8 th House	 <p>Death</p>	Death, sex, transformation, other people's money
9 th House	 <p>Temperance</p>	Higher education, long journeys, philosophy, religion, publishing
10 th House	 <p>Devil</p>	Public reputation, career, fame, father
11 th House	 <p>Star</p>	Friends, community, hopes and dreams
12 th House	 <p>Moon</p>	Unconscious, mysticism, gestation, hospitals, prisons, secret enemies



About the Empyrean Key Process

The Empyrean Key

The Empyrean Key method integrates the imagistic communication of the tarot with the astrological blueprint of your life purpose to create personalized spiritual practices aimed at evolutionary transformation. This method is designed to create opportunities to break through blocks while aligning yourself with your higher purpose so that you can achieve your unique perfection.

Translating the details of the astrological natal chart into mythological language arouses what is called archetypal expansion--the inspirational feeling of bursting through to a new level of universal consciousness. This expanded perception feels like arriving at the top of a mountain, where you can clearly see your destination. Then using the concrete methods of the Empyrean Key process, you can climb down from that mountain back to normal consciousness with a roadmap to where you're going.

The Story Behind It

I developed the name Empyrean Key based on the idea of the Empyrean sphere, which was considered the eleventh and highest heaven in medieval cosmology. This was the highest level of the universe, unmoving, perfect, the realm of pure light and the seat of the Divine. The word "key" refers both to a tool for unlocking something previously unavailable, as well as to the Major Arcana of the tarot. Your Empyrean Key is your unique tool for opening the highest levels of your soul purpose.

The Empyrean Key method developed out of my desire to manifest my own soul purpose. After years of study, the tarot had become profoundly useful for me in providing deep insights, but I felt that there was one step further for me to go. I realized I needed to develop a system to translate the insight from tarot into real changes in my life. At the same time, I had started studying astrology and was working to discover how to see my own highest potential in my chart. I discovered that by combining the two modalities I could use the tarot as a bridge to cross from the eternal archetypes of astrological mythology to the unique simplicity of my mundane personality and back to the highest expression of my soul purpose. By then crystallizing this shift of perspective into a unique symbol, I could create my own personal tool for transformation.

I believe that because the system is so adaptable and personalized, anybody can benefit from it. And this book will walk you through the process step-by-step. All you need to get started is this book, a deck of tarot cards, and a copy of your astrological birth chart.

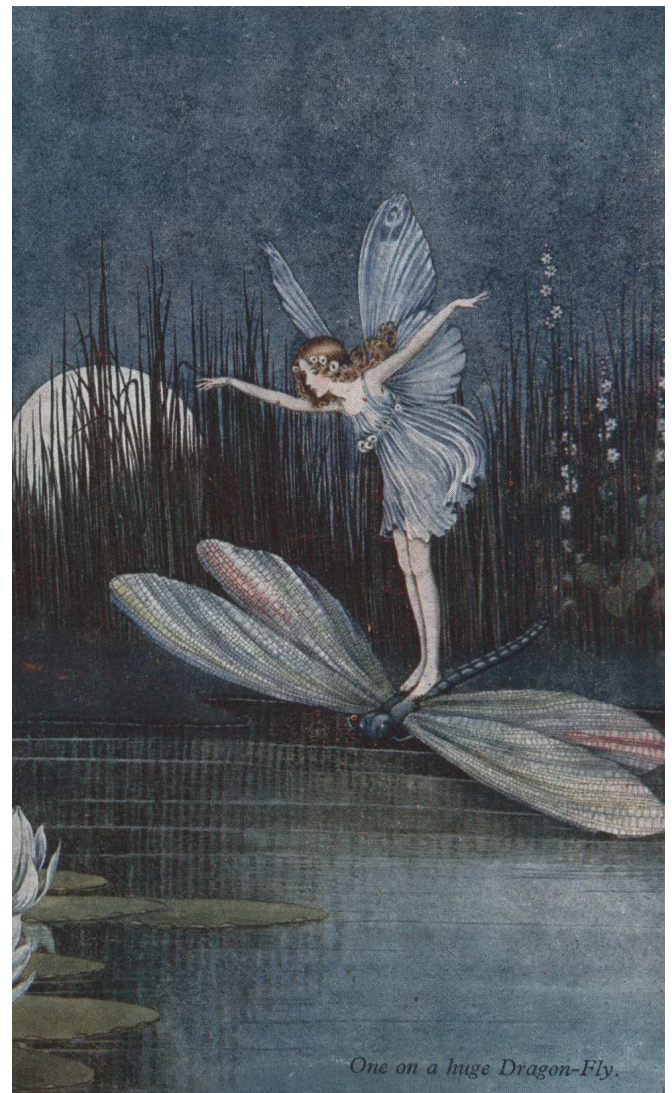
How the Process Works

This process consists of three primary parts. First, you will be working with your chart and the cards to gain new understanding and insight into your life. Second, we will do group activities to practice a variety of techniques for integrating your new insights into your subconscious where the work of transformation takes place. Third, you will continue your work at home by creating a regular practice of connecting with the symbols of your transformation so that you can manifest the change in your life that you desire. Working with even one part of the process can be life changing—imagine working with equal attention to all three!

