PATRICK VALENZA'S

ABANDONED ORACLE

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1. THE INFANT

A helpless infant waits for its mother under the glow of a random light-post. Unfortunately, it seems that no one is coming to take it home.

**Upright Meaning:**

**Reversed Meaning:**
A problem that has an elusive solution. Something lost that will be hard to find.

2. THE FERAL CHILD

An uncivilized child makes his home in the wild, feeding on himself when no other sustenance is available.

**Upright Meaning:**
An untamed or uncouth person. Someone unwilling to conform to the norms of society. A loner. Living life your own way. Self reliance.

**Reversed Meaning:**
Succumbing to cultural or social pressures. Docility.

3. HUSH

A young lad holds a bloody knife to his temple. Despite the gaping wound inflicted to his head by assailants unknown, the boy urges the viewer to keep this tragic situation to themselves.

**Upright Meaning:**

**Reversed Meaning:**
Revealing suppressed secrets to the outside world. Sharing grim thoughts or feelings. A time for mental healing.
4. THE ASYLUM

The gloomy asylum looms like a colossal tombstone atop a lonely hill. From within, tormented sounds of despair fill the night with agony and sorrow.

**Upright Meaning:**
An insane or chaotic environment. A place where abnormalities reign as the norm. Seeking help or refuge from a problem. Long standing psychological issues.

**Reversed Meaning:**
Tearing down or attempting to overcome a lingering mental condition. Realizing you may not be that crazy after all!

5. GRANDMOTHER

A wretched old hag cuddles a ragdoll close to her bosom. Though her doll is merely made of faded cloth, she cares for it as if it was her own flesh and blood.

**Upright Meaning:**
Assigning value or tending to something most consider worthless. Misplaced emotions. A delusional or unbalanced relationship may be forming.

**Reversed Meaning:**
Abandonment of worthless priorities or relations.

6. THE HAND

A fiendish hand reaches into oblivion, ready to do the Devil’s work. Four eyes emerge from the knuckles, eager to witness to the mayhem about to ensue.

**Upright Meaning:**

**Reversed Meaning:**
A foiled plan. Getting caught and perhaps punished for committing a crime.
7. INK

An elegant woman exposes her bare back to the world, confidently revealing an intricate array of artistic designs tattooed across her skin.

**Upright Meaning:**
Transforming one's own identity. Creating or expressing your beautifully unique reality. Permanence. May also represent the pain required to design the life you wish to live.

**Reversed Meaning:**

8. THE URN *(The First Gift)*

The curtains open, revealing a golden urn positioned nobly on the mantle. Inside lies the powdered remains of someone once loved by all.

**Upright Meaning:**

**Reversed Meaning:**
Disrespect. Wasting ones precious days. Ignoring the inevitable.

9. THE BEGGAR

A tattered beggar roams the streets, asking for handouts from the citizens. His presence reminds us to be grateful for what we have, lest we too end up in a similar unfortunate situation.

**Upright Meaning:**
Poverty or a poor mindset. May represent someone in need of assistance. Charity. A disruption in lifestyle. Desperate times or financial hardships.

**Reversed Meaning:**
Overcoming dire circumstances. Self sufficiency. Taking responsibility for the direction of your life.
10. THE CAT

The regal black cat sits patiently, waiting for her next kill. With eyes aglow, her keen vision pierces the night, revealing to her what others can’t see.

**Upright Meaning:**
Feminine power and intuition. Inner courage. Being ready to pounce on an opportunity. Bad luck or an unexpected twist of fate. May also represent an aggressive personality.

**Reversed Meaning:**

11. THE TWINS

Wielding sharp knives, a set of conjoined twins begin slicing their flesh in hopes of a permanent separation. Although the process involves tremendous pain, the split is vital to their growth and well being.

**Upright Meaning:**
A painful but necessary separation. Divorce or breakup. Independence. Severing emotional ties. Venturing out on your own.

**Reversed Meaning:**
The inability or reluctance to separate from a painful situation. Codependency with another to the point of losing one’s self.

12. RAIN

Spiders rain down from dark clouds on a gloomy afternoon. Regardless of this inclement weather, a beastly young man sticks his tongue out to sample the eight-legged drops, turning despair into a tasty treat.

