

Magic of Tarot Session 14 - Tarot Key 13: Death

Session Fourteen Notes

This Tarot key teaches us how to master endings and face the unknown.

When facing change, you can choose crisis consciousness (blind and fearful emotionalism) or Christ Consciousness (the power to overcome death and rise to a higher life).

Going through Reversal (depending on the higher laws that rule), the self that identified with the old personal control-patterns dies, to give liberate and birth to the soul at an expanded level.

Stasis, not DEATH, is the enemy of life.

As human beings we are always facing death from the moment we become conscious of mortality.

- Death teaches us to relate to what is as most precious.
- Teaches us to not get attached, to rise above the wheel of fortune.
- To maintain our equilibrium (key 11) and trust in the higher perfection of the cosmic process that is in control (Key 12)

Exercise:

- Reflect on the number of deaths (major personal transformations) you have passed through.
 - What are the lessons you learned?
 - How did you make the process more difficult?
 - See how you always end up at a higher level, despite your fears of going down.

Number 13:

- This number is considered “bad luck” by the “uninitiated”, those who do not understand the purpose of death.
- This number actually represents the very best of good fortune, because nothing can change for the better until the way things have been passes away.

Kabbalistically 13 represents love and unity

- Death invites us to focus on what we LOVE to remain united with it.

Imaginative Intelligence:

- Keys 1 and 3 = 13
 - How to master change and the unknown: Direct your imagination with will toward only beautiful outcomes.

- Transition is a time for applying Will to the imagination.
 - Accept change and facing the unknown without imagining lesser, degrading or disappointing outcomes.
 - Be The Hanged Man: Let the universe reconfigure things without your interference.

Macrocosmic Tarot: The Cosmic Imagination Is Only Beautiful

- Just as the Kabbalah Tree of Life represents both the Divine Activity as well as our Divine Potential,
- Tarot represents both the wisdom of life-mastery for the human being, as well as the wisdom of life-mastery demonstrated by the Divine.
- Thus: The Divine demonstrates Imaginative Intelligence.
- As we align our mind with the Divine Mind we co-create with the Divine.

Tarot Key 13 falls on Kabbalah Path 7 – 6 going up the Tree (the path of return)

- Sphere 7 represents personal emotional power.
- Sphere 6 represents Divine Solar Power or Beauty.
 - Thus, the Death Key is teaching us to raise our power to the heart center, to count on the higher
 - 6-7: Bring harmony to the emotional level.

The Scythe of the Grim Reaper

- This reaper is actually GRINNING.
 - Represents the absurdity of death, uncertainty and radical change in our lives
 - Represents the GOOD news about death: it sparks higher life
 - Silver, the Moon, the subconscious: you reap what you have placed in your subconscious.
 - Every event is you reaping what you have sown.

Hebrew Letter: Nun

As a noun it means “fish”. The fish swims in the waters of life and consciousness: explore the depths of yours.

As a verb it means “propagate”. Death (endings) is a time for propagating your new and higher life.

Astrological Correspondence: Scorpio

- Ruler of sex and death
 - Scorpios are attracted to occult mysteries, the hidden side of things, life’s deeper secrets.
 - They have a need for the deepest transformation due to the depth of their strong emotion.

- They are literally called to reincarnate to overcome the emotional pain they go through.
 - Scorpios see the dark side in all of us, including criminal potential (the underworld) and have access to the power to overcome it.
 - Like Scorpios, we must descend to the utter depths of darkness within us to transform it; these depths are aroused through life's major transitions.
- Many mothers experience the relationship between sex and death when they go through post-partum depression, feeling that their life as they knew it is over as they now must continue to give their life to their child.

The White Skeleton:

White represents Kether, spiritual purity, the true essence of who we are, our immortal self that is the foundation on which the mortal self lives

- Notice the unnatural twist: represents the “absurd” twists and turns in life; death and major transitions seem like an absurd idea of God.
- **The Grin:**
 - Another reference to what appears to be life's absurdity, like God is playing a joke on us.
 - This is actually a time for rejoicing as you have reached the threshold of your new and higher life

Bones:

- Facing radical transitions and frightening passages takes us “down to the bone”, the essence of who we are.
- They take you to your essence, to feel your way, as when you feel something in your bones.
- The skeleton is the necessary framework for locomotion, which means change

The white rose:

- purified desire, which you discover when you are faced with losing everything and find out what really matters most to you: your spiritual progress.
- Digest your experiences to reveal the lasting truths you can take with you (the wisdom in the wallet of the Fool).
- Be guided by the essentials, non-attached to the superficial.

