

Elemental North Tarot

Written by C. A. Mallad

Illustrated by
Amanda Noteman

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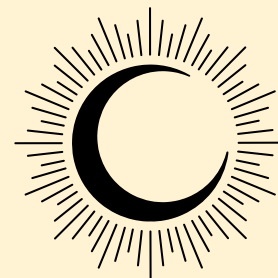


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Introduction to the Elemental North Tarot

ELEMENTAL NORTH TAROT started as a single tarot card, redesigned to create a tattoo. The Moon card has always been a favorite of mine, with its deep hidden meanings and natural cyclical connections. I re-envisioned it to better symbolize my dreams, gifts and aspirations in life. I made a sketch and took it to my dear friend and talented tattoo artist Amanda Noteman, and asked if it was something she could work with to make a beautiful tattoo for me. She jumped at the opportunity. Satisfied with the result, I decided to work on the other 77 cards, with the same principles and themes throughout. Hence, a complete tarot deck was created.

I wanted to incorporate some of the familiar colors, scenery and details of the traditional Rider-Waite-Smith deck into the Elemental North Tarot. Since Amanda and I both grew up in Michigan, we also included plants, animals and other natural elements that are indigenous to the North. For example, instead of a lion for the Strength card, we chose to show a bear.

For each card, an illustration is composed around the element symbol (△▽△▽) associated with that particular tarot card. Graphic marks and symbols are also shown, and include the following:

RUNES: Choosing a rune for each card design was done in deep meditation. Runes are not meant to spell words like an alphabet, but are used to invoke their specific energy through divination. On some of the cards, rune images are repeated for visual design reasons, helping to bring balance and to make the cards attractive and engaging.

GEOMETRIC SHAPES: Another design element is the inclusion of circles, dots and other shapes on the rune staves. They're not intend-

ed to be mere punctuation, but rather, were created to work intuitively, much like the way sigils have been treated in their creation.

SYMBOLS: Some of the Major Arcana cards include astrological symbols (planetary/zodiac) or constellation arrangements that are commonly associated with that specific card. They serve as reminders of the cosmic influences on our lives.

NUMEROLOGY is another strong theme in tarot, found in the card order and meaning behind each card. Since numerological influences can often be subconscious, some of the cards have their number hidden within the design. The embedded number allows its energy to be infused into the card. In this guidebook, I have given a brief description of each number and related keywords. A basic understanding of numerology allows a simple and direct approach that helps tarot readers remember the main concepts of the cards.

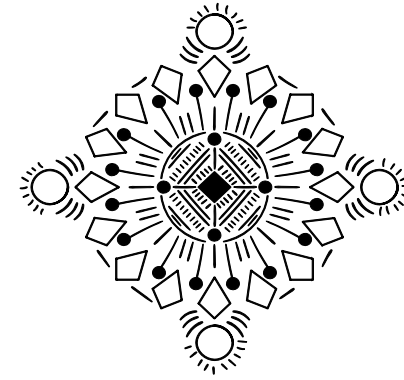
ELEMENT: An element symbol is the featured motif on each card. In the guidebook, I have given a bit of insight into the ancient elemental associations for both Major and Minor Arcana. Personally, it is one of my favorite energetic connections to focus on when reading tarot, hence the name of this deck.

Toward the end of this book, starting on page 119, you will find supplementary information on planetary and astrological associations with tarot, numerological and elemental correlations, a guide to the Norse Runes and some hints on using tarot for spellwork.

I'd like to note, I don't consider myself an authority on integrating all of these forms of divination. They are simply connections that I have made in my own practice over the years. Perhaps the information presented here will help you form your own connections, drive your practice forward, and activate your intuition and insight.

This deck and book have been a true labor of love for Amanda Noteman and me. We hope that they bring you growth and fulfillment of your aspirations.

C. A. Mallad



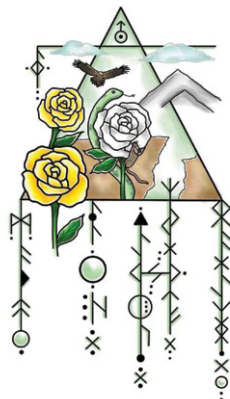
— MAJOR ARCANA —

The Major Arcana tarot cards represent the big archetypal themes that influence your life and your soul's journey. This often comes in the form of life lessons, karmic cycles and significant people or situations that bring you closer to your enlightenment.