**Upright Meaning:**
Making the best of a dismal situation. Refusing to let sad emotions ruin your day. Proceeding through life undaunted by somber events.

**Reversed Meaning:**
Seeking emotional shelter. Allowing uncontrollable circumstances to dictate your feelings. Drenching one’s self in misery.
13. INFECTION

A portly man exhibits the outbreak of an unknown ailment. What started small has quickly become a colony of skeletal boils that have rampantly spread across his face and body. If no cure is found, the poor man will soon succumb to this strange disorder.

Upright Meaning:
Sickness or disease. Something may get worse if left unchecked. Invasion. The spreading of foul thoughts or ideas.

Reversed Meaning:
A possible cure. Curbing the spread of a growing

14. DISMEMBERMENT

The limbs of a woman ripped to pieces float through the air in an orbit of pain. In time, she may one day have the power to gather her pieces and stitch herself back together again.

Upright Meaning:

Reversed Meaning:
Reorganization. Destroying something in order to reconstruct a better version.

15. THE CREMATORIUM

The roaring fires of the crematorium burn hot through the night, ready to incinerate the next batch of corpses. Clouds of black ash billow out of the smokestacks, spreading tiny particles of death across the land.

Upright Meaning:

Reversed Meaning:
Preservation. A warning not to act in haste. May indicate the need to hold on to something a bit longer.
16. **THE SPECIMEN** *(The Second Gift)*

The curtains part, revealing a bizarre creature collected on a foreign expedition. Having never encountered anything like it before, such a specimen will undoubtedly require further scientific examination.

**Upright Meaning:**
A prime example. Something that needs to be studied. Containment. Feeling cramped or restricted.

**Reversed Meaning:**
A particular aspect of something that doesn't represent the whole. An anomaly. Release or freedom from confinement.

17. **THE EYE**

From above, the omniscient eye beholds a violent crime occurring below. Although it is powerless to aid the victim directly, the eye can provide details that may one day lead to the perpetrator's conviction.

**Upright Meaning:**
Bearing witness. Spying. Seeing the truth at last. Clarity. Recording details. Surveillance. Viewing something you were not meant to see.

**Reversed Meaning:**
Turning a blind eye. Ignoring the truths before you. Missing important details. Not being vigilant.

18. **THE MADWOMAN**

A wayward woman scurries down the garden pass, searching for her lost mind in vain. Though confused by insanity, she is quite harmless, and poses no threat to those she encounters.

**Upright Meaning:**

**Reversed Meaning:**
Staying sensible. Predictability. Logical thinking. Allowing others to dictate your actions.
19. PLAYTHINGS

While exploring its surroundings, a curious baby encounters several small creatures romping across the floor. What seemed like fun quickly turns tragic, as the baby learns the hard way that these creatures are not something to toy with.

**Upright Meaning:**
Underestimating danger. Multiple problems attacking all at once. Feeling overwhelmed or outnumbered. Taking advantage of someone innocent.

**Reversed Meaning:**
Gaining the upper hand over your problems. Outsmarting multiple foes. Knowing when to avoid danger.

20. THE CURSE

An evil incantation hangs overhead, raining misery on a hapless man bound by a dreadful curse.

**Upright Meaning:**

**Reversed Meaning:**
Breaking free from a malediction. The dark clouds above will soon dissipate. Deliverance from evil. Bad luck coming to an end.

21. REFUSAL

A steadfast woman stands in a lake, refusing to accept or even acknowledge the proposals made to lure her back to shore.

**Upright Meaning:**
Rejecting an enticing offer. Knowing when to say no. Defiance. Maintaining one's integrity. Declining an invitation.

**Reversed Meaning:**
Giving in to the demands of others. Not being strong enough to say no. Manipulative persuasion.
22. TEARS

Tears of sadness stream down a man's face in an everlasting fountain of despair. With one eye swollen and the other completely shut, he can't see straight or think clearly through this time of utter sorrow.

**Upright Meaning:**

**Reversed Meaning:**

23. THE PLANT

An extraordinary three-headed plant flourishes on the hillside. Stemming from a heart sown in fertile soil, the plant grows more robust with every beat.

