

Tarot divination lessons using the Rider-Waite-Smith deck

Lesson 1— The Directional Layout

[transcribed and edited for clarity by Elsa]

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[00:00]

Well this is Quareia video lecture from the apprentice directional layout from the first module, and I'd noticed that some people were having difficulty with directional readings. And it looks very simple, but it can be very complex and very confusing. So what I thought I'd do is, do a series of readings to show how the layout works, what the magical pattern is, but also how when you do a reading and you see something you need to know more information about, that you can then expand by further readings how to do it, how to be clear about it, and how to look at it.

[00:48]

So we're gonna do a directional reading about a house, and will expand the readings out as we need to and ask specific questions. Now this layout looks very simple, but it uses different layers of attributes, and in lesson 2 in module 1 in the apprentice section, you'll see there's a little list of basic attributes, and these are not canon, they're just suggestions. The more you work with this layout, and the more you develop in your magical training, the more you'll realize there's nuances, there's layers, there's complexities within it. But you have to start somewhere!

[01:30]

So the attributes are guidelines, and they express the sort of power/energy/dynamic that flows through a direction. Some of the directions, depending on how you're approaching the reading and what question you have, the directions can be used as a time—for time flow—some are connected to the passage of the sun—so, times of day. Some attributes can be connected to the local seasons, and the land, and of course that depends on what hemisphere and latitude you're in.

[02:07]

There's also a layer of magical elements and tools, and again it depends on what your question is about, and what magical system you're working in. And some of the attributes can be about different energetic qualities that can interpret through elemental attributions. The key is your intent and focus of the reading, and your ability to think creatively and poetically.

[02:35]

What attributes you apply solely depend on what it is you're looking at, what you need to know, and how you're gonna phrase your question. So it's a really good idea before you start

the reading, to be very clear and tight with the question, and also to think about what aspects of the directional attributes you need to work within to get the information you need.

[02:58]

For example, do you need to, is it a question that needs to look at the time flow of something? Is it a question to do with physical directions? Is it a question to do with magical dynamics or inner energies? So you would interpret the attributes according to what it is you're looking at.

[03:21]

It's also good idea to be very flexible in how you approach this, so you can look at two different layers at the same time, and what you will find as you get further into the training is that this pattern is not just a layout pattern, it's a magical pattern, and it's a foundational pattern. And like all foundational patterns they can look very simple but have a lot of complexity all layered—the more you dig, the more you find.

[03:51]

So, let's have a look. Here is the first reading. And the question is, "Show me the energetic health of this house." So you're looking at a house, you want to know whether energetically it's healthy, so you're just leaving it open, so you can approach it directionally, which is probably the easiest way to do it, but also bear in mind that you're looking at the energetic health, not the physical health, of the house. The other thing to remember is that you're asking about a house, you're not asking about you, so this is not about you, the cards are not about you, there is no emotion in this, it's purely about a house, about a space.

[04:45]

So, looking at the reading, there's three cards that jump out as potential problems. One is, the first is, the Fool in this house. Now that can be saying, "There's nothing here," the Fool is empty, it's the nothing, it's not on the magical path. It can be an energetic weak spot, it can be a potential drain of energy, or it could be saying, "There's nothing here, it's fine."

[05:16]

The second problem is the 8 of Swords in the North. It's a minor card, but it's a trapped and painful card, and it's a destructive energy, and it's also an energy of defeat. The third difficult card is the Devil, and this is in a position of something that has a relationship with the house, or is interacting with the house, and in that position it could be good or bad.

[05:43]

The Hermit in the East is interesting, but doesn't really say anything in terms of the energetic health of the house. So, when you see reasonable cards like that, you just take note of them, but you don't need to interpret each one, because you're looking for problems, you're not looking for what's good.

[06:05]

The Page of Pentacles in the center is earth, is small, is young, is very likely the house itself or the land that it stood on, and again, there's nothing untoward there. The Queen of Cups in the West could be good or bad. It's neutral at this stage of the inquiry. So again, we just take mental note of that.

