

#### Ace of Grails

Upright: Love, new relationships, compassion, creativity Reversed: Self-love, intuition, repressed emotions

Ace of Grails symbolizes new beginnings, opportunity, potential, drive, ideas, inspiration and aspiration. Many times, Aces in a reading indicate that a situation is about to begin or is in the early stages of development. Because Grails are of the more emotional/spiritual nature, a suit of the heart, it is most likely the beginning of a new romantic relationship...or perhaps a creative endeavor. Ace of Grails indicates something that is felt with the heart.

In this image, the cup or grail is filled with new possibilities. It is skull-shaped to evoke Dia de los Muertos symbolism and blue colored with a Pisces/fish handle and stem to indicate the water element. This water element card is representative of the heart or spiritual self. It evokes the things that can be felt rather than seen. Death is seen as the possibility of a new beginning/phase, rather than an end. Ace of Grails also points to faith or belief.

The element of Water is associated with the signs Cancer, Scorpio and Pisces. Water signs are emotional, empathetic, receptive and deeply feeling. Watery descriptions are well suited to this element: fluid, flowing, wavering. Water signs are intuitive and sensitive, and they feel more intensely than the rest. They are emotional and nurturing, and like a river, they run deep. How things feel is what matters, and they base their actions on sense, rather than on logic or intellect.

Zodiac: Cancer, Scorpio, Pisces Element: Water Color: Blue



Two of Grails

Upright: Unified love, partnership, mutual attraction Reversed: Self-love, break-ups, disharmony, distrust

Two of Grails is the flow of love between two people. With this card, you are creating deep connections and partner-ships based on shared values, compassion, and unconditional love. You have mutual respect and appreciation for one another. Two of Grails shows a new union based on mutual attraction. There is both a physical and soul connection. The exchange of emotion is heartfelt, and in some cases, Two of Grails can refer to a marriage, proposal, or engagement. It can also indicate a new business relationship. Two of Grails shows the beauty and power that is created when two become one. This card reflects balance, mutual respect and harmony in relations with one another.

The image depicts two Dia de los Muertos/skull-styled grails, marigolds (flower associated with Dia de los Muertos) surrounding the couple, lock and key (representing eternity/"'til death do us part"), unified love, and relationships. The bright yellow marigolds in her hair help him to always find her (his heart, his love) no matter how far he has traveled. Like the marigolds in the Dia de los Muertos celebration, their bright color help the dead find their way back home to their loved ones on November 1-3, the days of the traditional festival.

The Caduceus of Hermes: The two-snake caduceus design has ancient and consistent associations with trade, negotiation, balance, duality (union of opposites), proper moral conduct, protection and cosmic energy. On the Two of Grails, the caduceus sends a positive message for new partnerships. They will be rewarded if you employ honor, respect, and balance. At the top of the caduceus is a lion's head, a symbol of passion and fire energy suggesting that there may be a lot of sexual attraction between the people. Although, these people may or may not be allowed to express this attraction. The two snakes that wind up the caduceus represent dark and light and their coexistence within us. Her dark hair entwining with him, the lock and key represents the darker side of a passionate relationship, obsession and their need for control.

Pisces is symbolized by two fish swimming in opposite directions but connected by the cord of an eternal bond. This image expresses the duality of Pisces. The symbol of two crescent moons and the line that connects them represents two different states of mind and the link between them.



Three of Grails

Upright: Celebration, friendship, creativity, collaborations Reversed: Independence, alone time, hardcore partying, 'three's a crowd'

Three of Grails represents friendships and harmonious relationships. There is a general feeling of sensitivity, compassion, and sympathy with one another. Three of Grails can also represent community and groups of people coming together to focus on a common goal for the greater good of others.

This image is of three women connecting, celebrating their unique beauty, lifting each other up. We are stronger together (in community) than in competition or separateness. The women's faces and bodies are painted in traditional Dia de los Muertos celebration style make-up. The grails are skull-style, and there are three colorful roses. The flowers symbolize joy, beauty, compassion and growth. The women's poses and the fact that there are no spaces between them, they are touching, represent their closeness of relationship, a sisterhood.

