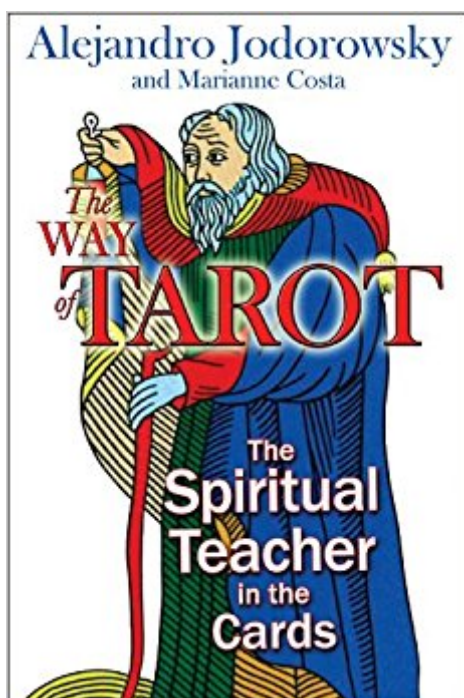


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# The Way Of Tarot: The Spiritual Teacher In The Cards



## Synopsis

Filmmaker Alejandro Jodorowsky's insights into the Tarot as a spiritual path • Works with the original Marseille Tarot to reveal the roots of Western wisdom • Provides the key to the symbolic language of the Tarot's nomadic cathedral • Transforms a simple divination tool into a vehicle for self-realization and healing

Alejandro Jodorowsky's profound study of the Tarot, which began in the early 1950s, reveals it to be far more than a simple divination device. The Tarot is first and foremost a powerful instrument of self-knowledge and a representation of the structure of the soul. The Way of Tarot shows that the entire deck is structured like a temple, or a mandala, which is both an image of the world and a representation of the divine. The authors use the sacred art of the original Marseille Tarot--created during a time of religious tolerance in the 11th century--to reconnect with the roots of the Tarot's Western esoteric wisdom. They explain that the Tarot is a nomadic cathedral whose parts--the 78 cards or arcana--should always be viewed with an awareness of the whole structure. This understanding is essential to fully grasp the Tarot's hermetic symbolism. The authors explore the secret associations behind the hierarchy of the cards and the correspondences between the suits and energies within human beings. Each description of the Major Arcana includes key word summaries, symbolic meanings, traditional interpretations, and a section where the card speaks for itself. Jodorowsky and Costa then take the art of reading the Tarot to a depth never before possible. Using their work with Tarology, a new psychological approach that uses the symbolism and optical language of the Tarot to create a mirror image of the personality, they offer a powerful tool for self-realization, creativity, and healing.

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## Customer Reviews

"A profound work that is both penetrating and fascinating. It offers thought-provoking commentary on the cards from a pair of authors who are among the world's most deeply knowledgeable authorities on the tarot." (Kooch Daniels, co-author of *Matrix Meditations*, Oct 2009)"The Way of Tarot is a very impressive work. Whether you agree with the authors conclusions or not, it will make you think outside of the box, and will perhaps be the impetus needed for someone out there in the Tarot world to connect the dots between their thoughts and present them for examination. . . . This is a worthwhile addition to the Tarot library of anyone that wishes to move beyond the divination aspects of the cards into self-realization." (Bonnie Cehovet, certified Tarot Grand Master, *Aeclectic Tarot*, Oct 2009)"An excellent all-around guide to both the nuts-and-bolts practical and the spiritual sides of Tarot, *The Way of Tarot* is filled with invaluable insights for Tarot practitioners of all skill and experience levels." (The Midwest Book Review, *Library Bookwatch*, Feb 2010)"The beginning of this book reads like a sophisticated treasure-hunt adventure. It also happens to include a history of tarot cards, which will be invaluable to people who are studying tarot seriously. . . . a reference they can go back to over and over again as they gain experience with the cards." (Anna Jedrzewski, *New Age Retailer* magazine, Feb 2010)"The purpose of this book is to show the reader how the tarot can be seen and used in a practical way that is holistic, balanced, and grounded. . . . *The Way of Tarot* can be a guide along this path." (New Spirit Journal, Vol. 5, No. 12, April 2010)"The beauty of this deck is that Jodorowsky puts aside the Kabbalistic and other Western influences upon the tarot and just studies the primal and bare gestures, numbers, and minute details . . ." (Indras Net, blog: *The Sync Whole;@The Heart of Jupiter-Evolve!*, Mar 10)