**Upright Meaning:**
Untamed growth. Wild passion. Creative collaboration. Ideal conditions that foster one's originality. Using innate talent and striving to reach your ultimate potential.

**Reversed Meaning:**
Withered passion. Restricted progress. The inability to cooperate. Opportunities limited by environment.

24. BACKSTABBER

The Queen gasps in horror as a surprise attacker plunges a sword through her back. Fatally wounded and betrayed, she withers in agony, wondering who could have possibly turned against her.

**Upright Meaning:**

**Reversed Meaning:**
25. THE CLOCK *(The Third Gift)*

Before us, the clock sits as a relentless presence on the ledge. Like the Grim Reaper’s scythe, the hands sweep across the face, cutting our lifespans down with each passing second.

**Upright Meaning:**

**Reversed Meaning:**
Wasting time. Ignoring the inevitable. Not using one's life to its potential. A temporary situation.

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26. BLESSINGS

The pious cleric bestows divine blessings on his grateful congregation. Those that receive such benedictions are now well prepared to march out and repel all evils.

**Upright Meaning:**

**Reversed Meaning:**
Condemnation. Disapproval. Wishing ill will on another. Falling out of favor.

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27. REVENGE

In a surprise attack, a vengeful woman slithers her tentacles around a sinister man who once did her harm. Having waited so long to reciprocate evil, she tightens her grip around his throat and suffocates him to death.

**Upright Meaning:**
Satisfying retribution. Violent retaliation. Avenging a past offence. Vindication. May also represent someone maintaining their rights.

**Reversed Meaning:**
28. THE BIRD
Choosing not to fly along with the others, a eccentric bird stands alone in a bleak field. Although invited to join the flock, he tends to feel anxious and extremely awkward in social situations.

**Upright Meaning:**

**Reversed Meaning:**
Wanting to, but being unsuccessful in joining a group or making friends. A social outcast. Being in the minority.

29. THE KISS
An ancient mummy bestows a kiss of gratitude upon the hand of a bewildered woman. As rotten lips touch succulent flesh, a vile poison begins spreading over the woman's skin, which will likely continue to circulate throughout her body.

**Upright Meaning:**

**Reversed Meaning:**
Purification. A cleansing. Eliminating bad blood. Something immaculate or sterile.

30. THE SHADOW
Seemingly alone in a gloomy alleyway, the madwoman defies the darkness by raising a burning candle in the air. The haunting glow illuminates the night, casting a mysterious shadow against the wall behind her.

**Upright Meaning:**
A dark personality trait coming to the surface. Revealing one's true-self. Exposing suppressed emotions and bringing them to light. Admitting a fault.

**Reversed Meaning:**
31. THE FEEDING

A starving flock of Death circles the sky in search of vital sustenance, but finds nothing. Fortunately, a generous hand appears from below to offer the starving creatures a bloody chunk of flesh.

**Upright Meaning:**

**Reversed Meaning:**

32. THE CYCLIST

Unconcerned by the presence of a violent storm, the Egg-Boy pedals his bicycle unhindered down a muddy path. As he rides along, beautiful ideas pop out of his head and swiftly fly off into the wide world.

**Upright Meaning:**
Determined focus on a goal or destination, regardless of distractions. Making progress despite the odds. Being productive in any environment. Commitment.

**Reversed Meaning:**

33. THE THIEF

Using a tall ladder to gain entry, a cunning thief unlawfully slips through an open window, intent on plundering the property that lies inside.

**Upright Meaning:**

**Reversed Meaning:**
Return or replacement of something that was once stolen or lost. Thwarting a crime. Outsmarting an offender. Foiling a plan. A time to be on guard.
34. THE SWAMI
A powerful swami raises his hands as he recites an ancient incantation. As he stares intently into his glowing crystal ball, he gains mysterious insight into situations others would be blind to.

**Upright Meaning:**

**Reversed Meaning:**
Limited awareness. Ignorance. The inability to see or predict what’s coming next. Poor planning for the future.

35. THE MUTANT
A grotesque creature roams the field; the likes of which has never been seen before. Made of multiple body parts in a haphazard arraignment, such a freak will undoubtedly have difficulty finding acceptance in the world.