This image uses all three water element zodiac symbols that correspond with the Grails suit: Scorpio, Pisces, and Cancer. Here, the zodiac symbols represent the three different personalities of the women. This furthers the idea that even though they are different, they are embracing and supporting each other.

Zodiac: Scorpio, Pisces, Cancer Element: Water Color: Blue



### Four of Grails

Upright: Meditation, contemplation, apathy, reevaluation Reversed: Retreat, withdrawal, checking in for alignment

Four of Grails often appears when you are bored or dissatisfied. You may be feeling disengaged, apathetic, or unmotivated. Life has become stale or 'flat' and there is little that excites you anymore. To overcome this, the Four of Grails suggests re-evaluating your situation and look deep within your own psyche to find understanding and meaning. Turn your attention inward to find the truth for which you are searching. Avoid outside distractions and examine your heart and mind to gain clarity. Similarly, the Four of Grails signifies disappointment in someone or in a situation. You may be growing tired of the same old struggle that has been carried on too long in the past. As a result, you have started to withdraw and go within yourself to seek greater peace and tranquility. Four of Grails is a call to action; it is time to wake up and to be open to new experiences that offer a more positive outcome.

Sad, contemplative, and looking inwards, the Dia de los Muertos connection is in the bones of the jaw, the skull-shaped grails, and the dead tree branches. "Death" in this case is a metaphor for your lack of feeling and passion. You are in a dormant state. Steampunk style "earring" suggests our culture's obsession with new technologies and perhaps our disillusionment with life "online." We need to look for something deeper.

Scorpios are known by their calm and cool behavior and their mysterious appearance. People often say that Scorpios are fierce, probably because they understand very well the rules of the universe. Scorpio is a water sign and lives to experience and express emotions. Scorpios hate dishonesty. They are always searching for deeper meaning and truth.



#### Five of Grails

Upright: Regret, failure, disappointment, pessimism Reversed: Personal setbacks, self-forgiveness, moving on

Five of Grails signifies difficulty, loss, and the challenges of dealing with that loss. Despite the fact that this card has a strong indication of loss and tribulation, there is a positive aspect that must be considered. Is your cup half full or half empty? Five of Grails represents a lack of fulfillment or non-attainment of expected results. You are feeling disappointed that a situation has not turned out as you had hoped. Instead of moving on, you are wallowing in self-pity and regret about what has been lost. Quickly becoming disillusioned with life and increasingly pessimistic about your future, forgiveness and the ability to recover after emotional loss are necessary. Reflect on what led you to this point and understand what important lessons you can take from the experience, so you will not repeat the same mistakes.

The image for Five of Grails shows five blue, skull-shaped grails (evoking the element of water and the Dia de los Muertos celebration), filled with red blood. The blood suggests her regret is more emotional than financial. Her face is painted with faint blue Dia styled make-up and a look of regret or pain, "mourning" though not surprised, as if this is not the first time.

The two zodiacs here are Cancer and Pisces, signifying an emotional relationship. This relationship could be a lover, parent, or friend who has caused disappointment. This card is an indication to learn from an emotional dissatisfying relationship. Why are you discontented? Try to forgive and move on. Forgiveness is not about forgetting or not allowing yourself to experience the pain, but rather moving past the event and using it as a learning tool to understand and not repeat the behavior.



#### Six of Grails

Upright: Revisiting the past, childhood memories, innocence, joy Reversed: Living in the past, forgiveness, lacking playfulness

Six of Grails is a card of innocence, childhood nostalgia, naive happiness, and reunion. You want to return to the happy memories of your past, whether as a child, teenager, or adult. Oftentimes though, these memories are of the past and reflect aspects of your life that have since vanished. You may feel the only way to connect to this happiness is to escape into the past where you can reflect on your happy and beautiful memories, but it is important you live in the present and accept your current circumstances rather than always living in the past. Six of Grails can represent a return to a familiar environment or to a childhood place: a teenage sweetheart or past lover may turn up again. Six of Grails radiates an aura of joy because it represents the past and with it some of your happiest memories.

