

# Tarot DeckFinder's *Notes from the Muses*

If you like tarot, then the Tarot DeckFinder is a must have! A sweeping and shrewd compilation, revealing specific insights into 2,000 tarot decks and oracles, it will help both beginners and experts expand their repertoire. The DeckFinder is the first publication to attempt to encompass all packs within a single reference edition. Looking for that special deck? See the Tarot DeckFinder first.

## Tarot Decks, A to Z

Each page of the DeckFinder includes extensive reviews for a number of works. Decks are rated and described in narrative, directly after which a formatted section of notes appears. Works are critiqued based on beauty, longevity, maturity of concept, clarity, originality and breadth of appeal. Elegance of presentation is also considered. The ratings are:

### Ratings: Notes from the Muses

<b>FLAT</b>	<b>Needs Tuning</b> Not resonant with most audiences
🎵🎵 One Note out of Four	<b>Thoughtful, Awakening, a Jingle</b> Desirable for some audiences
🎵🎵🎵 Two Notes out of Four	<b>Noteworthy, Crafty, a Melody</b> Some brilliant musings, worth a hearing
🎵🎵🎵🎵 Three Notes out of Four	<b>Musical, Epic, in Harmony</b> Resonates with many audiences
🎵🎵🎵🎵🎵 Four Notes out of Four	<b>Magical, Legendary, a Symphony</b> Uplifting for most audiences



## Sample Review

Each deck review contains 21 standard items as shown below. These unique reviews are designed to include all of the information you need to navigate to that special deck that's playing your song. A glossary is appended to assist you with terms.

<b>1</b> Rider Waite Smith Tarot; <b>2</b> 1909/1931/1971/1988/1990/1993 <b>3</b> 🎵🎵🎵	<b>1</b> Title
<b>4</b> Pamela Colman Smith created this insightful artwork in collaboration with Arthur Edward Waite of the Golden Dawn. Primary, solid colors are the backdrops for these realistic, Renaissance inspired images. Initially this deck was popular because it was the only readily available esoteric book and deck set with storybook scenes invented for the pips. However, the artwork has had incredible longevity. Issued by Rider in 1909, this is the standard against which most other decks are compared. Prior to 1909, the French sequence of the major arcana was perpetuated by the Tarot of Marseilles; nonetheless Waite decided to switch the Strength card to number 8 and Justice to number 11. The silhouette in the Seven of Cups is scattering his energy on a swirling myriad of imagined choices. The top three cups in his vision, bearing the snake, human head and covered figure with aura represent body, mind, and spirit respectively. Wealth, fame, power and transformation also appear. This deck is so tremendously popular that it has been heavily copied, is often used as a teaching tool in classes, and has been written about extensively.	<b>2</b> Year published
<b>5</b> Mix: 78 = 22 trumps + 16 courts + 40 pips, <b>6</b> Suits: 4 x 14, Cups(W), Swords(A), Wands(F), Pentacles(E), <b>7</b> Trumps: English series – Fool(0) to World(21), <b>8</b> Pips: Enacted scenes, <b>9</b> Courts: King, Queen, Knight, Page, <b>10</b> Titled: English – Trumps & Courts & Aces, <b>11</b> Numbered: Roman – Trumps & Pips(2-10), <b>12</b> Keywords: None, <b>13</b> Elements: WAFE/Levy, <b>14</b> Extras: None, <b>15</b> Audience: Level*Beginner + General, New Age, <b>16</b> Shape: Squared – In multiple sizes to very large – Mini is 1 3/4" x 2 7/8", giant is 4" x 6 1/2", <b>17</b> Back: Symmetrical – white, blue & black plaid, <b>18</b> Book: Many titles available, including <i>Tarot for Yourself</i> by Mary K. Greer, 299 pages, illustrated, 2002, 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition, soft cover, New Page Books, images also featured in the <i>Encyclopedia of the Tarot, Volume I</i> , Stuart R. Kaplan, 397 pages, illustrated, 1978, hard cover, U. S. Games Systems, <b>19</b> A: Arthur Edward Waite with art by Pamela Colman Smith, <b>20</b> P: U.S. Games Systems, Inc., <b>21</b> Web: home.comcast.net/~vilex/index.html, www.usgamesinc.com	<b>3</b> Rating notes; <b>FLAT</b> , 🎵 (1 note), 🎵🎵 (2 notes), 🎵🎵🎵 (3 notes), or 🎵🎵🎵🎵 (4 notes)
	<b>4</b> Description/Review
	<b>5</b> Mix: Total cards in deck = number trumps + number courts + number pips
	<b>6</b> Suits: Number of suits x Number cards per suit, with deck's suit names and a letter indicating the element. (W)ater, (A)ir, (F)ire, (E)arth.
	<b>7</b> Trumps: List of trumps & unusual titles, Indicates series – either English (Strength=8, Justice=11) or French (Justice=8, Strength=11); NOTE: Standard English series includes Fool(0), Magician(1), Popess, Priestess or High Priestess(2), Empress(3), Emperor(4), Pope, High Priest or Hierophant(5), Lovers(6), Chariot(7), Force, Fortitude or Strength (8), Hermit(9), Wheel of Fortune(10), Justice(11), Hanged Man(12), Death(13), Temperance(14), Devil(15), Tower or House of God(16), Star(17), Moon(18), Sun(19), Judgment(20), and World(21).
	<b>8</b> Pips: Indicates if drawn as enacted scenes or elementary sets of suit emblems
	<b>9</b> Courts: List of court cards included
	<b>10</b> Titled: Indicates whether cards show titles or images only
	<b>11</b> Numbered: Indicates whether cards show numbers (Roman/Arabic)
	<b>12</b> Keywords: Indicates whether interpretations are shown (keywords or phrases)
	<b>13</b> Elements: Indicates elements, if assigned; WAFE(water/air/fire/earth from Empodices; 475 BC) & suit assignment – either Levy or Continental/Gardnerian
	<b>14</b> Extras: Indicates presence of Qabalistic symbols or other notations
	<b>15</b> Audience: Provides target level as Beginner, General, Child, Teen, or Adult and lists audiences, or special interest areas, such as Celtic Culture
	<b>16</b> Shape: Shape and size of the cards
	<b>17</b> Back: Back of card design, 'Symmetrical' or 'One Way' with description
	<b>18</b> Book: Indicates availability of separate guide book or booklet insert
	<b>19</b> A: Author's name(s)
	<b>20</b> P: Publisher
	<b>21</b> Web: Relevant web address