[06:29]

But seeing these potential problem cards—particularly the 8 of Swords in the North, and the Devil in the relationship position—that would make me think, “Right, we need to look a little bit closer at this.” Even though we're looking at the energetic health of the overall house, the issue could be physical, or it could be an inner, energetic problem, because an inner energetic problem will show sometimes if it's a physical problem. When you, when a physical problem starts, it often starts its own inner pattern as well. What we need to find out is, is the underlying problem physical or is it energetic? So we do a second reading.

[07:16]

The second question says, “Show me where there is a physical problem that is detrimental to me or the house.” Bear in mind all houses have physical issues, and keep in mind that you're asking about potential or danger or detriment, and it's very important to make that distinction. You don't need to see every single physical issue of the house, you need to find out what is potentially dangerous.

[07:44]

The first card is the 4 of Swords, which is an overall physical health of the house in that position, and it shows the center of the house. And it's ok, 4 of Swords is old or it's tired, but it's resting, it's ok. In the East we have the King of Pentacles, which is an earth card. It's worth bearing in mind that in the previous reading, the Hermit was there in that position. So in two readings, we have the potential of a person or a being, so keep that in mind.

[08:21]

In the South, we have the 2 of Wands, which is benign, so we can ignore that and move on. In the West is the 10 of Cups. In a personal reading that would be emotional, but in a building, that's water, and that's a lot of water is the 10 of Cups. And if you look back at the previous reading, we had a Queen of Cups in that position, which is also saying, “A lot of water!” So bear in mind that this question is about a physical problem that is detrimental. This could point to it being a spring under the house, or a flow of water that's being diverted, sometimes through agriculture and gardening it can divert an underflow. If you can rule that out, it can be leaking mains, a leaking water pipe, a serious damp problem—it's fluid, it's a lot of fluid, and it's detrimental.

[09:20]

In the North, we have Death. Which is something that's gone, it's done, it's finished, it's died. That could point to a burial under the house, but only if it's causing structural issues, because remember—this is about physical problems, it's not about inner, or energetic problems. It could also say that something is broken beyond repair, that it's dead, it's finished, which could be a

water pipe, a pump, it could be a part of the foundation. But remember the first reading had the Ace of Swords in that position. So there's definitely an issue in that part of the house.

[10:02]

So we're looking at North, don't forget North is also down, it's past. This is where you start to bring in the layers of attributes. So it could be something to the north of the house, it could be something from the past, from, that's-that's, um, started off in the past and is now built to a certain stage. It can also be related to the water issue in the West, this is the other thing about building, you've only got one card per position, and the North and West are close to each other, it could be saying "There is a foundational and a water issue in that rough area of the house."

[10:47]

The final card that is crossing the house is the Moon. And again, we're looking at the house, we're looking at the physical problems of the house, and in this position, this is a relationship with the house, so it's very likely about the person who owns or lives in that house. And remember because it's about a physical building, it's not emotional. The Moon is very much about what you're not seeing clearly, that there's something happening under your radar, something you're not paying attention to. So, basically, it's saying there is a physical issue that's detrimental with this house, and you're not seeing it. It's very likely to do with water, it's very likely to do with something dead or broken. And it's also something to be aware of that you're really not seeing it, you're not aware of it, and it's bumbling away in the background.

[11:47]

So the other thing we need to try and understand now is, is there also an energetic or magical problem that is detrimental to person who owns this house? This reason I'm doing this is when you see a physical problem, don't just stop there, also look at the energetic, same question, but the energetic view of the house. And if you start with the energetic view of the house, always then check the physical because they have a relationship with each other.

