

Spreads to try

There is no “correct” way to read these spreads, they are real examples- but created as an exercise to learn from. You’ll find the spread on the first page, my reflections on the second.

Marge is a 70 year old widow,

Card 1- situation. Card 2- warning. Card 3- advice. Card at bottom- overall feeling.

How is Marge feeling right now? (3 swords/ 5 cups).

How does reading the 5 of cups as a warning change its meaning?

How can we read the 7 of swords as a positive card (overlooking the more normal warnings?)

The magician is the only major arcana. How does this influence your reading of the other three cards?

What advice would you give Marge?



How is Marge feeling right now? (3 swords/ 5 cups).

I often emphasise the positive meaning of the 3 swords (speak your emotional truth). But when paired with the 5 of cups it would indicate sadness and grief.

How does reading the 5 of cups as a warning change its meaning?

The trick with the 5 of cups is to allow grief to be felt, but to not get lost in the grief. As a warning card it might suggest that she is getting a little lost in her sadness/grief. That perhaps now is the time to let it go.

How can we read the 7 of swords as a positive card (overlooking the more normal warnings?)

It is time to take a risk, make a change, do something different.

The magician is the only major arcana. How does this influence your reading of the other three cards?

This is underlying that Marge needs to embrace a new start in her life, and let her past go. As the only major this is the important narrative of the spread.

What advice would you give Marge?

I would translate the 3 of swords as expressing her sadness and grief (to a loved one, through journalling, to a therapist).

The need to mix things up, and try new things in her life (7 of swords)

And that now is the time for a new start in her life (magician). She is ready, and has everything she needs to start this new chapter.

Me- how am I feeling about this course (!)

Card one- Tower- past

Card two- 7 of cups- present/advice

Card three- queen of wands – future

Card at the bottom of the pack- lovers- what I need to know.



How do you read the Tower for my past when connected to creating this course? Time wise I think this would be about the time I was asked if I would create an in-depth correspondence course.

If the advice card is the 7 of cups- how would you translate that into practical advice. What would you suggest I do?

Is the Queen of wands a good outcome card? Why?

What do I most need to know about creating this course (Lovers)

What is the overall theme of this spread? If you had to create one sentence to sum this spread up- what would it be?

How do you read the Tower for my past when connected to creating this course?

There is an element of fear there, I've focused much more on teaching the runes over the last year.

Also (lightening) a "duh" why didn't I think of that, sudden inspiration moment. I already run an in-depth rune correspondence course and love it!

If the advice card is the 7 of cups- how would you translate that into practical advice. What would you suggest I do?

Cups is the heart chakra, and linked to creativity and emotion. I work really long hours- and I see content creation as a leisure, creative, enjoyable activity.

Very much linked to the creative problem solving that I am enjoying with the course. Also linked to visions and hopes for the future- of spending more time content creating, and a little less time in intense client work.

I would suggest creating a vision board of what focusing on creating the course could bring into my life.

Is the Queen of wands a good outcome card? Why?

The Queen of Wands is confidence, and doing what I want to do (which is more time content creating to build a more teaching based business). So I think this shows me feeling confident and joyful.

What do I most need to know about creating this course (Lovers)

I need to "choose" (or commit to it.) I can get distracted from bigger projects, and the older meaning of the Lovers is to choose. So this is about consciously putting the course at the top of my priority list.

The balance between left brain (Adam) right brain (Eve) and inspiration (Angel) really calls to me as well. To be organised, creative, but leave room for inspiration too.

What is the overall theme of this spread? If you had to create on sentence to sum this spread up- what would it be?

A scary blast of insight, connect and commit to your vision, it will be worth it.

What does Suzy need to know right now?



There is no time line for these cards. Three cards telling Suzy what she most needs to know.

Card at the bottom of the pack- a problem she needs to overcome.

How would you define the knight of wands as a problem in Suzy's life?

What is the most important message from this spread?

How would you sum this up as practical advice?

How would you define the knight of wands as a problem in Suzy's life?

The knight of wands can indicate jumping in without due consideration. As the page of swords can be anxiety (which can cause people to jump in without thinking, because they know if they think too much they will never do it) and the 8 of cups is about taking the time to get a better perspective (something the knight of wands would NEVER do) I would say this card is indicating she has a tendency to jump in and think later.

What is the most important message from this spread?

That success is possible/or she is on the right path (world is the only major arcana), so I would read this as a positive spread and ensure she understood that. But she needs to take her time to make sure her anxiety doesn't push her forward with out thinking things through.

How would you sum this up as practical advice?

Believe you are on the right path (world) but ensure you take time out to look at this from an objective perspective (8 cups) rather than just pushing forward with hope (knight wands)

Vicky wants to know if she should get a paid job, rather than continue trying to make it work as an artist. (she is married, and her husband is in work).



The cards run from past (10 wands), present (king cups) to future (king swords) with the card at the bottom of the pack being something she needs to know.

Would you advice her to get a job?

Why?

What is the moon telling you?

What are the 2 kings telling you?

Would you advise her to get a job?

OK. A sneaky one here, because life is like that!

I wouldn't make such a big decision on a three card reading, especially these cards- I would want to do a 9 card reading as well.

Having said that- if I was going to offer advice I would say not yet.

Why?

The 10 of wands suggests she may have overworked in the past. Is this genuine investment into her work as an artist, or burnout from a previous job? It's unclear- but important.

The king of cups can be "people pleaser" I would want to understand her relationship with her husband, and her financial situation. Does she feel she "should" get a job, or is there a genuine financial need?

The king of swords can be a savvy business mind. Its not money coming in, but it might suggest she gets proper business advice, or starts looking at how she can monetise her artist skills.

What is the moon telling you?

The moon can often pinpoint fear (the crayfish) and not having a full grip on the facts (the moon reflecting and distorting, rather than shining directly).

I would worry this might be a fear based decision, or she may not have all the facts (a link to the king of swords)

What are the 2 kings telling you?

They could be saying:

- Get advice- kings can represent a professional. The king of cups would be a creative professional, perhaps an artist who is already making a living. The king of swords business advice.

- They could be reflecting her expertise, that she is ready to start using her art to build a business.
- The Kings have responsibility for others- they could be indicating that she is thinking of others more than herself (especially with the king of cups as people pleaser). I would want to check this.

At this point I would be asking her to be honest about her motivations (does she think she “should” get a “proper” job? And her finances- does she “need” to do it now?)

Ideally, I would do more readings to look at the situation in depth. But if that isn't possible, I would leave her with questions to consider before making a decision.