

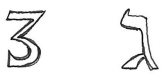








































How to use this deck: A skeptic of the tarot might ask of it, "how can an arbitrary system of signs claim to divine the future or the salient aspects of the current moment in a life?" Materialist Tarot answers with another question: "how can anyone fully inherit the arbitrary systems of symbols, claims, divinations, psychoanalyses, philosophies, languages, of our times?" Just as the contingent (the turning of a card) is part and parcel of the necessary, arbitrary systems of signs can solidify or congeal the world into something known or something new. The deck uses a numerology of ascending dimensions of experience drawn from kabalistic philosophy, the four suits are nothing more than basic propositions - the vital elements of a new materialism, and the royal family court draws on psychoanalytic concepts to describe the basic structures of consciousness. The trump suit, or major arcana, as in the traditional tarot deck, speaks of a human journey in which questions are asked in different ways to onself, to others, and to the world. The deck may be used in several ways: for divination, for introspection, or simply to gain clarity of one's situation.

The Materialist Tarot is a cynical yet whimsical take on tarot that turns to the material realities of our times. In place of the traditional suits, that speak to illusive worlds of forms, ideals, and wills, in the Materialist Tarot anything immaterial has already been used up, chewed up and spit out. Yet in these remains, in the ashes and fallen teeth, in the subterranean vestigal infrastructures, and in the crossed signals of our multimediated detritus, there are signs of hope. The Materialist Tarot is a deck that cuts a raw deal, cuts to the bone, and can be quite painful to confront, yet somehow has a reparative effect. It draws from a world that is posthuman and postessentialist and postidealist, yet is not paranoid about our futures. We must work with what we have been dealt.							Philosophy: Materialist Tarot is based on the proposition that symbolic representation is not simply a mode for understanding the world, but is the very existence of the world. Energy is radio waves, smoke leaves behind ash, water flows through the ground, our bodily lives depend upon the matter that makes up our bones, teeth, and guts. The Materialist Tarot shifts the metaphysical themes of tarot into material forms, taking tarot's archetypes and re-adorning them, giving them new form. It's symbolic structure draws on metaphors that are alive in the world, metaphors that are not simply indulgences we can partake of on occasion, but metaphors that we must live with at all times.								
MATERIALIST MT TAROT															
	ahistorical unknowing	binary opposition	subjective confrontation	relational self	personal essence	systemic complexity	selective discretion	harmonic dynamism	binding awareness	always already	generative before	manifest before	generative after	manifest after	
 Pipes qualia, passage, latent (through)	Becoming: Part and Parcel: binaries must be disregarded in order to begin	Bestowal: multitudinality is a give and take. to worship is to find direction and vice versa. don't be hindered simply because you feel lost.	Distance: disembodied visions that cross distances make those distances real to us. do your relations with another shine or obscure?	Enjoyment: employees must wash hands. ablutions have lost their ceremony.	Container: what holds water, surely floats. we find our way in and out of that which contains us but home is not only what we make it.	Rupture: you hold yourself together until you discover weakness: this is good	Alternation: a metronome only moves, doesn't count. how do you know when you are full?	Purpose: the plumber is on break. the porcelein throne is empty. necessity quenches a thirst for invention.	Production: the illusory oasis replenishes itself feeding nothing, while the sewer drain receives no regard.	Cycle: the churning of our internal organs is our vitality. a seed unplanted holds a force within. what disturbs and shifts gives forth life.	Growth: Pregnant with ideas? The offspring you may never know	Anticipation: Sign up for the future, but heed indications of the past	Sacrifice: Lasting reward comes at a price. Wait for your change or tip your shadow	Excretion: We produce in ignorance: our best work is just a by product.	
 Teeth rootedness the body potent (in)	Beginning: Home for a bit. Never for so long while the wind soothes the face	Impact: anesthetics dull the pain, pulling out the rot leaves a wound to heal. the binds we make out of necessity sometimes require brute force to loosen. other times we still need them.	Severance: getting to the root of the matter. changing one's location or occupation.	Dwelling: home is where the mouth is fed. where there's a bite, there's a way. what are your most basic needs? where can you fit, when can you loosen your grip?	Concern: its unmistakable the sound of bone hitting the linoleum, but the pain of the loss is hard to place.	Breakthrough: touch the tickle, poke the pain, only you know the rot that is ready to go.	Rest: self gratitude is a necessary ingredient for profound ease.	Prudence: why do humans have roots in their mouths and not in their feet? asks the snail. the precious stones we cherish grow lightly dim at nightfall.	Value: are you prepared for check out?	Chance: throw the dice. toss them in. you never know exactly what you give away until you do.	Disruption: Starts and Stops, hiccups and bumps: the flow will stop but in order to resume	Stoppage: Choked Up? Address yourself in new terms for the passageway to clear	Excess: In a world of way too much, there is never enough for us to share.	Consumption: The apple of theeeye and the carrot of the tooth. Loving blindly unsettles the stomach	