The image for Six of Grails is of the "Abuela" which is Spanish for Grandmother. She is remembering a long ago love from her youth. The Dia de los Muertos celebration is all about remembering and honoring the people we love. Perhaps even her wedding day? Maybe longing for her own death/release in which she will be reunited with her love/husband who is already gone to the world beyond? Dia de los Muertos imagery includes skull-shaped grails and her Mexican embroidered dress. Marigolds are tucked into her bouquet and the Spanish tiles on the mirror that reflects her cherished memories.

The image of Pisces here is two fish joined together forever by an eternal bond, representing the bond between the two characters in the illustration. Pisces are the mutable water sign of the zodiac. They represent emotion, intuition, imagination, escapism, romance, and impressionism.



#### Seven of Grails

Upright: Opportunities, choices, wishful thinking, illusion Reversed: Alignment, personal values, overwhelmed by choices

Seven of Grails indicates the images in your mind must be dealt with not only in your dreams but in the world of reality. Be careful of wishful thinking or illusions. Seven of Grails is a dreamer who is able to see beauty and excitement, but also fear. If you are unable to let go of fear and overcome it, you will never be able to move forward and make those dreams a reality. Oftentimes this card shows choices and plans that have little or no basis in the real world. There is a risk of illusion. Protect yourself against unclear or wishful thinking. Avoid intoxication and escapism. Temptation is associated with Seven of Grails. This card can be a mixed blessing: some cups/grails hold a snake or demon. Be careful what you wish for, as you may just get it at a price.

Seven of Grails is a complex and very symbolic image. The blue, skull-shaped grails offer up positive and negative images, as they arise from the various grails: snake (wisdom), Aztec design tower (stability), and laurel wreath (victory), Aztec coins/treasure (abundance and wealth). These are fairly standard tarot images. Images that are not typical are the heart, which represents the companion, is usually depicted by a human head. The top figure of an Aztec glyph symbol of the "centered" Eye or Third Eye replaces the typical shrouded figure and represents the need for illumination. The dragon is replaced with a lion or cougar indicating supernatural forces.

The zodiac symbol of Scorpio painted on her forehead is representative of her mind and need for illumination. Scorpio always searches for truth and the meaning of life in all its different aspects. This water element card indicates an emotional personality who feels things deeply.



# Eight of Grails

Upright: Disappointment, abandonment, withdrawal, escapism Reversed: Trying one more time, indecision, aimless drifting, walking away

Eight of Grails is a card of change and transition. The card evokes an immediate reaction of sadness and sense of solitude. Eight of Grails indicates that it is time to ask yourself what you can do to bring deeper satisfaction and joy to your life beyond the pursuit of material satisfaction or physical enjoyment. You are seeking deeper meaning in life and focusing on your personal truth. You want to escape and pursue more profound and spiritual goals at this time. You are willing to let go of your material possessions in favor of something more meaningful. Thus, Eight of Grails is often reflective of the start of a journey to discovery, particularly on a spiritual level. Eight of Grails also indicates that you are disappointed enough to walk away from everything you have built up so far. It could indicate a disappointment in love or dissatisfaction with material success.

In Eight of Grails there are eight blue skull-styled grails. The grails are blue to indicate that this is a water element card. The one in front is spilling blood, indicating her emotional "regret." The others are behind her, as she is abandoning them. In a subtle nod to Dia de los Muertos is the black 19th century "mourning" dove necklace worn by Civil War era widows-which is shown around her neck and repeated in the flying doves. Eight of Grail's zodiac sign of Scorpio hates dishonesty and is always searching for a more meaningful and truthful existence.



#### Nine of Grails

Upright: Contentment, satisfaction, gratitude, wish come true Reversed: Inner happiness, materialism, dissatisfaction, indulgence

Nine of Grails represents personal integrity and completion or the final stage of development. Thus, Nine of Grails shows a tendency to daydream and enjoy the pleasures of life. While it is good to 'think big,' you also need to balance this with action to ensure that you can fulfill your dreams. Nine of Grails is also about counting your blessings, living in the moment, and enjoying the good things life has to offer. Nine of Grails can also indicate splurging and indulging in life's luxuries. Enjoying good food and wine, appreciating the arts, making love, experiencing beauty. Of course, balance is needed to ensure that you do not become lazy or greedy. Generally the upright version of this card suggests that this is more a time of enjoyment than of suffering the negative consequences of such enjoyment.