The first part involves working on your chart and approaching it intuitively and through journaling. These weeks will be referred to as “reflection” weeks as you will use your chart and the cards as a mirror to reflect your inner hero’s journey. During this time you will develop your symbols, which are your keys to unlocking the hidden parts of yourself. Some people might complete their reflection during class, some people might find that they like to continue working with their tarot spreads at home where more time and personal space can produce deeper results.

The reflection weeks will alternate with practice weeks in which you will learn how to use your symbols to initiate your transformation. These activities will give you experience in how to work with your symbol and hopefully touch on enough variety that you find at least one style of personal work that you enjoy and derive a great deal of benefit from. The techniques taught will include ritual, meditation, affirmations, healing, and crafts, and even more possibilities will be discussed. During this time you will discover what works best for you to work with as the basis of your personal practice.

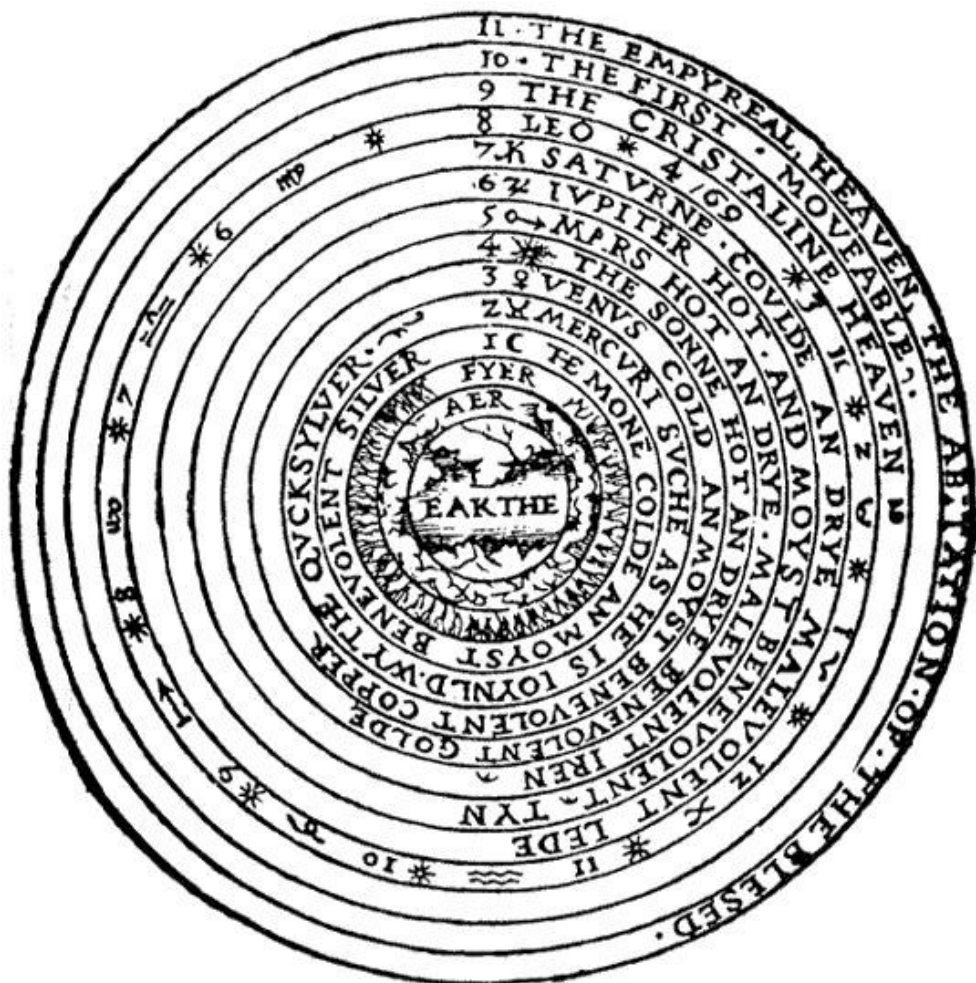
The final section is your personal practice. This is what you will do at home to tend to the seeds of transformation we have planted in your subconscious. Your personal practice is your on-going reminder to yourself of your commitment to your transformation. It also aligns you on a daily basis with your higher self or with Spirit to support your intention. By designing your personal practice around the symbols developed in your reflection process, you are able to release your conscious and analytical mind from the process, allowing the energy of the symbols to do their work on a deep level.



