

# CARTOUCHE TAROT

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## EXAMPLE GENERAL TAROT

Whatever is at stake here, it comes down to fairness, or the lack of it. There has to be a balance brought to bear which has been absent and it may be imminent but if the card in the fourth position is detrimental it does not matter how balanced you are yourself, you must wait for a turn in events before you can make it work for you! This may be some weeks away but prepare for what it means beforehand and understand how things may be so easily overturned or altered by unconsidered action and careless remark.

You are perhaps at a crossroads with someone you care for and maybe you don't realise it. If the sixth card bodes well you can let matters take care of themselves. Expect to make more serious decisions in three or four months from now and allow yourself to explore your own feelings without rushing. Not all liaison is meant to last, although some of them fall at the first hurdle owing to the mismanagement or faint-heartedness of those involved. If there's a spark then let it ignite; there will be no need to fan it, if the conditions are right. But don't throw water on it for fear of an inferno!

By the fifth month the matter here is within your control, or at least it is allowing you access to gain a better vantage point. You perhaps need to understand your own power better or to see the progress you have made, so that you avail yourself more confidently or opportunities to widen your horizons; you may need to spread the net wider or to go beyond your usual territory to find the next stage! A holiday may well be needed and possible and after it your perspective has shifted.

Your hopes and wishes here are smiled favourably upon by the benefic universal influences and it looks as though you will succeed or find what you seek unless you 'blow it' by being too impatient or pushy. If the cards in the fifth and sixth positions are ominous you must use the opportunities given in the ninth and twelfth weeks to change course and accept alternatives: it is necessary to understand that sometimes the fates have other plans than the ones we devise and that sometimes these are preferable or superior. All in all you are set to experience warm exchange or rapport in the coming weeks - don't take too much for granted!

A total impasse or collapse of ideas is likely unless you come to a more sensible way of looking at things within the next three or four months. Even so, you may not be able to pull this off single-handed and you may well be up against people who are bent on being destructive in some way. They may be allies or they may be enemies but it is difficult to stop them being in the way. All you can do is try to circumnavigate this difficulty, although it might be best to accept the inevitable - some may call it fate - and mark it down to experience - 'the best laid plans of mice and men'. It's a reminder that we are not in complete control all of the time. There are greater factors to which we must resign ourselves on occasions, without always knowing why.

The hardest thing sometimes is to do nothing! However, this is the best way now unless the second card is urging change or self-assertion and then don't over react; wait for the cue. It will be forthcoming and all will resolve itself to your best interest. The question you have asked about is of benefit to the whole so you have little to fear if your motives are sincere. If they are not then expect to be reformed somewhere along the way, affecting a change of view or attitude after which you will be, as they say, older and wiser.

## EXAMPLE LIFE ISSUE

This is a question of getting a grip on some aspect of life, or of sorting out a perspective for direction. It needs to be ascertained whether or not there is a beginning or an ending in process, in relative terms. As life and the universe are cyclical, there is really no such thing, but in the immediate situation its necessary to know whether you want to close the situation totally or open it up to fresh possibility. In terms of where you go now it is not as important to look for the perfect result as to watch where you are treading as you make preparation for travel. There is no shame in asking for help, and no harm in admitting your lack of knowledge. Do you have enough information from relevant parties and places on this situation? Perhaps not!

Examine the principles involved. They are not too healthy by the look of things. This does not mean that you are entirely responsible. It means that you must look deeper than perhaps you were previously prepared to do before you can know absolutely what you're dealing with. The truth is not exactly missing, its more that its not been called for or considered important in certain aspects of this matter. If you are negotiating with dubious or unsavoury people, either rule them out of the equation or expect to have to put right their errors at your own expense or inconvenience: to turn a blind eye is far more hazardous in the long term. So look this dilemma squarely in the face and deal with it sooner rather than later, or pull out of the frame altogether.

Emerging from this, you will have a fresh start. Perhaps that is what it will all have been about; the ability to turn over a new leaf, or begin anew. Remembering that you take yourself with you wherever you go or whatever you do, its best then to have realistic expectations of outer situations and higher expectations of self. Nevertheless, there is a healing or renaissance phase and then a forward motion into new times.

## EXAMPLE DAILY REFLECTION

DO be aware of what you are giving up on, walking away from or putting on the line, before its too late to change your mind. DON'T cut off your nose to spite your face, it won't be worth it.