[12:20]

So, reading number three, "Show me where there is an energetic or magical problem that is detrimental to me in this house." This is where you start to learn about inner energetic tides, about energetic flows and blockages that can fill and put stress on physical weaknesses. This is really important to learn as a magician and as a magical student, because our bodies are vessels, buildings are vessels, objects are vessels, and the physical—any physical weakness, an energetic tide could fill it and crack it. So we look at the tides and see what they're doing.

[12:59]

The first card is the 5 of Wands in the center. It's a minor card, and it's a card of conflict. So the energy of house is one of minor imbalance, and often the center card is not just the center of the house, it's the overall pattern of the house. An imbalance base can be minor, and easy to deal with, but it can be one of those things, that if you don't tend to it, eventually it opens out into something bigger, or it can create an, er, shaky vessel, for a destructive energy to fill. It's like a bit of grain of sand in the shoe—something small and insignificant, but if you ignore it, it

can start to grind away and cause issues. So you, little things like that, you keep a close eye on them and you look at them a bit further.

[13:50]

So, and if this was my house, I was doing the reading about, I would make a note straightaway to myself, whatever else came out in the readings, to check the energetic health of the house, what objects are in each room that could cause a conflict, and to just generally give it a good clean, and a ritual clean.

[14:13]

So the second card that shows up in the reading, is the King of Wands in the East. This is the third time we've now had a male figure appear in the East in all the readings. That makes me sit up and pay attention. It doesn't mean something bad, it just means that there is a male or authority figure that is appearing in the same position in each reading, so there's a presence. That could be anything from a burial under the house, which is only likely if your house is on an old burial ground, it could be a male deity or a male deity statue, or a spirit. It most likely would be in the East of the house, because of the position in the reading, but it could also be anywhere in the house but connected to the power of the East, which is again, where you start to get a bit more complexity with the layers of the attributes. The power of the East is utterance, it's religions of the book, it's powers of libraries, things like that. So there's this male presence that's consistent throughout all of these readings. It could be good, it could be bad, you just take a very big note of that. It could also be somebody that's living next door, it could also be somebody that's living above you, because East is also up.

[15:45]

So, in terms of serious issues affecting the energy of the house, there is a presence, take note. The thing is, don't emotionally connect with it, it could be just, for example, that your neighbor next door worries about the health of your house, because of the health of his property. It could be as simple as that, so don't put too much emotion into it, don't put too much thought into it, just keep it there, keep an eye on it.

[16:16]

In the South we've got the 5 of Cups, that's okay, it's same sort of level imbalance we saw in the first card. So again, the house energetically is not as tuned as it could be, but it's not particularly dangerous. In the West we've got the Page of Swords. Now, the Pages are really difficult to read, and they're small energies, but I've often found that they're quite important in different ways. In the Page of Swords is a very sort of sneaky, hidden actions, hidden words, hidden utterances, hidden winds. When you translate that into a story of a building or object, it tends to mean something is unseen, it's hidden, and it's undermining things. So, energetically, it will have a similar meaning, it's something underhand, something small and unnoticed that undermines and unravels things.

[17:14]

And for those of you that are further on the course, the Unraveller, the Page of Swords would be a good card to put in the house of the Unraveller—something that goes often unnoticed, but unravels things.

[17:29]

In the North I've got 10 of Swords. In the physical reading, we had Death. And in an energetic reading, the 10 of Swords is a like a minor version of the Death. So it's destruction, it's defeat, so again, in the North, all three readings have a similar theme going on. So it's possible that this started with a physical issue of destruction, and then a destructive tide or inner energy filled this up, and is also expressing destructive energy. Or the energetic destructive tide leaned on a physical weakness, and brought about or is bringing about physical destruction, or they both arrived at the same time, which is just really bad luck. But there's an inner and outer destructive element to something going on that's really potentially dangerous.