One on a huge Dragon-Fly.

The Empyrean Heaven

This image shows the Ptolemaic cosmology, with the Earth at the center, surrounded by Air and Fire, then the numbered concentric spheres.



- Earth
- Air
- Fire
- 1. Moon
- 2. Mercury
- 3. Venus
- 4. Sun
- 5. Mars
- 6. Jupiter
- 7. Saturn
- 8. The Fixed Stars/Zodiac
- 9. The Crystalline Heaven
- 10. The First Moveable Sphere (Primum Mobile)
- 11. The Empyrean Heaven

My System of Teaching

Intuition

A lot of people call my systems “intuitive” but I try not to use that word because I find it can be misleading. Intuition is defined as immediate apprehension or knowing; attaining to direct knowledge without evident rational thought and inference. It derives from the Latin *intuitio*, “act of contemplating”; from *in-* (in or within) and *tueri* (to look at) – “to look at within.” I often define intuition as an inner knowing.

I think the word intuitive is misleading because intuition by definition bypasses rationality, so too often it gets used to define any experience we have that we cannot clearly define. This can lead to mental laziness as we dismiss our experiences as intuitive rather than searching to understand them on a deeper level. In order to descend into the dark realm of intuition, I try to test my non-analytical experiences against the following. First,

I ask if it's instinctive—a knee-jerk reaction. If so, then it's not intuitive. Next I look within to see if it arises from mindfulness and a feeling of connection. If so, I verify by considering whether it is supported by established systems of correspondence.

Instinct

Intuitive is knowing without rational thought; true insight. Instinct is responding without rational thought; an impulsive and impetuous reaction. Instinct tends to be based on personal associations, and so is usually true for you. Intuition arises from the universal and therefore is true for all.

Mindfulness

Mindfulness opens the doors for intuition by releasing emotional attachment and intellectual projection. To achieve this awareness, become both fully present and the spectator or observer of the body, feelings, thoughts, and events.

Systems of Correspondence

If you don't have internal networks of associations built up, you will substitute personal associations which may or may not be relevant. More relevant is true intuition, in which you are connected to the source of knowledge. Also relevant are personal associations built on years of mindful observation of the environment or community (what I call "Miss Marple psychism"). Systems of correspondence – networks of associations that have been used for centuries or even millennia, and which set up simple "filing systems" for organizing or associating ideas are also excellent frameworks to drape intuition over. Practicing mindfulness and contemplation, and learning to use systems of correspondence, will allow you to tap into the source of true knowledge and your intuition will become reliable, accurate and readily available to you.

Special Tarot Terminology

Analytical or Intentional Draw

An analytical or intentional draw is when you look through the cards face up and pick a card by looking at the picture and making a conscious or analytical choice to use the card.

Random or Intuitive Draw

A random or intuitive draw is when you shuffle the cards face down (or fan them out face down) and select a card randomly, intuitively, or through energetic means.

Synthesis

Compare two or more cards and note any symbols or visual details common to each card being compared. Also consider what visual detail on each card most specifically summarizes the meaning you see in the card. Note such a symbol for each card being compared. Now look through the deck for a single card that contains the visual cues you have made note of. This card is the "synthesis" of the other cards. (This is a special

technique I developed in August 2008.)

Highest Expression

Often when we're doing tarot readings, we try to steer a middle course, and not read the cards the way we want them to mean but not read all gloom and doom either. The exercises in the Emyrean Key process provide opportunities to ask the cards to show us our highest self. This is not the same as seeing in the cards what we want to see, but rather allowing the cards—each and every card—to express to us something that is perfectly true, inspiring and transformative about ourselves. I call this the highest expression of the cards.

To find the highest expression of a card, first it helps to throw away your usual understanding of the card or basic meanings that you have learned. If this is difficult for you, you might consider using a deck with images that are unfamiliar to you, but which are intriguing and inspiring.

Know that this is your higher self talking to you through these cards. Your higher self is the part of you that is connected to the Divine, that understands the sacred truth of Unity. Your body might feel a-buzz when you are connected to this part of you, or it might feel an extraordinary sense of peace and stillness. This part of you does not give you knowledge of the future, as you might get when doing an ordinary reading, this part of you has the wisdom to make your future the best that it can be. In this place there is no competition, no moralizing, no compromising, no limitations. There is only accomplishment, completion, attainment, realization. This is a special and sacred space that feels totally unique to you and filled with the greatest wisdom and inspiration.