## EXAMPLE FINANCIAL

Changes are necessary if headway is to be made. These may include changes in direction or in main plans. Be flexible, and if the second card shows unrest or disharmony look to changing all the fundamentals involved here. Confusion may only exist for so long before wreaking havoc and is not the same as open-ended risk. Sort out confusion now and review matters with a fresh eye when the dust settles

Now you must be realistic and also thrifty. Money is not in abundance on this one, and nor will you get something for nothing, or even a great bargain. You may even be doing something for philanthropic reasons, or more for the benefit of someone else. You will not lose out. 'Sufficient unto the day', is a good maxim here. But make sure other parties understand that as well. Do not allow your generosity to be taken advantage of.

If your objective is too take life easier, then that is definitely an option for you. But make sure you are not neglecting the sustenance of your plan as it passes from the creative stage into the need for careful maintenance. You may have a holiday, sabbatical or a recreational pleasure in mind as the nub of this issue, but whatever, you will almost certainly change your domestic and day-to-day schedule.

## EXAMPLE CAREER CHANGE

Not to put too fine a point on it, things have not gone well in the recent months. There may have been break downs of communication, lack of success or a sense of failure somewhere along the line. Financial worries, debts or errors of judgement may be underlining this need for change. You may also feel that something has eluded you and you have little hope of recouping your losses. If you are stressed, strained or depressed it is not a good time to make great change unless you have to.

Are you sure you are not grabbing the first thing here without examining more the options further afield? It may be that you have not worked for awhile or that you are going into the commercial world for the first time. The unfamiliar is the thing you are having doubts about, so don't confuse that with doubts about your own capability. It would also be advantageous to express your reservations, ask for further information on points which bother you or simply air your misgivings with someone who will listen intelligently. Often we don't know what we think until we hear ourselves speak.

You may be about to take advantage of someone else's generosity towards you or their patronage, which leads to the security and prosperity you require. Not all of you reading this are making job moves directly; you may be shifting into worker co-operatives, private businesses, or sideline ventures - all of which offer degrees of success. The banking, insurance, investment or accountancy businesses are well favoured here. If you are going into anything involving other people's money or collateral you have the history and background to prove yourself in many areas. It seems you are reaping reward now for efforts expended or time well spent.

## EXAMPLE SEXUALITY

### CURRENT PROFILE

Your ability to be positive and spontaneous within relations has been a boon to anyone you were involved with. The understanding and genuine compassion for the feelings of the other person made you able to put your own concerns or lacks to the background. But you may have been a little bit too pliable at times, so that a guilt may have arisen on the part of lovers who may feel they are not able to repay or reflect this kind of liberal attitude in like terms. Sometimes people need to be told where the perimeters begin and end. Like children, they need to know that someone cares enough to say no. Is it also possible that you are a bit too reluctant to risk your own freedom enough to make firmer foundations. Ask yourself the question and be honest, it is not a cardinal sin - merely a fact of life evaluation. Perhaps there are diverse responsibilities or interests which absorb your energies or time and these need to be taken into consideration by anyone you are involved with. You may be energetic but you are not superhuman so don't set your stall out as if you are, or it will lead to disillusionment or to possible exhaustion.

### POTENTIAL CHANGE

It may be necessary to break a cycle which keeps repeating. Or to change a theme which runs through many of your involvements. Perhaps at a certain stage of intimacy you back off, or you sense a problem, or you feel that you can go no further. Something of this kind is either extant or is forming currently and liable to become a pattern. It may be a factor you have to work hard to discover, because there is a lot of pride or detachment within your current approach to love which may forbid you feeling too vulnerable or getting too involved in the dilemma. To walk away from a love affair while you are in a powerful position is relatively easy compared to walking away when you are not feeling so strong - that is a more daunting prospect and one which allows the emotional symptoms to pinpoint the real causes and motives of disguised fears. For then you will be face to face with some of your worse demons. You are now in a position of maximum choice - that is to say you have optimum control over your own movements and decisions. To know how to use this well is to avoid perpetuating the probable cycle referred to, and to avoid spending the rest of your personal life going around in a constricting band of experience-through-to stifled development. No matter how successful you are now, you must still see that what you are looking for is some greater handle on the maintenance side of relating, in order to stop things from dissolving or collapsing next time. You are dignified and self-contained, but don't let that become smugness or callousness in the following weeks. It might surprise you to know that some potential lovers are in awe of you. Perhaps that is what you want. But you should realize how to relent on the veneer when it comes to the one (or ones) who you actually want to admit to the inner sanctum, or perhaps the bedroom! To be a little aloof is alluring. To be totally out of anyone's reach is self defeating.

