

Ask the right question

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Am I going to meet the man or woman of my dreams? Should I leave my job? Is my wife or husband having an affair? Am I ever going to be happy?

These are the sorts of questions you want answers to when you come for a tarot reading. You want to know what the future holds and believe that someone with psychic powers can see something you can't. If only it were as simple as that! The reality is that a tarot reader can help you visualise your future, but they can't make a particular future happen for you.

To help you visualise or create your future, a tarot reader needs you to ask the right sort of questions. For example, if you came to me for a reading, I'd start by getting you to focus on what you need to know about a situation so that you can take the most appropriate action to bring about the result you want.

Let's assume Marie has come to me for a reading and wants to know if she's ever going to meet the man of her dreams. It's pretty obvious that she's had a few setbacks in the area of relationships. She responds to this comment with something like "You can say that again! I don't know why it is, but I always seem to attract losers. Why can't I meet a guy who's right for me?"

Now we're getting somewhere...I explain that the cards work best if you ask questions that invite more than a 'yes' or 'no' answer. So, rather than asking whether she's going to meet the man of her dreams, why not ask "What should I focus on to help me meet the right sort of man?" You'll notice that I'm steering Marie away from asking for 'the man of her dreams'. After all, dreamy Prince Charming mightn't be the right sort of man for her!

I explain that we'll do a couple of different spreads – one to get the answer to that question. And then armed with insights into what Marie needs to focus on, we can do another spread asking a more general question like "what's likely to happen in my personal life in the next year?" In this way, Marie starts to see what she can do to bring the right sort of man into her life, and gets to see how the next year might unfold in the area of relationships.

Let's go to another typical question. Rachel wants to know whether she should leave her job. She's been working in the same company for 10 years, but recently, a new boss has made some radical changes that Rachel doesn't like. She's been studying part-time for the past two years and wonders whether she should quit her job and complete her studies as a full-time student. With two clear options on the table, we could do a spread that explores the issues surrounding each option. The outcome of that spread would naturally lead to a second question and another spread.

Alternatively, since Rachel places such significance on the new boss, a useful question might be "What am I learning about myself in this new work environment?" Ouch! That sort of question is indeed a little confronting, but, in this situation, it's worth suggesting, since the new boss has clearly sparked a change in Rachel's attitude to work and how she perceives her future.

So there you have it...the tarot cards provide wonderful signposts to the future, but the directions on those signposts are only visible if you ask questions that put you in the driver's seat.