The card meanings are deep and may vary greatly depending on where the cards are placed in a reading. They represent the structures of human consciousness and point to the areas that we should reflect on in our lives—including lessons we need to learn, habits we should break and where we should focus our energy to take that next step in our journey.

The Major Arcana consists of 21 numbered cards and one unnumbered card—the Fool 0. This group may be viewed as a storyline, in which the Fool, as the main character, follows his journey to enlightenment. With each new card, he meets new people and learns new lessons. He concludes his journey with the World card, recognizing his place in all aspects of his journey, its cycles, its inclusivity and all the symbolism within that card.

0 • FOOL



The Fool represents taking a blind leap of faith. Without seeing or even attempting to assess the risks and potential consequences involved, the Fool starts his journey blissfully unaware. In this card, a mouse climbs up a rose, without noticing the snake at the top of the blossom. Meanwhile, the snake is so enticed by the mouse that he doesn't notice the hawk swooping in behind him. This scene is a cautionary tale to keep your head on your shoulders.

The white rose signifies pure intentions, especially for the mouse, who climbs into it. The snake and hawk also have good intentions in their hunt. While this may seem contradictory, it is a necessary part of nature. Not all journeys are going to be bright and uplifting, yet they still have an important place in our lives.

The two cliffs show the duality of another side, another layer, another chance to take a leap of faith.

— RUNES —



OTHEL can indicate someone who is consumed by vision and ideals. The Fool faithfully follows his heart and imagines nothing can harm him.



HAGALL symbolizes delays, limits and risks. Jumping in wholeheartedly and taking a blind leap of faith can be quite risky.



ANSUZ is linked to acquiring wisdom. This card can indicate beginning a journey to enlightenment. Along the way, you'll have a variety of teachers who will guide and instruct you.



WUNJO indicates joy is coming into your life; the carefree heart of the Fool. There is a lot of excitement attached to embarking on a new adventure. There is much to celebrate and a positive attitude can certainly come in handy to give a bit of courage.



MANNAZ hints at divine protection and suggests the Fool is divinely guided on his journey. There is a divine presence helping to ensure a safe journey and one that will help the Fool reach his full potential.

— ASTROLOGICAL CONNECTION —



The **SUN** is associated with this card in a slightly ambiguous way. Zero is a number and yet, not really a number. It holds the potential to become a number and still has its purpose of being nothing quite yet. Similarly, the Sun isn't a planet and it's not really "on fire." It is definitely a force, but not quite what is expected.



MARS is the planet most often associated with instinct, action and desires. It is full of energy and ready to act.

— NUMEROLOGY : 0 —



POTENTIAL: The number zero holds the energy of potential. It doesn't guarantee where the Fool's journey will take you. It's not a promise of success, or even a guarantee that you'll start the journey in the first place. It is simply an option and a possibility. In the end, the choices will rely solely on you.

— ELEMENT : AIR —



The Fool card is connected to the element of Air because it holds a lot of movement. It signifies coming to a crossroads and making a choice—similar to how air moves and flows as it reaches obstacles and options.

2 of PENTACLES

The Two of Pentacles is about balance, particularly in regards to finances and material assets. Funds will wax and wane. Paychecks come in, and bills get paid out. It's a continuous cycle. Balance often comes with a give and take.

The inspiration for this card image was the idea of ravens carrying the sun and moon throughout the day. It represents the sun rising and setting, and also refers to the phases of the moon.



— RUNES —

ING indicates a successful outcome to whatever troubles you are facing. It ensures that balance can be found.

THURISAZ is connected to protection, and this card is about achieving balance. Material and financial stability can protect us both now and in the future.

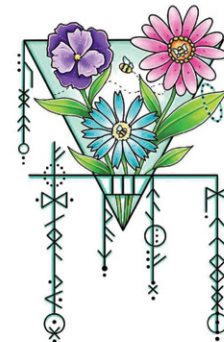
— ELEMENT : EARTH —

Earth is linked to this card through duality and cycles. Day and night, summer and winter, gains and losses; we have a polar balance where both parts are important and have their individual value.

3 of PENTACLES

The Three of Pentacles symbolizes teamwork and collaboration. We rarely get through life's challenges all on our own. This card advises you to seek professional advice when you need assistance. Work with others to reach your goals.

In this card, we see three bees. Each one does its own job, but they are part of a much larger collective that keeps their hive thriving.