## EXAMPLE COMMITMENT READING

If you have any fault it may be your possessiveness, or your inability to allow enough scope for yourself and the other person outside of the relationship. That this is a question of the greatest love or affection is not in doubt. You are more than certain of your own feelings in the matter, and it's doubtful you would be this far involved if you were not also quite sure of the other's reciprocation. However, there is reason to suggest that you would carry all the weight of responsibility to sustain things, even in the event of failure or unhappiness. It does not mean that things will not succeed, only that you cannot right now concede of them never doing so. Fine. Know yourself and know the other person as separate and individual and all is well. But do not allow a symbiosis to grow which robs you of free will and confidence in your own right. Your ability to lose yourself in those you care for is something not easily changed: modification may be possible though, and should be strived for, to prevent extremes of emotion destroying a healthy balance.

There is a definite proposition, proposal or offer forthcoming from the other. They are sincere in knowing what they want and the basis of their gesture comes from good intent and motive. They are prepared to bring the best of their knowledge and their wealth to whatever sort of commitment you have in mind - they love partnership and its potential. They also may like to have various altruistic or humanitarian pursuits on the go, and this either pleases you or annoys you. Find out which it is and be sure if it's a bonus or a flaw in proceedings. Maybe test the durability of the bond by waiting to see how the requirements and the approach to the liaison change. This person's initial response is based on the genuine desire to bring love and strength to you in a situation which might be rare or a one-off, and the need is to transcend this starting phase and stand the test of time. Your joint reactions will change as this particular chapter elapses and the longer-term effects are more apparent then.

There is a liberating feeling to this union and a warmth radiating from it which is an inspiration to all. There is little wrong with this arrangement. It seems to be the culmination of things which are fruitful and have been well planned and thought out. There is a consolidating force at work which will guard and sanctify the arrangement. One thing; there may need to be a more formal or binding bond than previously considered. Things may lead naturally to an upgrading of the status or tempo involved which take this to a sudden solution or turning point that seals the deal in no half measure. Let it unfold naturally, to impede the ultimate development is counterproductive. Everything is happening here or there is no point.



## EXAMPLES STATE OF THE HEART

The art of friendship is in allowing the other person to be who they really are. And it looks as if you value the friendship within this relationship just as much as the romantic or intimate content. But perhaps you may take something too much for granted, or take for granted the way the other person sees you or accepts you for what you are. Although it would certainly seem from your point of view that everything is as it should be, there must be something amiss for you to be spreading these cards. There may be sounds of discontent reverberating in the middle distance, but don't panic yet - just take stock and be prepared to make change.

Your partner is not in a mood for forgiveness or closer understanding. It has to be said that any pretence you make to normality is not to the best purpose. A sham may be in place, or an arrangement of convenience. If you don't see it, then the other clearly does. Sometimes one person holds up the union while the other goes through some turbulence, and if this is an overt manoeuvre then it's often necessary and healthy. But if it goes on too long an imbalance is created which becomes a serious handicap or an insidious habit. If you want to live your life like that you had better be sure the game is worth the candle.

Perhaps you expected something to be easier than it's proving to be. Or perhaps you feel that an impasse has been reached. This could be made of nothing more than strain, fatigue or a period of above average effort. Was it worth it? You may not think so at the present time, but after a respite or a bout of self-pity you might think otherwise! Whether or not one of you has been their own worst enemy you need to take seriously the need for calm, healing or a break from the battlefield. Actually, things are better than they look - maybe you are still too close up to the recent picture.

Do the right thing, not just the easy thing. If they happen to be one and the same then all to the good. See that there could be a lot of addressing of past error before you can even up the odds. Complete integrity and honesty are the only ways through here. Keep in mind that the old saying 'Virtue is its own reward' has a meaning for all ages. It's not to do with blame and righteousness but with clarity and sense.

## EXAMPLE EMOTIONAL HEALING

It is true to say that throughout this affair some unrealistic attitudes prevailed. Not to mention some meanness of spirit bordering on the purely eccentric. So maybe this is the obvious conclusion to the whole thing. Except that with lack of reality, the obvious is not obligatory. The bounds of romance and surrealism are thin. They always will be, which is why there needs to be a transition stage at some point which lifts mere romance to a sense of greater depth and permanence. Of course it sometimes kills eroticism and excitement - but everything has its price.

Someone is posing or posturing or putting on the agony. Or maybe they really believe they are hard done by. They may also be pretending to drop out of the frame, or hide away. But in reality they may be unable to face the facts which are clearly alive in their mind. In short, they may have removed themselves but in their heart they are still embroiled. Of course, it's everyone's right to be truly wounded at times like these, and to seek solace in reclusive ways. But not forever, unless the affair is dead in the water. You may believe that it is. But that's not a foregone conclusion.