[18:27]

One of the things to understand with these energetic tides is they're around you all the time, they never stop. It's not like one comes in, and we all have to brace, and then there's nothing. It's a constant flow and ebb. Sometimes they're very good and creative and regenerative, sometimes they're destructive, sometimes they're mixed—sometimes they're neutral, they will uphold what's constant. They can be strong; they can be weak. But they're always there, and part of the magical practice around the world, is about modifying these tides or flows of energy, so that they function in the best way for us, or that we can divert them in the best way for us. Feng-Shui, traditional Feng-Shui—is a good example of tide modification.

[19:15]

Sometimes these tides have consciousness attached to them, sometimes they don't. But what is important is that every magician and magical student is aware that these tides exist, they come and go, they're normal, but there is never a time when there is no energy flow. So you have to take that into your way and consideration when you're interpreting that show energetic tides. And, as you go through your magical training, you'll learn how to work with these tides productively, and also defensively.

[19:47]

When a destructive tide hits a weak physical pattern, i.e. a person, a structure, or an object, it opens out the weakness. If the physical pattern is very well-maintained, the tides will buffer against the physical pattern without doing too much damage. If you build a solid house, it will survive in a storm with minimal damage, if anything. That saying is just as true for our homes as it is for our bodies, and also for our magical patterns. Things that are well-maintained, that are solid and built on good foundations, buffer well against these tides. So always bear that in mind for future, for health readings, magical readings, building readings, things like that.

[20:32]

Em, the 9 of Wands, it's the final card that crosses the reading, is the interaction/relationship position. So an energetic reading about detriment, shows that our relationship with this house,

it shows will survive, but will be very battered. That couldn't necessarily be same for the house itself, so we need to check a bit further, and really push as much as we can to see what information we can get.

[21:04]

But—just as a control—here's the reading with the same question, "Show me where there is an energetic or magical problem that is detrimental to the house." So this reading, 3B, asks, shows that there's no problem. If you look at the layout of the cards, you see there's different things going on, but there's no detrimental cards. So basically, if you see a reading like this when you're looking at the energetic detriment, there is no detriment here, it's purely a physical problem, which cuts your work load down a lot, and you know where you can focus.

[21:47]

So moving on—how do we expand this out? One of the things that can happen that you need to be aware of when you're doing expansive readings like this, is that a lot of problems tend to solve themselves over time. So like if you get sick, often you will get better regardless of what you do. Our bodies can heal themselves out of minor things, so sometimes you don't need to do much other than wait something out. And the same can be for a physical problem, you know, if there's a bit of movement in the house, then it settles, and it settles in a stable way—yeah it's a bit twisted, but it'll be fine for another fifty years.

[22:30]

What we need to find out is with the problems that have shown up with this house, how will that affect the person over time if they don't deal with it. So the question I asked was, "Show me how this building's situation will affect me over time if I don't deal with it?" So the attributes we're going to look at is about time, and the person, not the building. So we're in direction of time, and in the personal. Remember, East is incoming, and it's things that are building up; South is future; West is outgoing from the future, and composting; North is the past; Center is the present. And the card that crosses it is your relationship with the situation.

[23:23]

The Center card is the 8 of Swords. Now this first appeared in the first reading in the North position, and now it's moved from the North to the Center of the reading. And bear in mind the reading is about "over time," so this is moving through time. It has moved whatever was happening in the North, into the Center of the house, and that power was the power of being trapped and defeated. So, there's, we know there's a physical problem, we know energetic problems are making it worse. If nothing is done about it, we can now see that the physical problem with the building would get to a point of a situation where you become trapped and you can't move. It might be that the value of the house goes down so much you can't sell it. Or that you have to walk away from it. And because the reading is about you, it can also point to being completely overwhelmed by the development of the physical situation as it unfolds.

[24:25]

The Hanged Man in the East is, the Hanged Man is often sacrifice, self-sacrifice, and that's incoming. So, you now, this reading's traveling through time, one of the fate inputs that's coming into this pattern is one of self-sacrifice and having to let something go. This could be very much tied to the expense of having to deal with the physical destruction if the issue is not attended to properly. It could also be having to let the building go. It could be having to let something you really care about go in able to afford the expenses to get the house repaired.