Seed:

- Notice the inner and outer circle, representing that our inner states of consciousness give birth to our outer manifestations.
- Represents: In every ending is a new beginning
- Notice the 5 rays: referring to the five-pointed star that represents human mastery – this is a key for awakening to a higher life.

The red sky:

- The power associated with this Key is locomotion
- Red represents Mars energy – Mars rules Scorpio

- Mars is all about action, and action brings about change.

Yellow Sun:

It is rising on a new day, but you can also see it as setting on an old one.

Black Cedar Trees:

- Trees associated with Scorpio
- Darkness represents the unknown
- Bending teaches us to go with the flow

The blue river:

- The river of life and consciousness: teaches us to go with the flow.
 - Sometimes you can go with the flow
 - Sometimes the best you can do is float
 - Trust the ultimate outcome of beauty

The black foreground: The basis of the unknown that we are ALWAYS facing.

The greenery:

- associates with Key 3, the creative imagination
- Suggesting that new life is forming

T-Handle of Scyth

- Associates with the Hebrew Letter Tav, which means mastery and completion
 - Death is the completion of a cycle and we are taught here how to master it
 - Brown color: we are dealing with earthly matters here.

Silver Blade

- The Moon, The Subconscious
 - We reap what we have placed in our subconscious through even the subtlest thought, feeling, attitude and action.

Two Hands Facing Inward:

- Examine your handling of matters
- You are reaping your past handling of matters
- Also represents passing of old way of handling things and new ways emerging

Single Left Hand Downward:

- Left hand associates with Gevurah (Justice, Severity) on the Kabbalah Tree of Life
- White sleeve corresponds with Kether (The Crown, Divine Will) on the Tree
- It's openness represents the Hebrew letter Yod, (Suggesting the essence, the True Self – Key 9)
 - Overall meaning here is that Divine Will is in control and giving us a blessing, even when it feels or appears that a painful, challenging loss is taking place.

Single foot:

- Passing of the Piscean Age (Pisces rules the foot)
- Death or endings is a moving from the past into the future.
 - Also represents old ways of treading your life-path being left behind / and a new way emerging

Woman's head:

- Old subconscious patterns passing away / new ones emerging
- Bina: Understanding, the great mother: her yellow hair represents enlightened thought

Man's crowned head:

- Old conscious patterns passing away, new ones emerging.
- His black hair represents ignorance, being held in check by:
 - Gold Crown: gold associates with the goal of alchemy (the higher human being) and Beauty on the Tree of Life
 - 3 bands: 3 = The Empress – the beautiful creative imagination
 - Yellow: enlightened thought
 - White tints: mind illuminated by Kether, Higher Will

Eyes open and facing you:

- represents the wisdom of going through death, change and endings CONSCIOUSLY

NOTES

“It is by accepting and even welcoming life's changes and challenges that our life is made more abundant.”

The dissolution of form is imperative for growth.

The breaking down of forms releases energy that can be utilized for further growth and development.

Transformation of circumstances vivifies the body and soul if you channel the energy into higher creativity rather than into fear – which is what Tarot Key 13 teaches us to do.

Directing Transformation: Let the Universe Handle The Details

- Open up on a feeling level to the ESSENCE (represented by the skeleton) of what you want and see how images build around that.
- Don't be dismayed by not knowing how it will work out, just trust (the Fool) and depend upon the mastery of the universe (tav) that it will.

When we resist the death, endings or the uncoming unknown:

We are resisting life and that brings on death.

- Clinging to stasis, which brings on stagnation, aging and death.
- Maintain your equilibrium, Key 11.
- Depend upon spiritual laws, Key 12.
- Keep your imagination under the conscious control of Will.

When you understand death's secret wisdom you have a great key to growth in life-mastery.

The soul ascends through death.

Mastering the unknown:

- You will go through the results of what you have set into motion in the past, plus what you set in motion in the present.
 - You cannot alter the former, so focus on mastering the latter.

The present presents

- only that which you have set into motion (key 10) and brings to you what you have earned (Key 11).
 - To create the future you want, depend upon the mastery of the Divine or universal system (Key 12) and set patterns of new and higher life into motion (Key 13), TRUSTING IN THE BEAUTIFUL ULTIMATE.

Everything MUST change for the better, and that means change, and that confronts you with the new and unknown.

Every death is an instrument of evolution.

Life will disintegrate every physical form you grow attached to.

We are all living in a Tibetan Sand Painting.

Every loss or ending is a rehearsal for death.

Do NOT imagine death to mean the cessation of YOU.

You pass through countless bodies and countless personalities.

Your life depends upon death: to stop the endings is to resist new beginnings.

Forgive everyone to reap the fruits that you desire, this takes place after life.

Listen to Bob Dylan's "Death is not the end".