Nine of Grails shows nine blue skull-shaped grails encircling the figure as she sits on her Aztec-styled throne. Her expression and pose, blue velvet dress and the tiger at her feet reflect her spiritual contentment as well as show her material financial success: dreams realized, wishes fulfilled, comfort, happiness. She has achieved peace and satisfaction. Perhaps also she has come to a peace and acceptance with the idea of death. The blue in this card indicates that it is a water element card.

Pisces is symbolized by two fish swimming in opposite directions, but connected by a cord so they don't lose each other. It expresses the duality of Pisces. Likewise, it is a symbol consisting of two crescent moons and the line that connects them, representing two different states of mind and the link between them. This shows the balance and duality achieved by her spiritual contentment as well as her material financial success. These can both successfully achieved.



#### Ten of Grails

Upright: Divine love, blissful relationships, harmony, alignment Reversed: Disconnection, misaligned values, struggling relationships

Ten of Grails embodies happiness, joy, contentment and emotional fulfillment-particularly in the area of your relationships and family. All your dreams and wishes have come true and you are delighting in your good fortune. Given it is a Ten, this card indicates attainment of this idyllic state, so be grateful for the blessings that fill your life right now. This card represents a time when you are very clear on where your personal beliefs and values lie, and you have successfully created a life that is aligned with those values. You have to do what feels right to you and you only. As an intuitive person, you know that you can trust your gut feeling to guide you. Aim to seek out opportunities that make you feel fulfilled and that are aligned with your personal values.

On this card, there is a loving couple united by the bonds of true, everlasting love. This couple is in tune with each other, as she protrudes from a blue skull-shaped grail. Ceremonial roses of remembrance in bright colors (a nod to the Dia de los Muertos celebration) encircle the couple. They will always be true and return to each other. They know harmony, marriage, happiness, and alignment.

Ten of Grails uses the zodiac symbols of Scorpio and Pisces to represent the relationship shown. When Scorpio and Pisces make a love match, theirs is a splendid union of much respect and understanding. These mates share the same element-water. They also have keen insight into one another's mind and heart. They share similarly intense emotional natures, sensitivity to the undercurrents of life, and to the more ethereal magic of love. This is a relationship of harmony and fulfillment.

## **Daughter of Grails**



# Daughter of Grails

Upright: Creative opportunities, intuitive messages, curiosity, possibility Reversed: New ideas, doubting intuition, creative blocks, emotional immaturity

Daughter of Grails is asking you to explore your creative and emotional self, suggesting a new idea or opportunity. Your creative energy is flowing, and now the question is how you will express it? Daughter of Grails invites you to have an open and curious mind. It is with a curious mind that you will discover new aspects of your life and within yourself. Open your mind to all possibilities, especially those of a creative or intuitive nature. Dream the impossible dream and explore the magic of your fullest potential. This card often appears when you are being called to trust your intuition. Look for synchronizations and signs from nature to guide you on your path.

Daughter of Grails is a messenger, suggesting creative beginnings, inspiration, and synchronicity with your intuition and nature. On this card, there is a young woman holding a Spanish/Mexican style fan, her back and side of her face are painted in Dia de los Muertos skeleton paint. The grail she sits in is a blue skull-shape. Traditional marigolds of the celebration are present near the stem of the grail and in her hair, symbolizing remembrance and guidance. Her posture is demure and contemplative, as she looks inward to her intuition for guidance. Is death not an ending, but really a new beginning?

The Scorpio symbol is tattooed on her shoulder. Scorpio is very intuitive and creative. There is much that the Scorpio soul knows but even more that is sensed and cannot yet be defined. Scorpio lives under the water sign and lives to experience and express emotions.