Don't imagine that you are entirely to blame - you are not. But you should see that as the co-conspirator or the co-dependent you may not have done enough to strengthen or support your own position. Have no fear of what really went on, it will be the only thing which prevents you from falling into the trap again. It may also have provided you with a bolt-hole from other more worldly stresses or harsh reality, and so it must be recognised and respected in its own right before you leave it behind. The mood in which we leave things is an important factor. Not necessarily the ideas we have at the start.

There are certain types of lovers who just appear now and then to top up their energies on your batteries. They actually enjoy doing things a second time in another version in their thoughts. With hindsight they relish what they cannot fully enjoy in the live moment. It may seem immature or perverse, but it's a fact of life. If you were involved with one of these people, or you yourself are one of these people, you must see that we are all entitled to learn in our own way. But this is not a recipe for a lifetime's bonding, it's more like a design for a lifetime's bondage, unless someone actually begins to name the game and give a definition to what is going on. Ghost lovers, who disappear and reappear to suit their own moods, are not the stuff of good marriage or partnerships. They are more suited to Gothic novels and that odd corner of life where a person needs to keep some romance alive and in tact with the passing of time. It's the stuff of myth and legend which is very much an acquired taste. Savour it for what it is and get it back on again, or re-educate your appetite towards different food.

## EXAMPLE INITIAL ENCOUNTER

You seem to have had a great offer, on the surface at least. The temptations are immense, and it would appear to be most of what you would wish for. The other party is definitely out to attain the best in terms of a fulfilling deal. They may be too idealistic or romantic, or they could have responded to you at your best, which is not always you as you really are. It remains to be seen whether this was a trick of the light, or a chemical reaction which makes you manifest the best of yourself with this particular person. Even if its the latter, the potential is there for a more permanent sense of this positive reaction.

The feelings of this person are of the lasting type. That is not to say they will never change in shade, it means they will not change in colour. They want to take you seriously, which means finding out who you are. Be prepared for this if you wish to give it a go. They are capable of being very supportive and long-suffering, and yet they have an ambitious side to them which makes them very proud of whatever they have chosen to do. This will include their relationships. They work as hard in this region of life as in any professional sense. They do not rush into things they then have to rush out of, at least not if they can avoid it. Do not take for granted their easy-going good nature because they may have learned the hard way about their propensity for being exploited.

However difficult things are to start with they are bound to become more stable and hopeful as the time passes. You have, as a pair, earned the right to advance yourselves and prosper. Money is an important factor in the equation. It may be the issue on which the whole thing is decided, meaning that it's either scarce or highly prized. The exchange you enjoy best is based on challenging circumstances and you may therefore look at the future as a mountain to be scaled, because that way you will constantly be united in your aims and too short on time to worry about small misunderstandings and petty set-backs.

## EXAMPLE HIGH RISK

You may be already pledged to make this venture, or you may be between a rock and a hard place! This is not the best position to be in if you want to feel confident or optimistic, and that gives a decided disadvantage to anyone taking a gamble, because to take risks successfully requires a kind of freedom of spirit which is definitely missing here. If you are being coerced against your will, or you are at the mercy of some addictive force which is hard to break, then you will need to try very hard not to be so fixated on winning that you subconsciously bring in the belief of loss. Perhaps you need to read that again to digest it. But nonetheless it remains true, and to understand it is to prepare yourself correctly for any success.

One great idea - one great opportunity! If you can get it to gel. You are not without confidence; you have been inspired so strongly and you believe that nothing will better this for result if you can achieve it. There is a lot of hope here. The hard part may be getting started. Don't play with the idea for overlong. Some ideas are so appealing that the owners just don't want to let them lose for fear of failure. Set this in motion to find its feet and observe its beginnings before finalising anything conclusively. If it stands on good legs it will move safely and with ease.

You could end up feeling liberated from past circumstances, either because you are freed from unwanted shackles or you are out-on-a-limb. The result here could bring as much risk as the one you are taking to reach the result. When life becomes cutting edge the cosmic ironies are plentiful, but you should know even now whether this is worth the gamble, which is different than knowing exactly whether the gamble will come off. Sometimes it is better to gamble than to do nothing. And not to gamble is to regret not having given something precious or valuable a chance. The philosophy you have on this matter is all important, it may even influence the outcome. Your ability to be unshakeable while the heat is on is something you need to rely on to win.