[25:07]

In the future, in a sense, is total destruction. So if you think of the reading as a car going through time, it's starting to show you where it's going, what is ahead on the road, and what is ahead on the road is the Tower. So basically, the building is to become uninhabitable if nothing is done. And when you read the East and the South together, it's basically saying, and the trapped one in the center, if you do not act in the now, when this situation starts to unfold you will become trapped, you will have to sacrifice a lot of things, and it will end up in total disaster for you. Whether that's the collapse of the house or whether that's the total destruction of your life, because the reading is about the person, I would say, that, you know, the act of having a house becoming uninhabitable and unsellable, and maybe the land being that it's on being unsellable, brings about total destruction for you if all of your assets are tied up in that building. So you can start to see how it's telling a story.

[26:18]

When we look in the West, we've got the 9 of Swords, which is suffering, it's sorrow, and it's regret. And this is what the Tower in the future would leave you with. So the Tower happens, what happens to you after? It's this sense of absolute suffering and regret, "I wish I'd've gotten that sorted out when I first found out about it, but I didn't do anything, so now my life is completely fallen apart. So you see how the South and West work together, it's the backwash from the future. And that brings in some very interesting questions as you become more advanced in your magic, as to how the future and the present wash back and forth with each other, the same as how the past and the future can backwash on each other. That might sound a bit weird now, but the more you work with it in the future, as a more advanced magician, the more you'll find is, that when the future—when you make a decision, and the future then starts to lock in in a fate pattern, you'll immediately start to get the backwash of what happens in the future, it's a fascinating thing. Take a note of that in your journal, and one day you'll come across that and go, "Oh yeah god, I remember that."

[27:37]

So in the North you've got satisfaction and a job well done [7 of Pentacles]. That is what is in the past, in this reading, it's leaving that behind constantly as it's traveling forward. So your sense of resting easy and having a normal life will become a thing of the past, if you don't deal with the situation you have.

[27:59]

Crossing the reading is the 3 of Swords, which is separation, which is very clear, and this is your relationship with the house and your situation is, you will become separated from it, you would

have to leave, you would have to let everything go, you would have to accept losses. So, doing nothing, looking at this reading, would be really bad idea and is not an option.

[28:27]

Now, just for magical education, um, we're now gonna have another reading, and what we're gonna ask is, "How will this situation affect the house itself over time if it's not dealt with?" So, reading number five, "How will this situation affect the house over time if it is not dealt with?" So we've looked at how it would affect the person, but let's have a look at the house itself, because it throws up interesting things, em, which gives you something to think about, in terms of card divination, a very very important dynamic that you need to be aware of. This reading tells us a lot about the nature of vessels. The house is a vessel, a vessel is anything that can be filled—so a vessel can be a cup, a house, it can be a statute, it can be a person, a car, the land, anything that can absorb things and contain it in a shape is a vessel. So, and, this, what I'm about to unfold with this reading, is the same for any vessel.

[29:45]

As you look at the initial reading, you think, "Oh actually, that looks quite good, so that doesn't make sense with the physical and energetic readings we had about the building previously," but that's because we were looking at the house—previously—in terms of *living in it*, so that it would be a vessel that would function as a *house*. So when we look at the house, it becomes a place of accommodation if we live in it. If everybody moves out of the house and nobody lives in there anymore, it becomes a shell. The house itself is still its own thing, and vessels often take on personalities. The house stays itself, but it doesn't serve as a place to live in anymore. So a house, for example, that is condemned, and is shelled out, is still a house, but doesn't serve its function for us, those are two different things. And what we're asking about is the house itself, as a vessel, not as a place of accommodation.