— RUNES —

MANNAZ is connected to humanity. This is the teamwork in action, being able to rely on each other to help our communities thrive.

DAEG is the rune for increase and growth. This card connects hard work to striving for a strong foundation. It means working together and focusing on growth.

— ELEMENT : EARTH —

This card connects to the Earth element as a reminder of how interconnected we all are and the need to work together. The earth provides well and works best when our ecosystems are fully functioning and thriving well together. Even the smallest organisms serve a much-needed purpose to keep things healthy and sustainable.

4 of PENTACLES

The Four of Pentacles represents financial insecurity. It doesn't necessarily mean poverty or insufficient wealth; it may be that you're holding on to money, resources or material assets too tightly. This card alludes to possessiveness, thrift, hoarding and materialism. It can also represent investments and savings that you abhor tapping into. It just sits there, whether you need the money or not.



— RUNES —

FEHU is about wealth and value, and the Four of Pentacles is concerned with how we manage our funds. How we budget, how we hold reserves and how we choose to spend all indicate how we value wealth and stability.

THURISAZ signifies protection. It connects to this tarot card through the idea of preserving our wealth to protect our future. How we choose to budget, or not budget, will determine our security in the future.

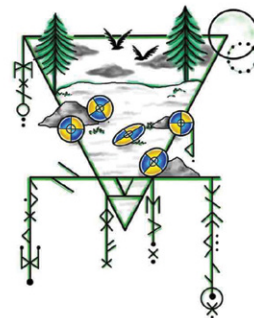
— ELEMENT : EARTH —

This card connects to the Earth element through the idea of preservation. As we use all the things Earth has to offer us, we must conserve enough to keep life on our planet sustainable. There are many resources we have been able to abundantly cultivate, sustain and enjoy. But other natural resources are finite and can be completely depleted. Abusing the Earth and disregarding the consequences is an old, damaging human behavior; we've held onto it too tightly for way too long.

5 of PENTACLES

The Five of Pentacles represents a feeling of being left out in the cold. It may indicate someone in need of a little help emotionally, financially or physically. Perhaps they are down on their luck or feeling abandoned.

The card shows five shields left out in a field, collecting snow and perhaps rusting. The shields have been abandoned, but with a little TLC, they can be cleaned up and returned to perfect working condition.



— RUNES —

KENAZ represents fire and is full of action. It's reversed on the card to have the energy of standing still and going cold.

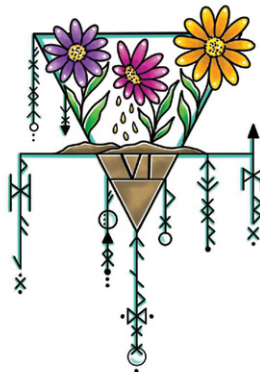
MANNAZ represents mankind and community. It is reversed on the card to represent the loss of community and the lack of community assistance.

— ELEMENT : EARTH —

The Earth element connects to nurturing, and how it comes and goes in seasons and patterns. The Five of Pentacles is connected to winter, when it is cold and food is sparse. Often, people will isolate and animals will hibernate. It is a time of struggle.

6 of PENTACLES

The Six of Pentacles represents gratitude and generosity. This card shows the natural balance in life and suggests that when we can, we should share in our joys to help others. The flowers here have had a wonderful life and they prepare their seeds for the next season, which will bring forth new life and continue the cycle. This card is most often associated with charity and gifts, but keep in mind that sometimes gifts come with strings attached.



— RUNES —

MANNAZ is a rune for community and sharing. On this card, it's shown mirrored over itself to indicate charity and the reciprocation of that gift. A healthy relationship will not only be giving, but it will also be able to receive.

BEORC is a rune for birth. Charity and sharing, a key aspect of this card, give birth to a more stable environment.

— ELEMENT : EARTH —

This card connects to Earth energy by the way of the resources we receive from the earth. It is representative of plants making sure they produce and prepare for the next growing season.

7 of PENTACLES

The Seven of Pentacles is about making investments for the future and having renewable, stable resources. It is concerned with growth, progress and assessing your output, i.e., the project or endeavor you've been working on.

In a reading, this card often indicates that it's getting close, but it's not yet time to "harvest the crops." Take note of the good job you're doing. Check if there's still room for improvement or if you'd like to make any adjustments. At this point, you have a pretty clear view of what the result of your project will look like—so this is the last opportunity to make any changes. Have patience; the right timing is key.