**Upright Meaning:**

**Reversed Meaning:**
Something boring and predictable. Remaining unchanged.

36. ENVY
A middle-aged woman, green with envy, watches a youthful mermaid flourishing under a radiant sun. Believing her finest days to be far behind her, the woman longs to be young and carefree once more.

**Upright Meaning:**

**Reversed Meaning:**
Wanting the best for another. Satisfaction over what you already have. Admiration. Generosity.
37. THE BEAST

Hideous creatures sprout like weeds on top of a worried man's head; a manifestation of his fearful imagination. Possessed by these foul notions, the man's hijacked mind will likely lead him to ruin.

**Upright Meaning:**

**Reversed Meaning:**

38. THE MERMAID

Fatally wounded by hunters, a young mermaid slowly sinks to the bottom of the sea; her beautiful existence snuffed out before she had a chance to develop her gifts and share them with the world.

**Upright Meaning:**
Wasted potential. Killing or giving up on an idea before it has time to mature. Carelessly destroying something rare and beautiful. Environmental destruction. Impotence. Submitting to a more powerful force.

**Reversed Meaning:**
Deciding to fight through weakness. Slowly rising and gaining momentum after a loss. Relying on innate talents to keep you afloat during hard times.

39. THE SCULPTURE *(The Fourth Gift)*

The Fenwood Gallery proudly presents its newest acquisition for all the world to see! On display is a wicked sculpture molded by diabolical hands: the ultimate objectification of evil.

**Upright Meaning:**
Bringing a dark thought into reality. Using one's creativity in a malevolent way. Acting out sinful desires and fantasies. A depraved imagination.

**Reversed Meaning:**
Suppressing sinful ideas and keeping them to yourself. Limiting self-expression due to moral constraints. Censorship. Disapproval of one's creative designs.
40. THE DISGUISE

In an attempt to avoid the all-seeing eye floating above, a man hides his identity with a mask and moves inconspicuously through the city.

**Upright Meaning:**

**Reversed Meaning:**
Revealing your true feelings or intentions. Honest dealings. Transparency.

41. THE SPIDER

The ravenous spider dangles from her web, eager to catch and devour her next unfortunate victim. Below, the rotting bones of her past conquests lie stacked in a pile of inescapable death.

**Upright Meaning:**
Being preyed upon by a manipulative person. Perhaps it is you who preys on others! Becoming a casualty in a devious plan. Entrapment. Getting entangled in a bad situation. May also represent oppressive feminine dominance.

**Reversed Meaning:**
Escape from oppression. Not allowing yourself to fall victim to an insidious scheme. Avoiding a trap.

42. SURPRISE! *(The Fifth Gift)*

With a sudden explosion of confetti, a freakish toy clown bursts out of a box to the fright and delight of those in attendance.

**Upright Meaning:**

**Reversed Meaning:**
A predictable occurrence or expected outcome. Boredom. Repetition.
43. THE PHANTOM
Ectoplasm spews from the mouth of a woman under a psychic trance, taking the form of a gruesome spirit.

**Upright Meaning:**
A message or warning from the dead. Unsettled affairs may need to be put in order. A macabre hallucination. Nightmares. A figment of one's dark imagination. Repressed memories may be surfacing. Fear of death. An omen.

**Reversed Meaning:**
Putting the past to rest. Letting go of someone you lost. Ignoring a warning from beyond. Reluctance in believing the unexplainable. Looking for rational solutions.

44. POISON
Toxic fumes rise from an open bottle of poison. The putrid vapors pollute the land, leaving a wake of devastation and death in its path.

**Upright Meaning:**

**Reversed Meaning:**

45. VOICES
A tormented woman covers her head and tries to flee from the ghostly voices surrounding her. Unfortunately, these utterances will follow her relentlessly wherever she goes.

**Upright Meaning:**

**Reversed Meaning:**
Ignoring criticism. Not worrying what other's think of you. Listening to and following your own advice.
46. **BLASÉ**

A weary blue demon looks out over the ocean with indifference. Having caused trouble on every shore imaginable for eons, he has become bored with it all and has lost his passion for making mischief.

