

## XIII ADJUSTMENT / JUSTICE

Key Words: Libra; balance, centering, equilibrium; balancing of opposites; justice.

This card portrays the sign of Libra. It is a fascinating picture of balance. A young woman (the feminine aspect to The Fool), holds the great magic sword between her legs and balances on her toes. Looking carefully, you will see that she is actually balancing only on the tip of the sword. Only absolute concentration and stillness, which come from finding one's inner center, will allow this condition of equilibrium to take place. The slightest distracting thought will cause her to waver and destroy the balance she has found, the balance that is the nature of the Universe.

The predominant colors are blue and green. Blue is the color of spiritual and intellectual powers, such as thinking, ideas, wisdom; green is the color of creativity, the power to put ideas into action. The downward-pointing sword lends a similar meaning. The powers of thought are directed toward, and put into contact with, the earth, and serve her. (See also Ace of Swords.)

The woman's shoulders are covered by the ostrich feathers associated with MAAR, the Egyptian god of Justice. Her face is masked, all her attention is turned inward. This makes her receptive to ideas and direction from the inner guide.

She bears on her head the crown of Thoth, the Egyptian god of Wisdom. Hanging from the crown are the large bowls of the cosmic scales, Alpha and Omega, with which the universe weighs all.

This card is a summons to avoid all extremes in your daily life. This may refer to emotional disturbances in relationships, or at work, in some creative activity, or in dealing with money. Total centeredness and inner balance are needed if the great new ideas arising now are to bear fruit. From a position of balance everything develops in a balanced way: in its place, given its appropriate value.

The storms of life throw us out of balance again and again. The constant change between being centered and uncentered is the process which teaches us to be more conscious from moment to moment in order to retain that inner peace and clarity when we find it.

**Indication:** Pay attention to what situations in your daily life tend to throw you off-balance. Discover the conditions under which you find harmony again. Carry this quality with you more and more as you move through your daily activities.

**Questions:** What helps you to reach your meditative center, and to stay there? What happens when you lose your center?

**Suggestions:** Take time regularly for some form of meditation which steadies you in your center. Breathe into the Hara center (a hand's width below the navel), and collect your energies there.

**Affirmation:** I am at rest in my own center.

Know thyself. Nothing in excess.

The Self is required to balance the self.

Ralph Blum, Book of Runes

Symbol represents the universal principle of alignment and balance. In most Tarot decks, this symbol is known as the Justice card, reflecting the principle of negotiation and truth. In the central portion of the symbol is a figure that stands in a diamond, having pierced the webbed veils of illusion, delusion, and deception. In Egyptian mythology, this central figure portrays Maat, the Goddess of Law, Truth, and Justice. This Egyptian goddess played an important part in the judgment of the dead, either herself or her feather was placed in the scales opposite the heart of the dead person in order to test its truthfulness.

In astrology, this symbol represents Libra, the scales. Within the scales are the Greek letters Alpha, representing beginnings and Omega, symbolizing endings or completions. The principle of balance requires that whatever is initiated or begun (Alpha) must be completed at some time (Omega). The scales are also symbols of legalities, financial balance, and business acumen.

The perfectly shaped circles or balloons are symbols representing formulated ideas or thoughts. This is the integrating, balancing and synthesizing mind which is often expressed through writing, research, and design. The Adjustment card is also the only card where the Ace of Swords appears on another symbol other than its own card. Here the Ace of Swords is facing downward, symbolizing the application of creative ideas in tangible, useful ways. The Ace of Swords in its own card represents the inspired, creative, and original mind. Within this symbol, the Ace of Swords (the creative mind) is being directly applied and brought to earth in realistic and practical ways.

### **THE PRINCIPLE OF BALANCE: JUSTICE / REALIGNMENT**

The four elongated pillars in the background of the card represent balance of health: mentally, emotionally, physically, and spiritually. The eyes of the figure are masked, symbolizing that ultimate guidance for balance and staying within one's center comes from within.

### **The Adjustment/Justice as Life-Time Symbol**

For those individuals whose birthday adds up to the number 17 or 8, the Adjustment/Justice symbol represents your life-time spiritual symbol. If this is your life-time spiritual symbol, you highly regard beauty, balance, and harmony in your life. You want things to be direct, simple, clear, and you have very little tolerance for situations that are complex, covert, and filled wit

intrigue. At different times in your life, you will attend to bringing balance into two arenas of your life (the scales) either in health or finances, or in presenting proposals in which other people can invest. Writing, editing and research will be another avenue that you might explore; or you might present original creative ideas in such a way that they can be used by many people. Inventions that would assist law, health, finances, and publications interest you, especially if they make things easier for people.