— RUNES —

FEHU is connected to material gains. It has been mirrored on the card to indicate a growth of wealth and also diversification of income. It hints at saving and investing in diverse ways.

HAGALL is a rune of limitations and delay. Like the card, it indicates that you need to wait for the right moment to reap the benefits of your work.

— ELEMENT : EARTH —

Hard work and persistence are topics that connect the Earth element to this card. The Seven of Pentacles is concerned with timing, something that the earth cannot force itself through, but during this time work is being done for the future.

8 of PENTACLES

The Eight of Pentacles represents work. It's often career-related, but can also refer to schoolwork, hobbies, or planning for major life events. The rocks shown on the card have been stacked up carefully, one at a time. However, it's not quite complete; there is still work to be done. This card advises you to stay focused on your work, but keep your life in balance. If you continue on this positive course, you'll have a successful outcome.



— RUNES —

EIHWAZ indicates protection. It is a positive rune that helps to ensure that all of your hard work will be successful.

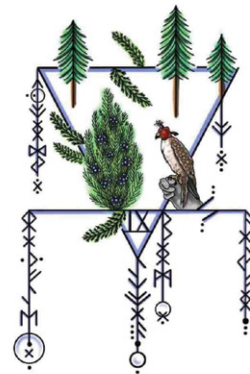
DAEG signifies increase and growth. Work is going well. You are improving yourself and gaining benefits from the work. You're developing the skills needed for your journey.

— ELEMENT : EARTH —

Much like the Seven of Pentacles, this card connects to the Earth element through hard work and growth. It's suitable to connect this card to mid-to-late summer when many crops are coming into full bloom and preparing their fruits for harvest.

9 of PENTACLES

The Nine of Pentacles shows us it is time to harvest the crop. We have sown the seeds, done all the work required to grow the crop, and now we can reap the benefits. We no longer need to be on the hunt, as shown with the hooded hawk. It's time to harvest, enjoy our wealth, and also share it. The card conveys abundance, financial independence, self-sufficiency and the gratitude that comes along with it.



— RUNES —

JERA is the rune for harvest. This card is about reaping the rewards for your hard work and is therefore a perfect fit for this rune.

FEHU signifies wealth. It's time to count your coins and see how much you have prospered over the past season.

— ELEMENT : EARTH —

The Earth element is connected to nurturing and sustenance. The Nine of Pentacles references all the bounties the earth has to offer. It looks at what we have gained from this harvest, and hints at the prospects for the next cycle. It's about acknowledging what we have and thinking about our options for the next season and crop.

10 of PENTACLES

The Ten of Pentacles is about turning over a new leaf in your material stability. You have gained a lot up to this point and it's time to take it to the next level. Where will you continue to grow from here? Sometimes that answer is to simply appreciate the things we already have and not focus on the things we want. A safe roof over your head and loving support by your side should not go unnoticed. Moving into the court cards is a transition that will require you to examine your physical and materialistic world a little differently.



— RUNES —



MANNAZ is the rune for humankind. This card is about sharing wealth generationally, and making sure that future generations are set up to succeed.



TIR signifies success. It is a positive rune for a job well done. The Ten of Pentacles shows that we have done well and things will work out favorably.

— ELEMENT : EARTH —



The Ten of Pentacles is concerned with preparing for the next season, and as such, is linked to the Earth element. Think of seed pods, laying dormant in autumn and winter, or butterflies held in chrysalis until spring. As we celebrate success, we are in transition, waiting for what comes next.

PAGE of PENTACLES

The Page of Pentacles signifies a new job, material manifestations and opportunities coming forward. The Page is the first step to bringing a greater understanding that comes with the higher court cards. It is immature but full of so much positive potential. The tight bud of the flower holds the potential for blossom, pollination and propagation of the plant. However, it is not quite ready just yet. There is still some work to be done before it becomes a true flower.



— RUNES —



BEORC represents birth and creation. This card represents bringing forth something new and new opportunities. This card is the beginning of the court cards and brings new concepts of material gains, plans and worth.



DAEG is a rune for growth, and the Page of Pentacles is about potential and development. After the transitional period with the Ten of Pentacles, we are now growing into something new with the Page.

— ELEMENT : EARTH —



This card is connected to the first blossoms of spring, the coming of life and tender young sprouts forming for the harvest. The earth is awakening and it is ready to grow again.

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