**Upright Meaning:**

**Reversed Meaning:**

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47. **DISTORTION**

A beautiful, yet mentally shattered woman peers at life through the shards of a fragmented reality. Her rambling cognition shifts moment to moment, leaving her with a skewed understanding of how the world truly works.

**Upright Meaning:**

**Reversed Meaning:**
Clarity. Truthfulness. Seeing through the nonsense. Sound judgment. Logical thinking.

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48. **TWISTED**

Two arms rise from the depths of a bloody swamp and coil tightly around each other. Being weak and unable to hold themselves up alone, they rely on each other for support in a convoluted interdependent relationship.

**Upright Meaning:**
Being emotionally entangled with another. Perhaps you are having difficulty trying to unravel yourself from a warped friendship. An unholy alliance. Might also indicate abnormal or degenerate behaviors.

**Reversed Meaning:**
Separation. Unwinding yourself from an unhealthy affiliation. This may be the time to straighten yourself out and seek independence.
49. COMBUSTION

In an explosive fit of rage, a young man abruptly bursts into flames. Though considered by most to be a reserved person, he can contain his fury no longer.

**Upright Meaning:**

**Reversed Meaning:**

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50. REATTACHMENT

After a violent dismemberment, a young woman gathers her limbs and does her best to stitch herself back together. Although she may never be the same again, her courageous decision not to remain a victim serves as an example to us all.

**Upright Meaning:**
Picking up the pieces of a disconnected life. Pulling yourself together after a tragic event and moving on. Building a new self and refusing to be defeated. Adapting to hardship.

**Reversed Meaning:**
Playing the role of a victim. A martyr looking for sympathy. Staying broken thinking it is beyond your power to repair your situation.

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51. The ELIXER *(The Sixth Gift)*

Revealed before us the possible cure to all our infirmities! Such a magical concoction is surely needed by the common people, however very few will even attempt to take a sip.

**Upright Meaning:**
A healing remedy. A priceless antidote to one's problems. An energizing and restorative combination. Something extraordinarily useful resulting from prolonged experimentation.

**Reversed Meaning:**
52. THE VIEWING
From the gates of paradise, a group of bereaved spirits views the Earthly remains of a recently departed loved one. Unfortunately, because of his sins, the deceased man’s soul will not be joining them in the afterlife.

Upright Meaning:

Reversed Meaning:
Atonement. Getting another chance before it’s too late. Setting the record straight. Restitution.

~EXCLUSIVE PREORDER BONUS CARD~

0. THE EGG (The Seventh Gift)
No longer an incubating embryo, a cycloptic creature smashes its burgeoning tentacles through his eggshell, eager to take on the world.

Upright Meaning:
The beginning of a grand adventure. The hatching of a creative idea. Monstrous growth has started, and nothing will stop it! May represent someone deciding to break free and seek their true potential in life.

Reversed Meaning:
Regression. Fear of the outside world. Limited personal growth and development.
USING THE DECK

The Abandoned Oracle is best read intuitively and can adapt itself to whatever spread you choose. Below are a few simple layouts to get yourself started.

BASIC THREE CARD DRAW

Ruminate over a particular aspect in your life as you shuffle the deck. Fan the cards across the table and choose three cards at random.

1. **PAST**
   - Events leading up to your present situation that you must reconcile with.

2. **PRESENT**
   - Current circumstances.

3. **FUTURE**
   - Likely outcome if you remain on your present path.

If you feel your future outcome is unfavorable, you may now choose a fourth "WHAT IF" card which can show what must be done to create a new possibility.
THE FENWOOD FIVE
CARD SPREAD

This is a favorite spread here at the Asylum! The querent ponders a particular worry as the reader lays the cards in the sequence pictured below.

4
What can I be grateful for?

5
What do I need to learn?

1
Current Situation

2
What am I suppressing

3
What am I neglecting?

Of course, there are thousands of different spreads you can use! Pick one that best suits you!

Below is a link to numerous spread variations:

INTERNET SPREAD SEARCH

Thank you, as always, for your support!

Sincerely,
Patrick Valenza
Warden, Fenwood Asylum