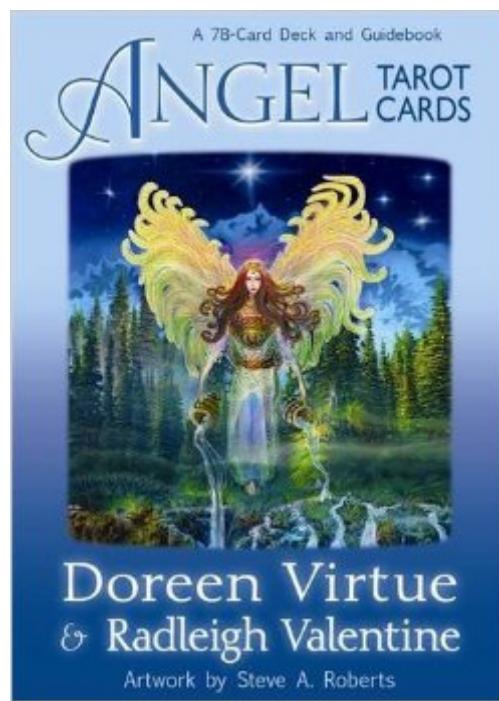


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Angel Tarot Cards



Synopsis

Tarot has long been revered for giving detailed and accurate forecasts. Doreen Virtue and Radleigh Valentine have created the first deck of tarot cards that is 100 percent gentle, safe, and trustworthy! All of the words in this deck, as well as the artwork by Steve A. Roberts, are positive and beautiful, while still retaining the magical effectiveness of traditional tarot. The accompanying guidebook explains the general meaning of each card and walks you through the steps of giving an accurate reading for yourself and others. Rich with symbolism and imagery—“including angels, archangels, unicorns, fairies, and mermaids”—the Angel Tarot Cards will provide you with inspiring guidance on your life journey!

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Customer Reviews

I had been waiting forever for an Angel oracle deck that was made to mirror the traditional Tarot, but without all of the negativity and ego based properties that some tend to associate with the Tarot. This is one of the most alluring and poetic Tarot decks I've seen. From the moment I opened the package I felt a rush of incredible uplifting energy flow through me. Each card is very powerful and the artwork and illustrations are detailed and magical. This is a stunning and impressive Tarot/Oracle deck. There are 78 cards just as you would find in the traditional Tarot, but this deck only uses gentle words and images. Some words have been changed for certain cards that would exist in a regular Tarot. You won't find the "Devil" card in this deck, but an alternative name, "Ego". There is also no "Tower" card which is usually a frightening image in the traditional Tarot, but in this deck is more appropriately titled for me, "Life Experience". The Major Arcana exists in the deck, but

