

Tiptoeing Through the Tarot with Death – October 26, 2013



The Ecliptic Tarot: Death – XIII – Under the light of a full moon, and in the shadow of grave markers, *Death* wraps and prepares her next meal.

Whether we like it or not, death is an inevitable part of life. (Tell that to the grasshopper who is an unwilling prisoner in the spider's web.) The Death card is less about an actual physical death and more about the metaphorical kinds. Death is change, transformation, letting go, and possibly sacrifice. Change can be a scary prospect – a fear of the unknown. But, change is the only constant. Death is part of the life cycle, and cycles can only continue with change. It is only by death then that new beginnings can be made. We may go kicking and screaming against any kind of transition, but it is the only way life can continue and grow. Letting go of the things that no longer serve us in a positive manner - such as a relationship that is ending, or an outdated belief system - may be painful, but, this release allows you make a fresh new start.

Keywords: Letting go. An end of close friendships and/or partnerships; Liberation; renewal; transformation; cutting yourself free; metamorphosis; renewal; new growth made possible. A time to mourn. Moving on. Unfolding the mystery of transition, being open to change and opportunities it brings, understanding that nothing ever dies, it only transforms.



Wizards' Tarot: (Professor of Transfiguration) Most of us are constantly in the process of remaking ourselves. We want to shed unhealthy habits and unproductive beliefs, and replace them with wholesome thoughts and behaviors. The process of transformation and release, however, always comes with a price. Sometimes it seems unbearable high: in order to change, we have to relinquish the comfort and control of our old selves, and venture into new, unknown territory.

Anna.K Tarot: If you have learned to let go, to not try to hold on to that which is already passing, then you will realize that the painful process of something's ending can be a great relief and can also be the beginning of something new and beautiful.

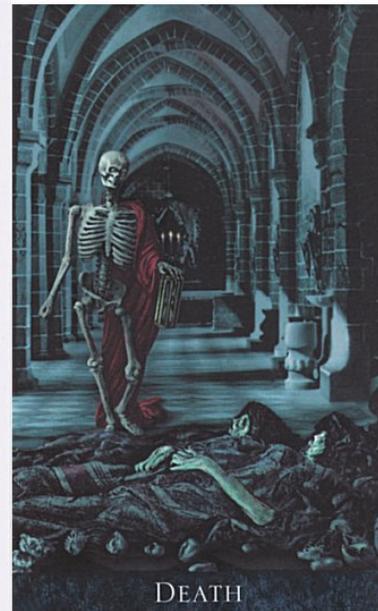
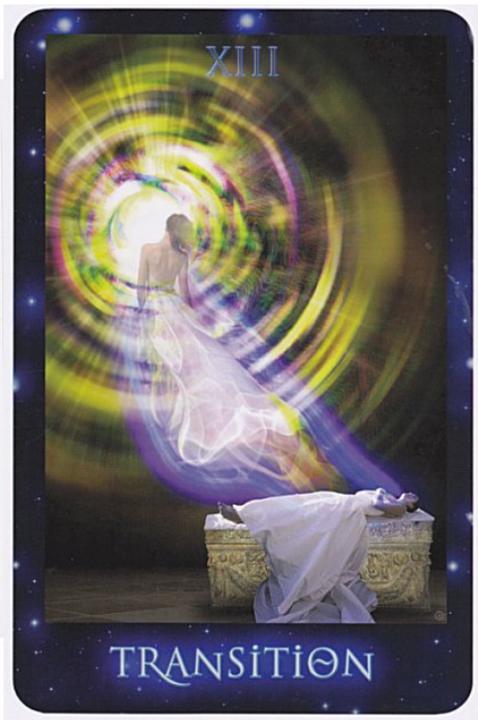
Crystal Visions Tarot: A dark angel reads the tombstone inscription which means "Life is Changed, Not Taken Away". The butterflies are symbols of life, renewal, and change.



The SteamPunk Tarot: “The gentle silence of Death takes all your sorrow, transforms it and gives it back to you as love.” *Death* symbolizes the final end of something. It is not sudden, as we see in the Tower card, but is an organic conclusion, something that we have probably already felt was nearing its end in our life. Divorce, loss of a job, ending of a friendship, a rejection of a formerly followed spiritual path...all these experiences are common in our lives or the lives of our friends and loved ones. If we are honest, we usually feel it coming. This card lets us know that what we expected is nigh.

Steele Wizard Tarot: Change, transformation, transmutation. A complete change on all levels preparing for rebirth. Moving from a closed chrysalis state to a higher form of truth. Natural necessary growth. New ideas and new possibilities.

Dreaming Way Tarot: In tarot, the Death card should be interpreted as finalization. The ending usually does not come from your decision, but from others’ will. You may not be ready to let go, yet you cannot escape inevitable change. This card has more to do with transitions than with actual death. Finality, acceptance of change, conclusion, letting go of old attitudes.



The Gaian Tarot: Something in your life is dying, while something else is nearing its time to be born. Take the time that you need to recognize that this is a natural process, a part of the great cycle of all life. Grieve if you need to for that which is ending. Don't rush the process or deny all your turbulent feelings. When you are ready to let go of grief, you will find yourself emptied out and clean, ready for the next state of your journey.

The Sirian Starseed Tarot: From the Starseed's perspective, death is merely transition from one form to another; from one reality to another; from one density to the next. While the Transition key does imply that something is ending, it most definitely focuses on a new, perhaps unknowable beginning.

The Bohemian Gothic Tarot: A part of your self-identity "dies" or changes profoundly; A physical or spiritual death; The final closure of an important part of your life; A difficult transition that will shake you to the core.

*Images used:

- SteamPunk Tarot by Barbara Moore (Llewellyn Publishing) –
- Wizards' Trot by Corrine Kenner (Llewellyn Publishing)
- Dreaming Way Tarot by Rome Choi (U.S. Games Systems, Inc)
- Crystal Visions Tarot by Jennifer Galasso (U.S. Games Systems, Inc)
- Anna.K Tarot by Anna Klaffinger (Self-Published)
- Steele Wizard Tarot by Pamela Steele (Self-Published)
- The Gaian Tarot by Joanna Powell Colbert (Llewellyn Publishing)
- The Bohemian Gothic Tarot by Karen Mahony (Magic Realist Press)
- Sirian Starseed Tarot by Patricia Cori (North Atlantic Books)