[30:51]

The first card is the Magician. So that shows, that, the magician is very much about juggling powers around and juggling energies around to make things work, that's, that's the power of the Magician, and this shows the house trying to adapt in order to survive. Now, that's, again, this is about a building, so this is not emotional, we've got to learn to not anthropomorphize everything that we do, while at the same time understanding the inner qualities of the vessels, which can be difficult. So the house, as a building, is trying to counterbalance whatever's happened to it. And from a physical perspective, that can be, say, if the foundations shift, that the house, the rest of the house, the walls, the wood, the joists, are all creaking and twisting, trying to accommodate that stress, so that's what we're seeing with the Magician in the center.

[31:52]

In the East, incoming, is the King of Water. It's the king, again, it's a male power, so there is definitely a power element or a power energy that's male that flows through this house, and could possibly be the house spirit—vessels take on their consciousness sometimes, or get filled by a consciousness, and there is definitely a male element to this house, and it's a lot of water, and we know there's a water problem. So, if we look back at our early notes, em, what this says

to me is that there's a male—there's a house spirit, that, that sees itself as the authority of this house, hence it's showing as male, that is the limitation of this deck, is sadly, 19th century, the ones with authority are male. So we've got this male house spirit that's in charge of the house, and it's trying to potentially adapt to water, hence it's become a water king. So it's adapting, it's shifting, and it's trying to build a relationship with the water.

[33:09]

And in the South we see that with the Lovers, which is the card of union and agreement. So the house, in the future, going to evolve into a co-existence with something. That's not a great thing to have in the reading of a building that's not being lived in. And we know it probably won't be lived in if it's not fixed. It's trying to shift and build a relationship with something, and with the King of Water and the Magician I would say, it's trying to learn to survive with water being there.

[33:47]

In the West there's a lot of water, again, in the West, 9 of Cups, and, you know, that position has consistently had water there. And so, again, this is the adaptation with water that the house is trying to deal with. In the North is Earth, stability, which is now in it's past, so it's lost its stable foundation. Crossing it is the Chariot, which to me says, that this building is having a relationship with the dynamic of movement, which would tie in with the loss of stability, and the water that's in the building. The house will start to shift, if the foundations are damaged, and there's a spring under the house, there's a lot of water there, it will start to crack, and shift and move.

[34:41]

So, we've gotten to the stage we know there's a serious physical problem and we know it's filled by an energetic tide and we also know that doing nothing is not an option—if you're the person, or you're the building, this needs to be dealt with. We have the clues that there's a foundation stability issue, and that there's a water issue. Em, this deck is very generalized so it's very hard to pin down just how big or small the issue is at this stage, but we know it's gonna grow into a major issue, so unless the person who owns this house has a great deal of money, there's certain things that if this was my house, I would approach first, and that is; the first thing—as a magician, is—I would take out, divert, and deflect the inner energetic tide as much as possible, because where you've got a physical problem, and an energetic problem both together, the energetic problem will amplify the physical problem every single time. So the first thing you do is cut that energetic flow into the house, you have to divert it, it's like first, you stop the bleeding, before you then deal with anything else, if there's someone who's in an accident.

[36:03]

So, this can be done, you, you learn these skills right from the very basics in the first module in Quareia, they might seem like very very simple skills, but actually they can open out in lots of different layers to become adept skills. So you're given the skills from the very earliest days, be aware of that, which is why you have to practice things and repeat them until you hate my

name, but who cares, you keep doing it, because that's how you will suddenly trip over how to use these things, these different tools and skills in different ways.

[36:42]

So the first thing you would do is you would ritually, you would clean the house, you would ritually clean it, you would go around using your inner senses from room to room, you would be looking for rogue statues, em, pictures, tools, magical implements, knick-knacks, things that belong to other people, very old things, anything that is a potential problem that can be filled by an energetic tide. So it's not that you're looking for the tide itself, you're looking for a little vessel that can be filled by that tide and open it right out.

