

By Emily Balivet

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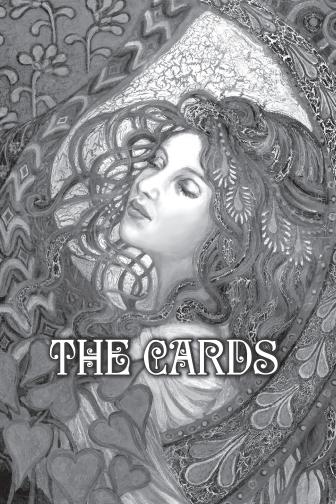
The Mystic Sisters Oracle Deck was created out of my intuition, for clarifying the inner voice. The subject matter of mythological goddess art is highly symbolic and the archetypes are designed to resonate on an ancient wavelength to induce a personal instinctual response. The images are meant to illuminate without words.

The cards contained in this deck are representative of many years of my own personal journey. The creation of each work of art was a meditative process that I remained in for several weeks while the artwork was in the process of being made. In many instances I have found myself in the midst of this painting meditation when the echoes of the symbolic myth I was interpreting began to reveal themselves in the overarching theme of my current psychic state. The artworks created this way have always been an oracle and a tool for personal growth for me.

GETTIRG TO KROW THE DECK

It is important to develop your own personal relationship with the cards. When you first crack open your deck, fan out all the cards in front of you. Take time to sort through the images. Notice the cards that attract your attention. How do the individual images

make you feel? Which cards are you immediately drawn to? Are there images that cause you anxiety? Are there images you find to be soothing to your soul? These initial responses are key in any reading you will do with this deck. The cards you find most appealing often reveal themselves to be aspirational signifiers. The images that cause hesitation may likely be symbolic of obstacles to overcome or transgressions to be forgiven. Cards that fall into a neutral category may represent challenges you've already overcome or not yet had the opportunity to experience. Your personal impressions of the artwork are the heart of the experience of the oracle reading. Notice also if your emotional response to the energy of the card changes over time. A card may resonate differently for you during later reading sessions.



AMUNET

Keywords: Hidden Meanings, Deceit

Amunet is a goddess of mystery whose name means "the hidden one." She symbolizes the subconscious mind or the shadow self. Drawing this card indicates something has been obscuring your vision, and you are unable to see the whole picture clearly. You may feel that you are stumbling in the dark and that nothing is going as planned. You may feel deficient in a strength you've known yourself to possess. At times like this, it is often best to simply be still and try to recollect yourself. It is time to pause, review the direction you are heading, and try to understand where you are on your path presently. Optimism is an important virtue, but now it is time to take the blinders off and regain a full view. Our own perception of our circumstances can sometimes be deceptive.

APHRODITE

Keywords: Passion, Beauty, Desire

The goddess Aphrodite bodes well for your direct experience of love, charm, and your eye for beauty. Aphrodite enhances awareness of your personal aesthetic pleasures. She heightens a desire for love, whether it's between you and your partner, or perhaps an increase of love in your heart toward yourself and everything you delight in. To be in the right space to experience the gifts of Aphrodite, it is necessary to be fully present in the moment, and you

must believe that you are truly worthy of love. Drawing this card is a call to open your heart, forgive transgressions by yourself and your loved ones, and to position yourself to give and receive love more fully.

ARTEMIS

Keywords: Hunting, Seeking, Perfect Aim

Artemis is the Roman goddess of the hunt, and she is on a mission. She has a clear purpose and the skills to achieve her objective. Artemis is intensely focused and determined. Through much self-discipline and education, she has developed not only perfect aim, but also all the patience and prowess to track her prey. She has unceasing ambition and an adventurous spirit, which enable her to discover her passion. Drawing this card is a call to action to more enthusiastically pursue your goals and dreams. If your dream has yet to be solidified in your mind, be more adventurous and try new paths. Artemis represents the expertise it takes to know when to watch and wait, and when to strike.

AWAKENING

Keywords: Sprouting, New Beginning, Dawning

The Awakening goddess opens her eyes to a fresh world bursting with life. She sprouts from the earth and is thoroughly grounded. However, she has been dreaming for so long, she finds she has become entangled in roots. New beginnings and awakenings simultaneously offer exhilaration and recognition of the substantial struggles ahead. Drawing this card suggests that you have found yourself in such a state, but trust that the momentum of nature is on your side. The spring goddess encourages you to trust in your own innate abilities to make progress and have faith that you will push through.

BAST

Keywords: Domesticity, Nurturing

The Egyptian goddess Bast is the protector of the household. She is widely known today as the cat goddess, the queen of domestic affairs. As a fertility goddess, she protects mothers and their children, and brings health to the whole family. In Egyptian magickal texts, an offering to Bast was made by women with hopes that this would enable them to conceive or help their crops to grow. Being catlike in nature, Bast reminds us to land on our feet in any situation by using a positive, humorous and playful attitude as our best defense. She is a master at multitasking and deftly manages all matters of the home. Drawing this card turns your attention to your own domestic life, to fluff your own nest, and to care for loved ones with your full attention.