 Signals transmission media content (at)	Expanse: At what layer do we choose to engage? Judge? Act? Question?	Partition: drawn into and off from being. the phone rings. who is it? what do we see?	Reception: tuning and tinkering, at times tedious work, attends to worthy distinctions in the fields of your awareness. are you out there?	Array: multi modal, multi media, digitalia, organs without bodies. how many channels do you require?	Control: all is possible, the range is endless, yet channel surfing circular, and sometimes falls on deaf ears	Feedback: and we are on in 3, 2... play it again. each copy is a slight degradation.	Determination: the weather man is gone, so is the leprechaun. it's your turn.	Interference: hertzian tales are all around us, unfelt and unseen. we succumb to our own earthly noise.	Refusal: the smash is far less troublesome than the shards that fly away.	Focus: the mise en scene before filing begins. the gloves come off before the fight. how do you know your will?	Vision: Listening is a form of telepathy. It requires a speechless noise	Order: Games are boring without rules. Hold your fears close and play at your own risk/	Identity: Wearing your heart on your sleeve? For whose benefit?	Detachment: Learn to disengage or forever have the penultimate word	
 Ash energy decay intent (out)	Cause: If only for a moment, being truly at rest is without origin	Irrelevance: something we miss while we sit and wait. what could no longer be still includes us in its wake. the choices unmade still have to be done or undone.	Transfer: is this a picture or is it what we wish to see? try swapping positions with your inner analyst for a change in context.	Placement: how long have you been standing still? or did you just walk away? putting out light doesn't stop the clock.	Process: breaking it down into factors, inputs, outputs, leaves broken pieces. what have you taken in? what should you let out? is it time for a smoke break?	Coincidence: a hearth, what is warm, what nourishes, must first be found in their place	Deliberation: strike. stub. light. snub. crack your knuckles and try once more.	Simulation: all matters of light are light regardless how refracted. what is the truest source?	Setting: there is an order to the way we do things. question your faith in this order until you know it belongs to you.	Destruction: kindling can only go so far. when you see the signs for what they are.	Mediation: When all words are material, what is meaning?	Guidance: Opposites attract, but moreover, they are the same. Choosing to disobey, we obey all the same.	Resolve: Read up on lost causes or wait in the dark for answers	Invention: How does the smith forge his tools? Necessity istructures the flesh.	
 archetypal narrative history	 Impetus: no third eye resolves the contradictions we carry. what wills and ambitions, sayings and truths, missteps and attitudes, pull us along the forking path?	 Distinction: how do you know where your hands are without looking? when you face a choice what is worth examination and what is	 Proliferation: pregnant with ideas, things overheard, wishes unfulfilled, praying to the belly of the beast for realized potentials.	 Function: giving song to life, full lungs, seeing troubles, blindness. mirrors. lungs and eyes. seeing doubles action. breathing doubles life.	 Structure: what can you put back together again without the wisdom of your own piece	 Opening: whispering steps, light knocks, secrets held. por qua?	 Closing: limber up, grease the key. alone with your troubles, you cannot see.	 Diachrony: the hymnal for light begins unlit. its syllables begin with a hum. do not drown out what is still unknowable	 Specificity: speak. hear. shine. wait. point. you are the bearer of this truth alone. or cry out. go all in. bear no truth. wait for yours.	 Happenstance: darwin's eyes and platypus nose. the game of knowing only grows.	 Repetiton: Sisyphus was never late to work.	This deck is an art project and collaboration between a philosopher and a tarot reader. Rather than a deck which re-illustrates the common images of Tarot, this deck is the result of an entirely new conjuring of concepts. The basic matrix of the deck was arrived at by combining the 14 by 4 structure of the traditional tarot, with elements derived from earlier experimentation with rich symbolical illustration work and through skeptical conversations about tarot. The matrix was then filled in through a daily habit of conceptualizing each card through hand drawn illustrations, one at a time until the deck was complete.			
	 Ecstasis: to come away, to grow old with ease, to reach climax, to find self possession.	 Ending: It is only a shadow. The sickle moon was right. To try to gain the sun will only bring night.	 Synthesis: the body knows without need to synthesize: ears, nose, toes, and eyes.	 Veil: she held up her hands before her face in order to let the light in. ritual is a safety blanket.	 Chaos: Close the box to speak the language. Open the box to close your eyes.	 Completion: When are we done? How often does the beginning of the next task re-open our eyes for creation?	 Difference: Under the sun, difference is universal. Without its light, sameness is vacant	 Mystery: Certainty is most mysterious in a world of relativity. Behind the sun, the absolute begs our questions.	 Totality: With no room for real difference, a cyclical collapse ends with its own severance	 Multiplicity: Who is to say? And who is to ask all the same?	 Subjectivity: painfully and pleasurefully we arrive at growth and self nourishment. through what sacrifices, pinched nerves, tension points, gut wrenching decisions do we arrive at knowledge of self and world?				