

Research Space

Journal article

Tarot reading for the end times

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Sonia Overall

The Fool

Here you are, stepping lightly along the path, littering the way with material objects you no longer value.

Is that dog nipping at your ankles just a mongrel giving chase? Or is it a spirit animal? Perhaps the natural world is trying to tell you something.

Watch out for that precipice.

The Magician

This card suggests that a wily customer is dealing you some sleight of hand. Be wary of impossible promises and magic-wand solutions. Someone may be trying to palm you off with empty sloganeering.

The Hanged Man

This card suggests stasis. It may be that you feel caught, suspended in a situation over which you have no control. It may be that your actions feel insignificant or meaningless.

Or perhaps you just need to do something. Like, *now*.

The Tower

This card may look disastrous, with that lightning strike and those unfortunate souls tumbling through the air. But take heart: this can herald a new beginning too. That exploding tower may need to fall.

Alternatively, this card might indicate some interesting meteorological phenomena.

Death

Yes, the skeletal figure of death is reaping a harvest here. See all those severed heads and limbs?

But it's alright. Don't panic. Don't take it too literally. Don't stockpile tinned food and fill your car with your neighbour's petrol and build a bunker in your back garden and make a crate of homemade grenades and call everyone you know to say goodbye and quit your job and buy cyanide pills from the dark net for you and your partner and children just in case they come for you in the end.

Every death is a rebirth, after all.