TAROT / SPIRITUALITY Alejandro Jodorowsky's profound study of the Tarot, which began in the early 1950s, reveals it to be far more than a simple divination system. The Tarot is first and foremost a powerful instrument of self-knowledge and a representation of the structure of the soul. *The Way of Tarot* shows that the entire deck is structured like a temple, or a mandala, which is both an image of the world and a representation of the divine. The authors use the sacred art of the original Marseille Tarot--created during a time of religious tolerance in the 11th century--to reconnect with the roots of the Tarot's Western esoteric wisdom. They explain that the Tarot is a nomadic cathedral whose parts--the 78 cards or arcana--should always be viewed with an awareness of the whole structure. This understanding is essential to fully grasp the Tarot's hermetic symbolism. The authors explore the secret associations behind the hierarchy of the cards and the correspondences between the suits and energies within human beings. Each description

of the Major Arcana includes key word summaries, symbolic meanings, traditional interpretations, and a section where the card speaks for itself. Jodorowsky and Costa then take the art of reading the Tarot to a depth never before possible. Using their work with Tarology, a new psychological approach that uses the symbolism and optical language of the Tarot to create a mirror image of the personality, they offer a powerful tool for self-realization, creativity, and healing. ALEJANDRO JODOROWSKY is a filmmaker who made the legendary *El Topo* and *The Holy Mountain*. He also is a psychotherapist and author of many books on Tarot and spiritualism, including *Psychomagic* and *The Spiritual Journey of Alejandro Jodorowsky*. MARIANNE COSTA has worked with Jodorowsky since 1997, coteaching workshops on Tarot and family-tree therapy. She is the author of *No Woman's Land*. Both authors live in Paris.

love this book. It is the tarot book I've been looking for. This is ideal book for anyone who wants to use tarot more intuitively and more for psychological help, guidance.

the mystery and mastery of comprehending this vast cosmology is expressed with a refreshing view that supports the development of one's unique journey through the looking glass in support of the intuitive approach to how one may refer to the tarot as an essential consciousness integration oracle.

This is a wonderful, original and thought provoking exploration of the Tarot. It deals essentially with the Marseille tarot but even intermediate and advanced RWS tarot enthusiasts would find plenty of original ideas and ways of working with the cards. Although both major and minor arcana are discussed in detail, the sample readings are all done with the major arcana. Product was well packaged and delivered within stated timelines. Highly recommended!

The greatest book on the tarot ever conceived. Prepare to have your mind blown!

Very original. Approaches it from his own experience rather than tradition. The interesting thing is he comes across much of what tradition teaches anyway, but not passively, since he discovers himself. Of course, there are other fruits of the tarot peculiar only to Jodorowsky.

I purchased this book a few months ago and, after browsing it, I decided to purchase the coordinating tarot card deck. I feel that the deck and text should be purchased together, as it's is

hard to conceptualize one without the other. The pocket guide included in the card deck isn't enough to fully understand the meaning of the card. The deeper I delve into this text and tarot, the more impressed I become. The symbolism, meaning, and personality of each of the Major Arcana and the explanations of the Minor Arcana are some of the best I've ever read. Sometimes, however, I do reference WikiTarot online in order to get a better understanding of how this tarot applies to the "real world." What I like MOST about Jodorowsky's tarot is hidden in the back of the text. He provides instructions on how to conduct significant, deeply meaningful spreads. These include The Realized Self and The Hero's Journey. Other spreads are included and I can't wait to do them. Without this text and tarot deck, I would not know that these large spreads or these specific ones even exist. The spreads I have completed have an uncanny accuracy when applied to my personality, past, and life path. Personally, they give me hope of a brighter future. In fact, the last card pulled the Hero spread (The Objective) and the Realized spread (The Secret) are the EXACT same card. Moreover, the Hero's Journey matches a similar divination spread I did with Blum's Viking rune set and his Book of Runes text. You may be interested in the NY Times article, When the Tarot Trumps All, by David Colman published Nov 11, 2011. Notice that the date is 11-11-11. Neato, huh? I can't directly attribute this to the divination tools because Spirit and energy plays a huge role, too. I compliment the divination tools with my own ceremony that I created in order to help me open up to input from beyond the veil. When I do my spreads, I do a ceremony of my own design. First, I thoroughly clean my home and body in order I prepare myself and my apartment to become a sacred space. I do this by smudging my apartment with Palo Santo wood and White Sage. I seal the doors & windows of my home with sea salt, sealing out negativity. After, I invite Spirit into my home by burning Sweet Grass, Frankincense, and Myrrh. I also power up my White Selenite and Himalyan Salt lamps. Furthermore, I light appropriate Reiki candles and burn incense sticks. I even include playing on low volume high vibrational music, such as Tibetan chant, crystal bowl, or Julian Forest. Once the vibe and frequency are firmly in place, I then verbalize to Spirit what I am about to do and ask for divine guidance. I even tell Spirit how many times I will shuffle the deck before choosing the card off the top of the deck. I shuffle with purpose and concentrate on the question or topic at hand. I hope this helps you as much as it has helped me!

I've just received this book. And with just a cursory flip through, I can tell this will be a most valuable resource. Do not hesitate if you are thinking of making the purchase. A must for anyone serious about the tarot.

This is probably the best description of the Tarot Cards ever written; however, nothing can take the place of the Tarot Cards themselves.

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