Different styles of reading.

We've started to explore where the information can come from, so let's start to explore the different styles and purpose of reading.

This not exclusive, and you may well blend different styles. Its more to help you consider how you already read, and how you may adjust and adapt that at different times.

Predictive

The most obvious, and probably most well known.

The "when will I.." question.

Many reading styles will have some predication, but some readers place the prime importance on the most likely outcome. And some clients aren't interested in anything else!

Its an easy way to set up in business, because it is the most well known style, but accuracy is essential if you want repeat clients- and no matter how accurate you are you won't always be 100%.

So, you need a firm understanding of how fixed the future is, and it is helpful to blend at least one other style.

Spiritual

There are many variants of this style- from using the cards to connect with passed loved ones and spirit guides, to exploring soul paths, to simply intuiting what the cards want to say with no input from the client.

I believe I work with my guides during a reading- so there is always some element of spiritual.

But I like to be practical, and to interact with my client so I prefer clear questions and feedback during the reading.

Some readers prefer no communication from the client until near the end of the reading.

This is not about right or wrong, just understanding how you like to work.

Practical

If "when will I" is predictive, then "how can I" is planning.

This is where someone doesn't have a clear way forward and is asking about choices, problems, and how to manage a situation.

I love this kind of reading- and will often do multiple readings exploring a problem from different angles.

Remember to keep the question open ended, or to leave room for "unknown option X". Because often this style of reading highlights things the client hadn't considered, or doesn't realise are possible.

There may be an element of predictive- but more time is spent exploring different options or how to navigate the situation, rather than jumping right to the outcome.

Counselling

You may naturally move into this more discussion based, reflective style of reading when needed. Sometimes clients need validation, to talk, to better understand their emotional state. I have several clients who really like this style of reading. It feels more like a conversation- except I am using the cards to help me express what is needed in a wise manner.

You may find yourself asking a client how a card reflects their emotions, or makes them feel. The cards become a focal point for an emotional space between you- rather than you narrating the cards.

Relationships

As Tarot readers we are often called upon to understand a relationship, and I have done a fair number of relationship spreads with both parties present.

When we focus on relationships, we are trying to understand both parties in a nonjudgemental way. Never make presumptions about who is at fault. Your client (or you) may be acting in a triggered, defensive, or enabling way whilst truly believing they are the victim.

Some readers will refuse relationship spreads as they don't feel comfortable reading for a third party, and if this is where you are- that is fine.

I love relationship spreads, but try to stay focused on the energy between the two, rather than asking endless random questions.

"Does Bob fancy me?" Is something I would read for. "Does Bob fancy Nancy?" is probably not something I would read for.

Coaching

I know plenty of coaches who integrate Tarot, and plenty of tarot readers who read in a coaching style.

There are many styles of coaching- but for me it would represent working with someone over a period of time. Supporting them in identifying goals, and working towards them in a measured way.

Tarot is perfect for highlighting self-limiting beliefs, and empowering a client- so these two do sit very well together.

Taboo topics

There are usually considered three big taboo topics; health, money, and legal. And it may not surprise you to know I cover all of them with clients, if it feels appropriate.

I have several solicitors who work with me, one even photocopies my readings to circulate to her team.

I have a couple of high level bankers, and a venture capitalist- and I rather like reading for the crypto currencies and stock market, even though I don't understand it!

If you choose to read for legal or financial matters (and it can be fascinating) then my advice is to always remind your client that you are not an expert in these matters, and to ensure they are taking professional advice.

Any advice I give for legal, financial, or health is complimentary to the professional advice received, and I need to feel fully confident that you are receiving that professional advice.

When it comes to health I am cautious- reading to better understand points of stress in a persons life which may be impacting their health, or ways to support and improve their health.

I will reword a question to make it fit with my skills. "I don't have any energy, should I see a Dr?" Can be phrased as; "You should see your health care professional, but lets read for how you can manage this alongside any advice they may give you."

Steering clear of any diagnosis or persuasion not to see their Dr.