Warrior of Grails

Upright: Creativity, romance, charm, imagination, beauty

Reversed: Overactive imagination, unrealistic, jealous, moody

Warrior of Grails is a romantic at heart. He is in touch with his intuition and emotions and shows compassion and understanding towards others. He is able to do so because he has learned to understand his own feelings and emotions. His heart is wide open, and he wears it on his sleeve. When Warrior of Grails appears in a Tarot reading, you thrive on all things beautiful and are inspired by the many creative outlets available to you. While Daughter of Grails was inspired by an imaginative idea, Warrior of Grails is motivated by action. You have dreamed about what it is you want to create and now are moving forward to make the dream a reality. It may be something you feel "called" to do based on your emotions, imagination and intuition. All Warriors are on a mission. When it comes to making decisions, Warrior of Grails is ruled by his emotions and his heart.

Warrior of Grails is seen turned away, looking inward towards his heart and inner wisdom. He wears a tribal-style tattoo on his back and the Pisces symbol is tattooed on his left or "creative self" arm. This Warrior has a more emotional and romantic nature and uses his full imagination. He is introspective and contemplative but not without action. The blue skull-shaped grail symbol suggests he is unafraid to fight to the death to make his/your dreams come true.

Compassionate, artistic, intuitive, gentle, wise, and musical, Pisces' ruling planet is Neptune so they are more intuitive than others and have an artistic talent. They are generous, compassionate, and extremely faithful and caring. People born under Pisces are the most tolerant of all the zodiac signs and have an intuitive understanding of the cycle of life.



### Queen of Grails

Upright: Compassionate, caring, emotionally stable, intuitive, in flow Reversed: Inner feelings, self-care, self-love, co-dependency

Queen of Grails is nurturing, caring, compassionate and sensitive. Embodying your "nurturing mother" energy-Queen of Grails supports others by listening with her heart and being compassionate. You are empathetic and can sense the needs of others by tuning in to your intuition. You hold the space for others to express their emotions and be their truest, most authentic versions of themselves. Queen of Grails indicates you are highly intuitive, creative, and in flow with the surrounding energies. In your creative projects and endeavors, you feel your way into them, trusting your heart and your inner guidance to lead you in the right direction. Be open to receive the intuitive messages flowing to you, be it through your dreams, meditation, or visualization.

The card for Queen of Grails shows a mother's spiritual love meant to guide us-emotion, love, creative, heart. A beautiful dark haired woman walks away from her throne. She appears emotional and introspective while gazing into her skull-shaped grail for guidance or wisdom. She holds a single rose (used to symbolize remembrance in Dia de los Muertos celebrations), while listening to her heart. Her Gothic-styled dress and hair give her a modern and edgy look.

The addition of two zodiacs, Scorpio & Pisces, suggests Queen of Grails could be consulting her grails for wisdom or guidance in a relationship of either parent and child or perhaps a romantic relationship. She relies on her intuition to guide her through any emotional rough patches, either for herself or when giving advice to others.



# King of Grails

Upright: Emotionally balanced, compassionate, diplomatic Reversed: Self-compassion, inner feelings, moodiness, emotionally manipulative

King of Grails represents mastery over the realms of emotion, creativity and the unconscious. When this card turns up in a Tarot reading, you have gained control of your feelings. You don't let things get to you, and you steer clear of the drama, instead choosing an emotionally balanced and calm approach. If you are being challenged personally, King of Grails suggests you need to remain emotionally mature when faced with negative energy from others. Be firm on your personal boundaries. This King uses his intellect to make smart decisions. Stay true to your emotions and feelings. If you sense that logic and emotion are out of balance, draw on the energy of this King to realign yourself.

King of Grails has a slightly "crazy/obsessed" look. The turbulent seas and small boat being tossed in the water symbolize his emotions as he struggles to regain control. He is wearing the Pisces or fish amulet and it dangles before the blue skull grail. This water element image suggests that ruling is hard emotionally. (Editor Note: this is a more "classic" interpretation with less reference to the Dia de los Muertos festival.)

King of Grails carries the zodiac symbol for Pisces and you can see it in both the amulet around his neck and above the king's head. The fish symbolizes spirit and creativity and represents the balance of the unconscious with the conscious.