It might feel particularly challenging to get a difficult card here or a card that initially seems non-sensical or out of context. Any card in the deck, when assigned the meaning of the highest expression, can offer something that is true, inspiring and transformative. When you are interpreting your highest expression cards, it is your job to remove yourself to a place of compassionate objectivity, and spiritual connection so that you can see beyond the mundane limitations of the cards and realize the deep wisdom and truth so that you are inspired and energized in the highest expression of this card for your unique situation. Like a well-crafted story, the ending (result) should be surprising but inevitable.

Archetypal Expansion

In order to connect to your highest expression, the Emyrean Key process uses what I refer to as archetypal expansion. I've also heard this called mythic or mythological expansion. As I understand this psychological concept, it is a form of self-expansion in which one identifies to a lesser or greater degree with a psychological archetype, mythological figure, or divine being. At an extreme, this can become pathological, but simply looking for ways in which our own sense of self overlaps with something that is much greater than us gives us an opportunity to grow more quickly and to a greater degree. When you view yourself and your story through the lens of an archetype, you significantly expand your sense of self, you are empowered in your relationship to your roadblocks and resources, and you gain confidence in your ability to achieve your goals.

To me, the experience of archetypal expansion is like climbing to the top of a hill in order to get a look at the surrounding terrain. Being at the top of the hill might be a heady experience, but progress only happens when you climb back down and use your increased knowledge of what's lying ahead to guide your steps, even if on

the ground you can no longer see your destination.

Another metaphor I like to use is that of mariners who would shoot the stars. In navigating ancient sea-faring ships, captains would use an instrument such as an astrolabe or sextant to measure the degree a star was from the horizon. By using this tool to bring the star to the horizon they could set their course. In this metaphor, the star is the archetype that we identify with for the purpose of steering toward the horizon—our goal.

How to Get the Most Out of the Empyrean Key

Your Symbol

Your symbol translates the conscious work you have done to the subconscious, where the process of transformation begins. The symbol is like a seed, and working with it through ritual and meditation is planting and tending the seed. This is the process I developed as a technique to manifest the insight we receive from the tarot, and, by working in the context of the natal chart, to realize our highest potential.

A few ways to work with your symbol:

- Place your symbol where you can see it often
- Create something using the symbol
- Use it in ritual
- Meditate on it
- Cut out your symbol and tape it to your water bottle
- Place your symbol under your pillow and ask to receive dreams about it
- Get it tattooed on your body
- Use icing to decorate cookies or cupcakes with your symbol

Make up your own fun, helpful or crazy ways to make your symbol part of your life!

Journaling

Write notes on the exercises that you do: what you worked on in your chart, what your cards were, your keyword, affirmation, and symbol. Keep track of dreams. Make notes of how you feel and of any changes that happen in your life. The journal is an important tool in helping you create awareness and perspective on your development; also it is an important tool in creating mindfulness

Clearing or Healing Crisis

When doing any kind of powerful healing or spiritual work, it is common to experience “clearing” or a “healing crisis” which often manifests as a recurrence of an old illness, experience of strong emotions, or feelings of tiredness, low energy, or melancholy. This is just old stuff coming up to the light where it can be healed and released. Be mindful of the experience, and simply acknowledge and release it.

Things that help: practice mindfulness, drink lots of water, get enough rest, eat right, exercise, do anything that grounds and centers you, take a walk or clean the house; use any of your time-honored tactics that have helped you through crises in the past. A healing crisis will most likely last only a few hours or few days, but

Practice: Candle Scrying

Ritual to Create Mindful Focus on Your Symbol

This ritual is designed for people who do not have a lot of experience ritualizing for themselves. Ritual does not have to be complicated or mysterious. It is simply a way of connecting your physical self with your spiritual self. The process of bridging the two is accomplished differently for everyone, so never be afraid to try something new or change something around! There are no “rules” to be broken. You are just finding what works best for you, and as long as you put out your intentions with love, they will be returned with love.

Tools

- A small taper candle in the color that best fits your intention (note: a tealight candle will not work for this ritual)
- A toothpick
- Your Empyrean Key symbol, affirmation and keyword

Ritual

1. Using the toothpick, while repeating your Empyrean Key affirmation out loud, carve your symbol onto one side of the candle.
2. Now while repeating your Empyrean Key keyword out loud, carve your keyword onto the other side of the candle.
3. Carve your name into the bottom and the top of the candle.
4. Holding the candle in both hands, say your affirmation, then your keyword, and then take a deep breath and breathe out slowly and intentionally onto the candle.
5. Place the candle on a safe burning surface and, saying your affirmation and keyword once more, light the candle.
6. Let the candle burn all the way down and out. (If you cannot leave the candle burning, simply put it out and then relight it whenever it is safe to do so, repeating until it is completely burned down.)

