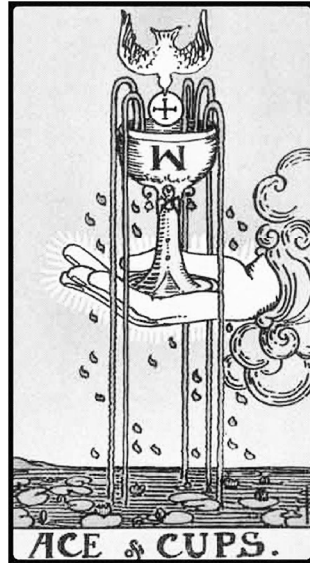


## HOLISTIC TAROT

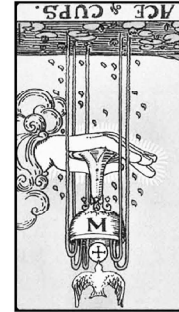


Abundance  
Affirmation  
Fountainhead

Number 1  
Beginnings  
Power

Three Aces  
Wealth, Success

Four Aces  
Exceptional  
Greatness



**REV:**  
Superficiality  
Rejection  
Promiscuity

*A hand appears in the sky holding a golden chalice. Five streams of water spill out into the water below, where lily pads float. Leaves from the Tree of Life waft in the air. A white dove is placing a sacramental wafer into the cup, upon which the letter "M" is inscribed in reverse. Could the golden chalice be emblematic of the Holy Grail?*

### ACE OF CUPS

The Ace of Cups signals the beginning of prosperity, of overflowing love, joy, beauty, or health. There will be a breakthrough. There is fortune in love and marriage. Much happiness and peace are found in a new relationship. If the Seeker is asking about romance, this card indicates that a prosperous, joyous, healthy love is coming. The dove represents peace and harmony. In the Golden Dawn interpretive approach, the dove represents Venus as the Great Mother, while the wafer with the cross symbolizes the earth She has created.<sup>83</sup> The theme of the card is spiritual fulfillment. There may also be support, presence, or help from the divine. Streams of water spout from the source of divinity (or higher being, the spiritual life force), indicating a spiritual revelation. It could also represent a fountainhead, the chief source of success or prosperity; the concept of an original source. The Ace of Cups

## CYCLOPEDIA OF CARD MEANINGS

can be seen as the “indigo child”<sup>84</sup> card, denoting the birth of a child who will be remarkably empathic, intuitive, and seem to operate with a strong, maturely developed sense of self.

Practitioners disagree on the alphabetical letter depicted on the chalice. Is it a “W” for A. E. Waite, the creator of the Rider-Waite-Smith deck? Or is it an “M” in reverse, and if so what does the “M” stand for? Mary Magdalene? Magic? Magi? Magus? And what would be the significance of the reversal? How an individual practitioner interprets the letter affects the specific meaning of the card to that practitioner. The approach adopted by this book is to interpret the letter as an “M” in reverse, representing the capitalized Greek letter “Mu,” which relates to the Phoenician letter “mem,” meaning water. Like tarot cards, upright indicates activated, present energy; a reversal indicates untapped potential or evolving energy, where the true outcome may still be uncertain. The reversed “M” is thus a symbol of potential energy spewing forth, becoming kinetic.

Generally the aces of the Minor Arcana suggest opportunities presented and the corresponding elemental association will indicate the nature of the opportunity. Here, the Ace of Cups indicates a recessive yin or even feminine force surrounding the matter at hand. The Seeker will be receiving rather than doing.

### **Reversed Meaning**

If the Ace of Cups is reminiscent of the Holy Grail, then the card in reverse suggests the seeking of glory for the wrong reasons. The Seeker is not in pursuit of glory for spiritual fulfillment, but rather for material or superficial gain. The card in reverse might also indicate delays in spiritual fulfillment as a result of materialistic or superficial motivations. The Seeker’s heart is not in the right place, so the outcome will not be as the Seeker desires. In questions about romance, the Seeker’s perception of love is too materialistic. The Seeker needs a spiritual breakthrough. The card could be a warning that the Seeker’s objectives, even if achieved, won’t bring joy. The card could also mean there is promiscuity in a relationship, unstable desires, or overindulgence. The promiscuity indicated by the Ace of Cups in reverse is most likely a mental or emotional one, not physical.