[37:21]

So for example if you had a statue of Pazuzu in your house, which is a destructive demonic spirit—which can be a very interesting to work with for lots of different reasons—if there happens to be a destructive tide flowing across the land, it will fill that, that um, vessel up, and then that power that Pazuzu represents can build and flow out into your house, which, then fills, you know, gives another vessel for the destructive tide to fill, which makes it bigger, and on and on it goes. So it can be something quite simple, which is why when there's destructive tides, I go around my house and I put certain things away, certain old books, certain statues, certain pictures, they have a box that they all go in when there's a destructive tide. And you will learn to feel the tides, and to map them using divination, using card divination, and inner senses, which is why you learn them right from day one, have your safety tools first.

[38:29]

In physical terms, what you could do is, is you could check for leaks; you could check for springs, if there's springs nearby you can check and see if there's been any building recently—which could have diverted an underground spring; you'd look for damaged sewer pipes; you'd use dye to look for pipe leaks, back-up of a septic tank—all of these different things, you'd look for wood-rot, slippage, structural cramps.

[38:55]

So you're doing all of that, particularly cause you're a magician, by taking an action, it starts to change the fate pattern very subtly. By not doing anything, you allow the pattern to form itself, and it will do whatever it's gonna do, which is destructive. By starting to act, you start to change the future, so you have to do as much as you possibly can, before you then have to bring in somebody else. So structurally-wise, you might have to bring in someone to check the house, but first *you* do it, and you, it's a very good exercise magically to look at your house in detail on a fairly regular basis to check it for cracks, slippage, rot, fungus, any of those sorts of things, because it starts to build a relationship between you and the inner spirit-quality of the house, so the house can then start to learn to talk to you—which it does. Don't ask me the complex magical dynamics of that, 'cause I really don't fully understand it in its depth, just that it works. You build a relationship with your living space, and you keep it, you maintain it, and you check

over it, it will start to give you warnings—through dreams, through inner senses, through divination.

[40:21]

So, now the final learning exercise is a curiosity one that will also teach you magically. “What is the inner power or being that is flowing through this problem?” So we know there’s a physical problem, we know there’s a tide, is there a particular inner quality or power that’s going on here in this tide? So we’re gonna using directional attributes to identify where it’s a power or being or both or what.

[40:53]

So reading number 6, “What is the inner power or being that is flowing through this problem, altogether?” So the directional attributes are not the same as the physical directions. We’re looking at magical directions, magical attributes, which is the underpinning magical pattern that Quareia works in. In the center is the Knight of Pentacles, which is earth, and very likely represents the house, the land that it all stands on. In the East is the position, um, the East is action, it’s a position of action, of limitation—so that the future can form—and it’s emergence, magically it’s the sword. And in the position is Justice, which is heavily tied in with um, the magical sword, and particularly the sword that we work with in Quareia, which is the quality of the limiter within the sword, which is all about justice and balance.

[41: 56]

So this is talking an incoming power that seeks to rebalance scales. And again we’re talking about an energetic power tide, so, this power, this tide that’s going through, is not necessarily a destructive tide, it’s a tide that has a quality of seeking to rebalance. Because it’s come out with Justice, which is about the scales, we’ll immediately look on what’s the other side of that dynamic, on the other pan of the scales, which is in the West, and that card is Judgment, which is the weighing of the harvest on the scales.

[42:34]

And em, incidentally, Judgement is very heavily tied in with the threshing floor, which you work with in magic, and at the moment, um, it a bit of current news, with the issue that’s going on in Israel and Palestine at the moment, is um, one of the areas it kicked off was the Temple on the Mount, the *Haram ash-Šarīf*, which is the sacred enclosure, part of which has the threshing floor, which has the dome of the rock, it’s the rock itself that the dome is over, is the threshing floor, and that was the um, the rock of ascent, and it’s the rock of judgment. So we’ve got this very clear justice and judgment that has come up on the scales, so the power that is flowing through and that’s going through the house and probably the land and the land-mass around you, is the power of the rebalancing of the scales.