each card corresponds to a specific Archangel. For example: Justice - Archangel RaguelThe Sun - Archangel UrielThe Hermit - Archangel RazielThe Wheel - Archangel MichaelThe Chariot - Archangel MetatronLife Experience - Archangel ChamuelStrength - Archangel AzraelThe Dreamer - Archangel MetatronUnity - Archangel SandalphonRenewal - Archangel JeremialAwakening - Archangel GabrielThe Lovers - Archangel RaphaelThe World - Archangel MichaelThe Star - Archangel JophielBalance - Archangel ZadkielEgo - Archangel JophielThe High Priestess - Archangel HanielThe Magician - Archangel RazielThe Empress - Archangel GabrielThe Emperor - Archangel MichaelRelease - Archangel AzraelIt was interesting to find that each of the Major Arcana cards correlated perfectly to a specific Archangel and that Archangels speciality. What I loved as well was that each of the Four Elements in the Minor Arcana also corresponded to something magical and angelic. There is nothing harsh about this deck. In a traditional Tarot deck you would have the Fire "Wand" set and in this deck the cards are labeled as "Six of Fire", "Seven of Fire" and so forth. The beautiful artwork for this element is of Dragons. Picture the "fire" breathing image of a Dragon as well as the Chinese Astrology depiction of the Dragon behavior. Fire is action oriented. (Aries, Leo, Sagittarius) As for the Sword set in a traditional Tarot which would be the element of 'air', this deck is made up of magical Unicorns. "Five of Air", "Six of Air" etc. Imagine a Unicorns horn as a symbol of the Sword. Unicorns are airy and whimsical just like the element of Air which also represents thought and mental processes. (Gemini, Libra, Aquarius) The Pentacles reside in the Earth element in a traditional Tarot, but in this deck the images are of Fairies in Garden like atmospheres, "Three of Earth", "Four of Earth". etc. In the Tarot deck the Pentacle cards are associated with the physical and tangible, so it's no surprise the image of the Elementals also known as Fairies are used. Fairies are outside in nature and assist us with concrete needs such as finances, home and sometimes obtaining love. (Taurus, Virgo, Capricorn) Water is the most beautiful section of the deck using Mermaids as the star of this part within the set. In a traditional Tarot it would be known as "Cups", here its been changed to "Water": "Seven of Water", "Eight of Water" etc. The visions of the Mermaids in blue sparkling water associate with emotions, feeling and needs. The Mermaids dive into the depths of water or in this case assists us with getting to the core of an issue internally in order to manifest our desires. (Cancer, Scorpio, Pisces) Each set (fire/water/earth/air) within this set of cards have different colors that correlate with each element. You can easily pull them out within the deck. The Water set has a Blue border, Earth has Green, Air has Royal Blue, Fire has Burgundy and the Major Arcana is Royal Purple. If you're new to the Tarot, but have had difficulty in learning the way it works, this is a great deck to use. I've always found some of the Tarot decks to be difficult to gravitate towards and learn. I did not have that issue with

this one and in fact it's made me branch out into visiting other Tarot decks out there. It's laid out efficiently in the little guidebook that comes along with it. More importantly this deck is also an angel deck to assist you in becoming more familiar with the Angels and Elements that make up the other spiritual planes. This deck is also helpful in getting to know some of the Archangels functions on top of that. The cards in this deck are always accurate for me. I manage to pull the exact cards that are mirroring the situation or feeling I'm having that given day. Sometimes I'll keep pulling the same card repeatedly to get me to notice an issue or concern that I'm not addressing or a foretelling of what's to come. I've given reads for other people and have found the same cards would keep falling out for them. They've commented at how accurate a read I've done for them is. The cards have some key phrases and descriptive words on them as this is a deck that was made so that a beginner or someone new to Tarot could easily use. The Tarot is not evil, but many who are unfamiliar with how to use it may shy away from it because some decks do have harsh images and complicated messages. This deck is being marketed as gentle and safe for those that fall into the category of fearing the Traditional Tarot. After becoming acquainted with this deck you'll find yourself getting excited to join the world of Tarot and find that it is what you make it. I've finally found a Tarot deck that I'm 100% happy and comfortable with using effortlessly and with complete accuracy. Other decks I've used would fall to the wayside as I wasn't gravitating towards them or feeling any sense of excitement or truth. I have not had that problem with this deck. This is now my prized possession. This is truly a gift from the heavens.

After a few months of fussing and fuming about the disingenuous promotions Hay House has used for the new Doreen Virtue Angel Tarot Cards, I am finally holding the deck in my hands. No, I didn't break down and make the purchase. If you are wondering why, see my blog post on the topic. However, I do believe the Doreen Virtue Angel Tarot is a legitimate contribution to the tarot corpus, and I am glad a friend lent me her copy so I could give it a legitimate review. Angel Tarot Cards (yes, that is the official title) looks like a typical Doreen Virtue oracle. It is oversized, printed on very sturdy stock and packaged in a lovely box with a small but substantial booklet. Because of their size and sturdiness, the cards are a bit hard to handle, but lovely to behold. The deck is a standard 78 card tarot deck in many respects. The artwork is gorgeous, but there are few visual clues in each picture about what the card might actually mean. Never fear, there are interpretations written on each card. There is no need to actually intuit or study anything. This is a boon for new tarot readers, or for those who want to use the deck as a simple, easy oracle. I like many of the written interpretations on the cards and in the booklet. Virtue and I agree that every tarot card can

