

KNIGHT OF CUPS

Key Words: *the fiery aspect of water; surrender to beloved ones; capacity for giving; reaching higher emotional planes; spiritual relationships.*

The Knight of Cups has large wings with which he soars on his powerful white horse. He wears green armor, and the cup in his outstretched right hand contains Cancer, the Crab. The water sign Cancer can refer to familial relationships. But here the idea of family must be enlarged to include also any chosen relationships, especially those with spiritual connections (or spiritual communities).

The pale blue wings of the spirit uplift emotional relationships to higher levels of exchange and mutual understanding. The peacock, symbol of vanity, has also been uplifted. He unfolds his beauty and offers it, without haughtiness, to the service of the higher.

The green armor represents the Knight's highly creative ability to give expression to his deep emotions. The gifts he gives are expressions of his striving toward more and more perfect forms of emotional interchange.

Indication: You yearn for intensive interchange with those of like mind and like outlook.

Question: How can the interchange in your relationships be enriched?

Suggestion: Seek your true family, the community in which you feel at home. There you will find the quality of communication you long for.

Affirmation: I am finding the contact I now need.

The Knight of Cups is a visual representation of emotional loyalty, generosity, commitment, and unconditional love. Mythically, this is the "Knight and the Holy Grail." Of all the Knights in the deck, this is the only one which is not helmeted: a symbol of openness, trust, and the willingness to be seen, the very qualities that are needed in order to be emotionally spontaneous, out-reaching, and unguarded.

This is the winged Knight, who like Pegasus, the winged horse, offers emotional regard and spiritual upliftment. The white horse is a symbol of power coming from an integrated and spiritual source (the color white). The Knight of Cups wears the green suit which is symbolic of creative love. He holds the Grail, or loving cup, out of which a crab emerges. Cancer, the crab, is an astro-logical symbol that represents the quality of emotional loyalty and the ability to give emotional comfort, support and positive regard to others.

MASTERY OF EMOTIONAL LOYALTY AND COMMITMENT

The Knight of Cups is rising out of the emotional waters above the peacock, which represents love that has moved beyond ego and vanity (the peacock) and offers unconditional love that is spiritually healing and uplifting (the Knight and the Grail). In the West, the peacock is a symbol associated with Knight of Cups warding off evil and is also representative of vanity and ego. In the East, the peacock is associated with perception and vision and is seen as a healing omen; and in medieval hermeneutics, it was viewed as a symbol of the soul.

Range of Interpretation for The Knight of Cups

The Knight of Cups represents mastery of emotional loyalty, generosity, and unconditional love. The Knight of Cups reminds us of the healing power of unconditional love, acceptance and positive regard.

During the month of Cancer (June 21 - July 21), or from now until Cancer, is an ideal time to be open to emotional rewards and opportunities presented to you by significant older men or from Cancer people in your life.

For women, this symbol can represent the loyalty and commitment found within their own animus or dynamic masculine nature within. For both genders, the Knight of Cups can represent a reassessment of priorities, loyalties, and commitments for the purpose of eliminating shoulds and moving toward that which has vitality, heart, and meaning.

Ultimately, the Knight of Cups is that quality of the emotional nature which can forgive and extend compassion.