[43:39]

That tells us that it’s an inner power, as opposed to a being. Um now, inner power tides can have beings that come with them, and an inner tide can be conscious in that it has an intent, it’s not necessarily something you can talk to or have a relationship with, but it has intent. So, it’s

looking at the inner energetic balance dynamic that's flowing through this situation. This could be good or bad, depending on what's on the receiving end of this type of tide. Um, and such tide is never about the individual, it's always about a mass, a landmass, a city, whatever.

[44:24]

In the South, we've got where the fate path is, this tide is seeking, it's seeking the Ace of Swords. So the Ace of Swords is a fulcrum. One of the magical, em, ways of expressing the scales—the scales of justice—is the scales balanced on the tip of a sword, which is tied in sort of with Damocles (which if you want to look it up, is the sword of kingship, where the more power you have, the more heavily you're judged). So this fulcrum which is in the South of this reading, it can be protective or it can be very harsh, and it's also a limiter-power, so it's looking—the tide is seeking balance to bring in a disciplined balance in an area of imbalance.

[45:21]

In the North which is in the past and what is coming out of the land, and which is triggered a relationship with this tide as it flows through, is the 7 of Cups. And that's the card of glamour, it's a card where you know, you, you look at all these glittery things but you fail to see the truth that's covered over, that's, that's not so obvious, you're looking at all the very loud shiny things, and not at the very quiet, not-so-glamorous, not so tasty, not so *easy* thing that's covered over.

[45:56]

And when I see this sort of dynamic, when I'm looking at an inner tide, what it says to me is that the land itself, or the species, the people living on that land over a period of time, have constantly ignored something, that's been very subtle, that's building something up into a destructive phase. And then as this tide comes through, it fills, it fills that imbalance and brings it right out so that breaks it down.

[46:30]

And, and that can be, as simple as—particularly with these readings—a land or a housing area where there's a lot of natural springs and a very close-up aquifer that's been ignored because it's cheaper to just bung houses on top of instead of actually dealing with it, which then builds up a situation that cannot be seen until it's too late. You also get that where, you know, the, the, there's a spring or an underground river that's coming up, and you don't see it on the surface, but the topsoil has been undermined, until eventually it just slips away and brings destruction. So there was an element in this reading about this situation that the, the hints that there was a problem on the land were being ignored or unseen, and now a tide has come in and exposed it and is filling it. So bear that in mind.

[47:30]

What crosses this reading is the Queen of Swords. Now, in light of the other cards, of the Justice and Judgment and the Ace of Swords, I take this to be the consciousness of the tide. It's intelligent, emotionless, and totally-focused power. Which incidentally, is also the type of power that you see with angelic beings, for the most part. You know, angelic beings are not men in white frocks with, with, you know, nice wings that love humanity, these are intelligent

consciousness that affect change. Um, so we've got this intelligent, emotionless, totally-focused power, and it's intent is seeking out weakness and disorder and filling it with this tide in order to break that imbalance down, sweep it away, which then allows the fertile ground for balance to emerge. So although this tide can appear very destructive, as it comes through and kills everything, it's actually a tide of regeneration. You don't get regeneration until all the crap is swept off the top.

[48:45]

So now you can see how you open out readings; by looking at different aspects of a situation—you look at the situation from different angles, you look at the physical, you look at the energetic, you look at your aspect of it or the human aspect of it, the personal, and then you look at the object, place, or situation itself as an inherent thing in its own right which tells you a lot more about what's going on. And you can use this with all different layouts, it's about learning how to open out questions and how to not assume from a single or just two readings that you've got it, you really—with a situation that has a detrimental danger, need to look from all different angles, and also look at a time span, open the time out into the future because often the situation can just disappear, which means, you know, that the healing process for it is already undergoing, you just need to find out what you need to do in order to facilitate that.

[49:51]

Anyway! I hope that made some sort of sense, and that it was useful for you, and my intention is to do more of these with different layouts, so that you can see different ways of opening out questions in different ways. Thank you for listening!