have an uplifting meaning. The punctuation on some of the interpretations summons my inner grammar police. The interpretations are a mishmash of full sentences and key words, but each thought is punctuated with a full stop. Apparently angels find no need for complete sentences or proper punctuation. We can't really blame the deck designers for this; many other oracle creators are guilty of the same lazy crime against the English language. The Major Arcana cards are each illustrated with an archangel. The cards bear the traditional number at the top. Each Major Arcana has a name, although many of the names have been changed from the traditional Major Arcana designations. Under the Major Arcana name is the name of the angel, then the illustration. The written interpretations are at the bottom. In this deck, Justice is card eight, and Strength is card eleven. The Fool has been renamed as "The Dreamer." Major Arcana five (Hierophant) is called "Unity," twelve (Hanged Man) is called "Awakening," thirteen (Death) is "Release," fourteen (Temperance) is "Balance," fifteen (Devil) is "Ego", sixteen (Tower) is "Life Experience" and twenty (Judgment) is "Renewal." The rest retain their traditional names. I am comfortable with changing the traditional names of Major Arcana cards. In the five hundred year history of tarot some have already been changed. The Hierophant was once the Pope, for instance. I like Lisa Hunt's replacement of "Chains" for the Devil, and Eileen Connolly's "Transition" for Death. I think Virtue's "Release" for Death is brilliant. I also like "Ego" for the Devil. I think "Life Experience" for the Tower is shallow, and "Unity" for the Hierophant is simply wishful thinking. The assignment of an archangel for each Major Arcana is very interesting, and will be helpful to those who work with archangels, or want to learn more about them. Following in the footsteps of Kris Waldherr and some other modern tarot designers, this is a great example of what I like to call "archetypal assignment tarot." The question is, how well do the archangel choices reflect the standard Major Arcana archetypes? The "Unity" card (Hierophant), is represented by Archangel Sandalphon. Sandalphon is one of the few archangels who was once a mortal man. This makes sense for the "Pope" archetype of Major Arcana five. The Pope is a mortal man who is also God, or God's representative on Earth. Sandalphon's responsibilities include prayers, personal ascension and Earth. To me, this seems like a very good fit. The High Priestess is represented by Archangel Haniel. Haniel is feminine, and associated with grace, intuitive development, and finding our divine essence. Again, this seems a perfect fit. After studying the archangels and the Major Arcana cards with which they are assigned, I feel the designers of this deck really did their homework. One problem with archetypal assignment decks is the assignments sometimes feel forced. In Angel Tarot Cards, the assignments make sense, and feel natural. My only real complaint with the Major Arcana in this deck is the loss of the "Fool's Journey." I would be fine with the "Dreamer's Journey." But here, there is no journey at all.

Instead, there are simply twenty-two archangels, each with a beautiful picture, a strong archetypal association and a powerful message. For many, this will be enough. For me, the concept of card zero (Fool or Dreamer) as the star of the show and the representation of each of us on our journey through life is critical to developing a full archetypal and allegorical understanding of tarot. The Minor Arcana of Angel Tarot Cards uses the elements instead of the icons. This is not an unusual switch in modern tarot. The Earth cards have green borders and are illustrated with faeries. The Water cards have dark blue borders and are illustrated with mermaids. The Fire cards have dark red borders and are illustrated with dragons. The Air cards have light blue borders and are illustrated with unicorns. The Court of the Minor Arcana is quite traditional, with ranks of Page, Knight, Queen and King. The interpretations include the possibility of the cards representing people, energies or predictions. I have a problem with mixing archangels with unicorns, mermaids, dragons and faeries, especially since Virtue has made a living of presenting the angels as actual beings rather than mythological beings. Does this mean she thinks unicorns and mermaids are actual beings as well? Many people do, but for me this demotes the archangels to mere mythical beasts. Clearly, Angel Tarot Cards would not be my first choice for a personal or professional tarot deck. However, the artwork and deck quality are stunning. The deck honors tarot tradition in many ways, and will be a great tool for folks who want to learn tarot, or who want to learn about the archangels. It is evident that a great deal of work went into producing this deck. That work has resulted in a strong tarot deck that many people will cherish and enjoy. Angel Tarot Cards is a valuable offering to the tarot community, and may serve to bring new tarot enthusiasts into our community.

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