## EXAMPLE HOME MOVE

There is something of a dramatic circumstance around this move in that its not altogether ruled by conventional reasons. It may be that you are throwing caution to the wind either financially or environmentally and seeing where fate takes you. You are either at the beginning of a cycle of unexpected events or you are removing yourself from a too unpredictable phase of life where you were at the mercy of the influence and power of others. Take heart from the fact that a chapter has definitely come to an end and you must make changes. There is little choice but to move on for one reason or another.

You may be handed the very thing you are looking for. But it needs you to recognise the fact. Sometimes opportunities are missed because we're looking in the other direction. Or possibly because we have a too fixed opinion or idealistic notion of what is wanted. Whilst you can bring into being the near perfect place you must see that it may exist in different terms or setting to where you would expect it to be. You are at the start of a very meaningful or invigorating chapter of domestic life. Be brave and innovative and above all use your imagination to see beyond negative aspects.

Take a fresh look at the place you have in mind before you finally commit to it. There is a possibility of things not being what they are purported to be, or of misunderstandings which effect the outcome. All in all, this is not the truest of pictures. It may just be that you will be let down, but if you are unaware now that this is a possibility then begin to look at how you may have been labouring under a misapprehension or actually misled. It could also be that this will be a temporary move, or that you are doing something of a quick flit and with the minimum amount of fuss or the knowledge of others around you - if so then things go according to plan.

## EXAMPLE CONFLICT

You can do very little at present. But whilst this may be frustrating it can also be very strengthening, it may be thought of as one of the tests along the way. If you try to force the pace now you will simply make matters worse or come off feeling humiliated or dispirited. Patience is the only quality which empowers you. Learning how to acquire it is essential to success. Things may be moving slowly in the background, or they may be gathering momentum for a turning point which is some way into the future. But some kind of progress is inevitable if you use this period to gather either clearer facts and insight or to rest and recoup valuable energy. Possibly both of those things. The last two cards will show more of the opposition involved.

There appear to be no half measures here - you are either completely trusted or not trusted at all. See the first card for better definition of where you may stand. Either way, you will need to go carefully, or measure your pace, as this conflict cannot be cleared all at once; it may be down to waiting on the understanding or the connection of others at crucial stages, and much as you see the way clear to solution the timing within the whole is everything. It may also be that you will gain better respect or trust if you take a gradual approach and allow things to unfold naturally rather than trying to contrive them or make them fit an agenda which you understand but others struggle with. You must move purposely and definitely but be ready to see reactions and results at junctures requiring subtlety and wisdom. To set precedents too early is to be stuck with obligations that may prove unnecessary and expensive.

If you believe you have providential protection here then go ahead and use it while you engage in battle. Your belief in somehow being invincible may be justified but needs to be reviewed every so often, because even the most powerful influence or backing can desert you along the way, and it only takes a moment of unguarded word or careless action to undo the progress and lose the game. You know you have what it takes to succeed, and you know you have to make your stand. At the end of the day, you will not lose very much, or at least nothing that will not be replaceable or very missed. The principle here is possibly the thing you are fighting for, it may be the only thing you are concerned with, and if that is the case, you have no choice; your integrity is something you take with you wherever you go.

## EXAMPLE TAROT FOR TWO

### LEVEL ONE - THE FEELINGS

Even if you feel you are making good and worthy progress, you may either be seen to be taking too long about something integral to the relationship, or you may not be as trusted as you thought you were. Carefully does it, but 'honestly' binds it. Certainly no-one would deny your worldly acumen, or your aspirations towards it at least, but do not cheat yourself out of the more subtler and satisfying things of this earth, because you'll have been your own worst enemy, and perhaps isolated your lover as well.

### LEVEL TWO - THE FACTS

It does not get much better than this by way of possibility and potential. If your partner does not know that you are ready to negotiate terms or compromise, offer the full menu, or seek the next stage of fulfilment. Don't do a u-turn three months down the line. Unless something of the more subtle or complex urges lying deep within your nature are expressed, your lover may misunderstand your intentions or fail to meet your hidden ideals - its as simple as that!

### LEVEL THREE - THE ACTS

Implement the change, don't be manipulated by it! Use your wits more. Be eloquent when you feel reticent and don't be afraid of aiming higher. Too much conflict has soured the optimism. Let there be grander horizons. Confer privilege and power to your other half. Go up in your own esteem and take them with you. Show the demonstrative side of your nature. This is not a question of lavish gestures, more of encouraging someone to rely on you, or allowing them to be wrong sometimes without too much complaint. Perhaps the feelings need acknowledgement, or perhaps the acknowledgement needs commitment.