—*Ritual by Rory Joyner*

Practice: A Ceremonial Magic Style Ritual

Ritual to Invoke and Balance the Energy of Your Symbol

Preparation

Find an area indoors or outdoors where you can be undisturbed for a few minutes. There should be enough room to walk in a small circle, or at least turn around with your arm extended. This is your ritual space.

Ritual

1. Stand in the center of your ritual space facing east. Stand tall with your feet together or shoulder width apart and your hands at your sides. Take several deep breaths to clear and calm yourself.
2. Bring your hands, palms together, in front of your chest in prayer position. Set your intention to call forth or invoke the power of your symbol.
3. From prayer position, drop your arms back down to your sides, then on an inhalation with a strong, controlled, sweeping motion, swing your arms up and out to the sides and continuing to above your head while slightly arching your back and looking up. Continue breathing deeply, and for a few moments contemplate your connection to the sky. (This step and the next you may recognize as the beginning of a yoga sun salutation.)
4. On an exhalation, lean forward, arms still extended, back straight, for as far forward as you can go while maintaining a strong and controlled motion. Then drop your hands and round your back until you are hanging comfortably (you can place your hands on your legs for support) or touching the ground. Breathe deeply, and for a few moments contemplate your connection to the earth.
5. Inhaling, roll up slowly vertebra by vertebra while lifting your arms out to the sides, so that your body forms a cross. While reaching out to the sides, look slightly upward and feel your heart open.
6. Exhaling, bring your hands back to prayer position. Momentarily be aware of all the positions you have just held—above, below, left and right, and centered at the heart.
7. Release your arms to the sides, and then step forward, if you have enough room, to the eastern edge of your ritual space. Extend your arm, and with a pointed finger or with a ritual wand, trace your symbol in the air in front of you. Imagine seeing your symbol glowing in brilliant white light. Say your Keyword in a firm and powerful but not necessarily loud voice. Feel the vibrations of your Keyword filling the space to the east. Alternately, say, “I invoke the power of [Keyword] out of the east and into Unity” or “My [Keyword] is One” or similar.
8. When you feel the vibrations begin to dissipate slightly, with your arm still extended, trace a line around to the south of your ritual space. Again trace your symbol, see it glowing in white light, and vibrate your Keyword or say the alternate line, using the appropriate direction as necessary.
9. Repeat to the west and to the north.
10. From the north, complete the circle by tracing a line back to the east. Then return to the center of your

ritual space.

11. Trace your symbol in the air directly in front of you. See it glowing in brilliant white light.
12. Say your Affirmation aloud, firmly and powerfully, but not necessarily loudly.
13. Cup the symbol in your hands and see it glow even more brilliantly. Gently and lovingly bring it in your hands to your heart. Feel the symbol embrace your heart.
14. Feel the whole ritual space filling with white light, as if a skylight opened above you, or as if the sun came out from behind the clouds. Be aware of your symbol glowing brightly in the four directions and in your heart. Bask in the warmth and beauty of this light until you begin to feel it dissipating.
15. Bring your hands to prayer position, and repeat steps 3 through 6.
16. Say “Thank you” or any common closing you use in your work, such as “Amen” or “So mote it be” or “Blessed be.”

This completes the ritual.



About the Author



Joy Vernon is widely recognized as an expert tarot teacher and respected community leader. With over twenty-five years' experience teaching energetic and esoteric modalities, Joy brings expertise and practiced familiarity to her specialty of esoteric tarot, which layers astrological and qabalistic symbolism onto the traditional tarot structure.

Community outreach is important to Joy. She loves guiding people in their own self-empowerment through tarot, astrology, and spiritual practices. She has served as the Organizer of the Denver Tarot Meetup and the Denver Tarot Geeks, among others, and currently runs the Greater Seattle Tarot Meetup. Joy works as a tarot reader, astrologer, and teacher in Burien, Washington.

Joy has published more than 300 free articles on tarot, astrology, qabalah, Reiki, and meditation on her blog Completely Joyous (<http://joyvernon.com/blog/>).

Joy offers consultations locally in the Greater Seattle area and around the world via Skype, Zoom, or phone. Visit her website if you'd like to schedule a reading (<http://joyvernon.com/>).