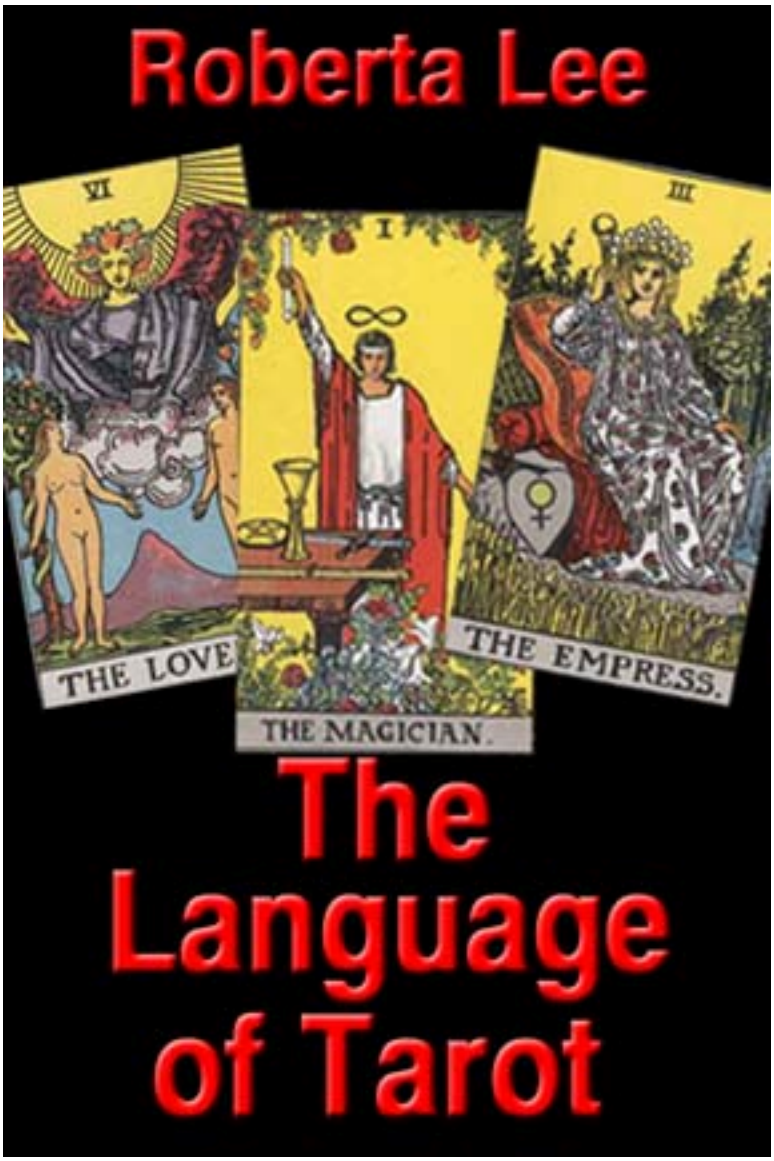

The Language of Tarot © Roberta Lee 2007 All rights reserved.

Sample Past - Present - Future Readings

Sample Reading 1

The question was, "What or who has, is and will be most strongly affecting my relationship with John?"

The Seeker was a woman who had recently broken up with her boyfriend, John, over something she had come to view as trivial. She missed him, and was wondering if he would get in touch with her to renew their relationship. She also felt that certain unresolved issues had been brought to the surface during her disagreement with John, which--if they could work out some compromises regarding them--could be dealt with and put behind the couple. She thought that doing so could actually strengthen their relationship--if John was willing to get back together and try.

Significator

The Queen of Cups - The Seeker is represented by a card that indicates a kindly, loving woman. Her relationship to the reading is benevolent, positive and nurturing.

Position 1 - The Past

The Moon - This is the card of intuition, visions and dreams. It indicates that, in the past, this relationship had a dreamy, perhaps mystical quality to the Seeker. She probably felt rather mysteriously drawn to this man and was following her heart, allowing herself to be drawn into this love affair. The Moon has a passive, responsive quality and strongly suggests that the Seeker was not the active partner but allowed John to make most of the decisions in their relationship.

Because this is a Major Arcana card, we know we will need to give extra emphasis to its meaning when we come to our summary of this reading.

Position 2 - The Present

The Star - Here is another Major Arcana card, and one that is also about an almost ethereal connection. The Star is all about hope, optimism and a positive, healthy sense of aspiration. It shows the Seeker being calm and waiting for this man to call her, without any anxiety or resentment around the issue.

Once again, we remind ourselves to be sure to add weight to this card's positive meaning as we summarize the reading for the Seeker.

Position 3 - The Future

The Empress - Do we see a trend? This is a highly unusual reading in that it contains three Major Arcana cards, all upright, and all of which are very positive, loving cards. I choose to begin with this sample reading because it is a very simple reading to interpret.

The Empress is a card that speaks of love, nurturing and both the open expression of and return in kind of affection. It gives us an extremely positive outcome, showing us an unambiguously happy conclusion in the future.

About This Reading

Beginning with the tone of this reading, we can certainly assure the Seeker that we see a very favorable outcome. The presence of three Major Arcana cards, a cheerful significator and no reversed cards tells us that this situation is moving toward not only a joyful conclusion, but one remarkably free from stress or conflict.

The Seeker can be told that, in the past, she felt mysteriously drawn to John, and that attraction was a correct and healthy one.

We also see quite clearly that she has a great deal of natural optimism about the present situation, and that even though she may be apart from this man now, her hopeful attitude will prove to be appropriate.

The hopefulness she feels will be rewarded by not only John's return, but also by a very happy reunion.

The only thing really lacking in this reading is any indication if John will call her, or if she needs to be the one to reach out to him. You find this to be true of any reading dominated by Major Arcana cards, of which only a handful speak of clear, resolute action--rather than someone's attitude or the atmosphere surrounding the reading.

I advised the Seeker to keep an open mind. The Star foretells healing and recovery, so I felt that the present situation--although they were not in contact with each other--was a healthy time for both, which would allow each to reflect on their shared past and begin planning for a reunion in the future. I suggested she allow a bit more time to go by, while remaining calm and optimistic, and suggested that The Moon indicates that she had been very successful at following her intuition in the past, and should keep doing so. I felt a sense of good timing and inevitability with this reading and that both she and John would simply *know* when it was time to reunite and would naturally do so.