BEE GODDESS

Keywords: Interconnection, Community

The Bee Goddess reminds you of the miraculous interconnectedness of all life. You may feel that the path to reach your goal has been a solo endeavor, but this is an illusion. You have certainly been busy, buzzing from task to task; and, like a bee, your focus is only on the present mission. You may not be conscious of all the other busy hands at work to reach a higher goal. You are called to trust a mysterious force that guides us all in a harmonious pattern in order to accomplish something that is impossible to take on alone.

BELTANE REUNION

Keywords: Union, Coupling, Intimacy

After a long, dormant winter of barrenness, the earth is again exploding with the promise of new life. It's Beltane, and the god and goddess have been joyfully reunited after a separation. It is the season that exudes fertility, and all life is encouraged to grow. The time is ripe for fresh ideas, and for hopes and dreams to be born and put into action. The pattern of all relationships is a pendulum swinging between union and individuation. Now is the time for union. The universe adores novelty, and by combining energies with another, something never before seen will be created. You do have the ability to reach a new level of emotional intimacy, which is the source of true bliss in life.

BRIGID

Keywords: Inspiration, Revelation, Creativity

The Great Mother Goddess Brigid offers you a flame of inspiration from her cauldron of brewing creativity. Such a gift as this must not be passed up! Now is the moment

to act on the orders of your muse. She will speak to you in the midst of an artistic and creative endeavor when you are most receptive. Your eyes, hands and ears will be guided to create magick. By following the instructions of your muse, you will find your soul is nourished, and a greater meaning to your time on earth is understood. Inside the act of creativity is a hidden treasure; the ability to slip out of time into eternity. Brigid will inspire you to find your fire within.

CERES

Keywords: Maturing, Transitions

Ceres is the Roman goddess of agriculture and grain. She represents the transition from a nomadic huntergatherer society to one of sowing, reaping and tending one piece of land. This shift made it necessary for new laws to divide the land and protect property ownership. Ceres is therefore a goddess of transitions and order, protecting women during key transitional periods of their lives: between girlhood to womanhood, from motherhood to old age. Drawing this card signifies a new state of maturity in whatever stage of the life cycle you are presently in. A strong motherly guide is within you. Your labor will yield results. Your newfound endurance will encourage younger women to grow.

CERRIDWEN

Keywords: Ingenuity, Resourcefulness

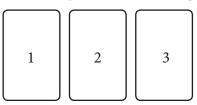
The goddess Cerridwen stands behind her cauldron, a deep well of inspiration and creativity, and a magickal tool that symbolically combines influences of the primordial elements of air, fire, water and earth. Cerridwen has expertise in the mysteries of shapeshifting potions. What do you wish? What are the necessary ingredients to achieve your vision of success? You likely have many of the resources within your own spiritual cupboard. Perhaps you'll also need to borrow a pinch of this or that from others around you. As the magick of Cerridwen's cauldron energizes your mind, your qualities of inventiveness will shine through. When this card is drawn, it reminds you that whatever your goal is, it will be possible to bring it to fruition with a bit of ingenuity.

CHARMS OF ISHTAR

Keywords: Indulgence, Distraction, Coveting

The goddess Ishtar symbolizes love, both its power and its danger. You have been seduced by someone or something that gives you pleasure, but you find yourself distracted from the path of your original destination. Ishtar offers delight in worldly acquisitions. On the flip side, she also has a covetous, possessive and defensive presence. When this card is drawn, you may be enjoying a worldly offering bordering on or crossing into overindulgence. Be aware of the consequences of your actions.

THREE CARD READING



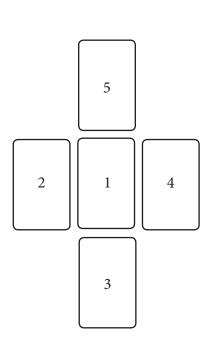
∽ Past, Present and Future ∞

Select a card to represent where you have been, your known experience. Draw a second card to signify your current state. The third card drawn represents the likely outcome of the issue.

FIVE CARD READING

ഹ The Cross ∞

Meditate on your current psychic state and draw a card to represent this state. This first card is the signifier and symbolizes the heart of the matter. Draw a second card and place it to the left to represent past experiences that influence your present state. Draw a third card and place it below the signifier card. This represents your roots, the known and what you are well grounded in. A fourth card will be drawn and placed to the right of the signifier card to symbolize the likely future experience. The final card is placed above the signifier and it represents the crown, the matter you aspire to have illuminated through your present state.



ABOUT THE ARTIST

Emily Balivet is an entirely self-taught, freelance artist who has been producing paintings for over 25 years. Her detailed artistic renderings of the divine feminine, mythological beings, and ancient earth-based religions have won her a worldwide fan base that spans many cultures, ages and interests. She derives inspiration from the pre-Raphaelite/Art Nouveau/1960's Psychedelic Art movements as well as the luscious landscapes of Vermont and Alaska, where she has lived. In crafting her vision she borrows elements of the world that surrounds her, as well as those that exist in the realm of dreams and myth. A true crossover artist, her painting continues to probe the nature of spirituality as it expands into new formats and mediums.

Emily's full portfolio can be seen by visiting www.EmilyBalivet.com



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