You will be drawn to Libra people (anyone born September 21 - October 21) because they mirror to you your own inherent love of balance and simplicity. Clarity is a quality that you reflect and also respect in others. Often this quality of clarity is reflected back to you by the Libra people in your life.

Nature is an important regenerating resource for you. The combination of water, greenery and sunlight is very healing to you at the core of who you are. This is symbolized by all the blue, green, and yellow on this card.

### **The Adjustment/Justice as a Growth Symbol**

Whenever you have the Adjustment/Justice card as a growth symbol, it is the best year to bring what has been out of balance into your life back into balance. It is a good time to balance financial and legal considerations (the scales), attend to health (the four elongated pillars in the background of the card), and to implement new ideas in practical ways (the sword touching the ground).

Adjustment years are good years to simplify your life. Often you might find yourself cleaning out basements, garages, closets for the purpose of letting go of clutter or unused items in your life. Clarity, order and balance become increasingly important to you during this year. Your own illusions, delusions, or self-deceptions will become intolerable, as will your ability to tolerate the deceptions or illusions of others. Truth and authenticity are qualities that you reclaim for yourself during this year.

Nature and being in nature becomes a healing and rejuvenating resource for you. The combinations of water, greenery, and sunlight bring a sense of balance and healing within your own nature. Spending time outdoors becomes a priority for you.

Libra people (anyone born September 21 - October 21) function as important mirrors and teachers to you during this year. It is the best year to resolve issues with Libra people in your life; or to learn from Libra people about the art and craft of balance that can restore simplicity and healing in your life.

### **The Adjustment/Justice as a Visual Affirmation and Meditative Symbol**

The Adjustment/Justice symbol best supports your intention to bring more clarity, balance, and simplicity into your life. Through meditation and creative visualization, The Adjustment/Justice symbol assists you in breaking through veils of illusion, delusion or deception. It is an archetype which can assist balance in healing, writing, legalities, and finances.

### **Sample Affirmations To Use While Looking at The Adjustment/Justice**

I am balanced and centered.

I value being truthful in difficult situations.

I honor my word and commitments.

The abundance and beauty of Nature is a reflection of my own nature.

### **The Adjustment/Justice as an Outer Mirror**

When you pull this symbol or find yourself continually drawn toward it, it represents in the month of Libra, or with Libra people in your life, that you are determined to restore balance, harmony, and simplicity in specific arenas of your life.

Within the next eight weeks or months is a good time to balance health, finances, and legal issues. It is an excellent time to present proposals, do grant writing, or execute and finish writing, editing and research projects.

Basically, it is important for you to simplify and balance that which is out of balance or chaotic in your life. It is a time where you desire and achieve clarity on important issues that you have been considering.

### **Other Symbols that Are Aspects of The Adjustment/ Justice**

The four eights in the deck are reminders of ways to stay in balance and ways where imbalance can be experienced. Ways to stay in balance are reflected by the Eight of Wands (swiftness) and the Eight of Disks (prudence). The Eight of Wands reminds us that any problem or block in your life can be handled by doing two things: by communicating directly and by taking swift action. The Eight of Disks reflects to us that the "harvest tree" is available if we are willing to use prudence and wisdom rather than pushing to make things happen or by resisting or holding back.

Imbalance is created by over-analyzing or doubting oneself (the Eight of Swords, interference) and by over-extending and depleting oneself (the Eight of Cups, indolence). The Eight of Swords is that tendency to create doubt, confusion, and uncertainty by over-analyzing everything. This mental pattern serves only to take us off balance. The Eight of Swords reminds us that during times of doubt and confusion, we must wait for clarity rather than to take action. The Eight of Cups reminds us that patterns of over-giving or over-extending ourselves will lead only to states of depletion, inertia, and indolence. Both the Eight of Swords and the Eight of Cups are mental and emotional patterns which can take us out of balance.

The Star symbol (the number 17, which adds up to the number 8) is an example of the principle of balance, justice, and clarity being expressed externally. The Star is a portraiture of what each individual is like when essential clarity and balance is radiating from within and is observable and appreciated externally. The Star is a symbol of internal self esteem that is

externally viewed as radiance and charisma that is neither inflated or deflated. It is that state of deep balance, harmony, and authenticity which is healing, clear, and inspirational. (See Adjustment constellation in Section VI for additional information.)

**The Gifts and Challenges for Persons whose Life-Time Personality Symbol Is The Adjustment/ Justice**

**Gifts:**

Adjustment/Justice (Balance; Clarity)  
Eight of Wands (Swiftiness)  
Eight of Disks (Prudence; Wisdom)  
The Star (Self-Esteem; Radiance)

**Challenges:**

Eight of Swords (Doubt; Interference)  
Eight of Cups (Indolence; Patterns of Over-Extension)