

# When Women Had Wings

TAROT DECK

SAMPLE

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# Before you begin

While this tarot is created by women for women, we at Duirwaigh Studios and U.S. Games Systems practice wild inclusion. We understand that all of us – women, men, transgender, non-binary – ache for the feminine. She is a force, not a gender, and she is present in all of us. Therefore, no matter how you identify, we aim to speak to the psyche, not exclusively the gender, to aid all persons awakening her inside themselves. We hope this decks helps you bask in her great, generous wisdom.

SAMPLE



# An Introduction

- When women had wings  
there was balance.

There was a time when women walked the earth, danced by the fire, swam the rivers and took to the sky. It was an age of awe and wonder, but also an age of wisdom. It was a time when gods and goddesses lived in harmony, men and women celebrating their differences and similarities, while the masculine and feminine energy in each person lived together gently, side by side.

Standing on equal ground and sharing open skies, men and women were encouraged to engage with each other and hold congress in society, but were equally encouraged to maintain balance by honoring their private space. It was known and understood that when each woman cultivated her inner life and her singular sacred space – that holy ground created just for her – she became a generator, a resource of energy to be enjoyed by her self, her family and society.



In this freedom, women were encouraged to explore all facets of themselves. The dark, shadowy qualities were embraced along with the bright, shining ones. By refusing to banish less desirable traits, women embraced all parts of their character, bringing balance to each person and alignment to society as a whole. By valuing inclusion and acceptance, women lived without shame. On the rare occurrence when a woman lost her way, when she fell out of balance and committed a crime, it is said her sisters would bring her to a ceremonial fire. There, instead of judging or punishing her, the sisters would form a circle around the golden flames, each in their turn speaking a fond memory or a positive characteristic of the transgressor, helping her re-member herself. Reminded of her innate goodness and unique value in the





## VIII. Strength

Fortitude. Inner capacity to face adversity and not be overwhelmed or intimidated by it. Resiliency. This is not white-knuckled resiliency that forces us to withstand suffering while smiling when we're dying on the inside. This is lustre. Shine. Confidence. Capacity to shine even in difficult circumstances because you know that you are bigger on the inside – bigger than whatever your situation is. You have the ability to remain in your power even in the midst of chaos. This is the mind and heart uniting to remember that the power of soul can and will overcome any storm life throws at you.







IX. The Hermit



## IX. The Hermit

Retreat. Soul-searching. Withdrawing into a place of silence and stillness. Deep listening. A safe place to lick one's wounds and heal. Searching for the pattern, symbols and meaning in one's personal life and/or in the greater world. A harmonized relationship with nature, especially as it applies to nurture. Reflection. A philosopher. Seeking wisdom and understanding. Giving space and time for deeper initiations into the mysteries of life. Protection during intentional solitude. Peace. A spiritual pilgrimage, whether on the mountaintops of Tibet, or in your own living room. Understanding the value of deep listening to one's soul during time alone.



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