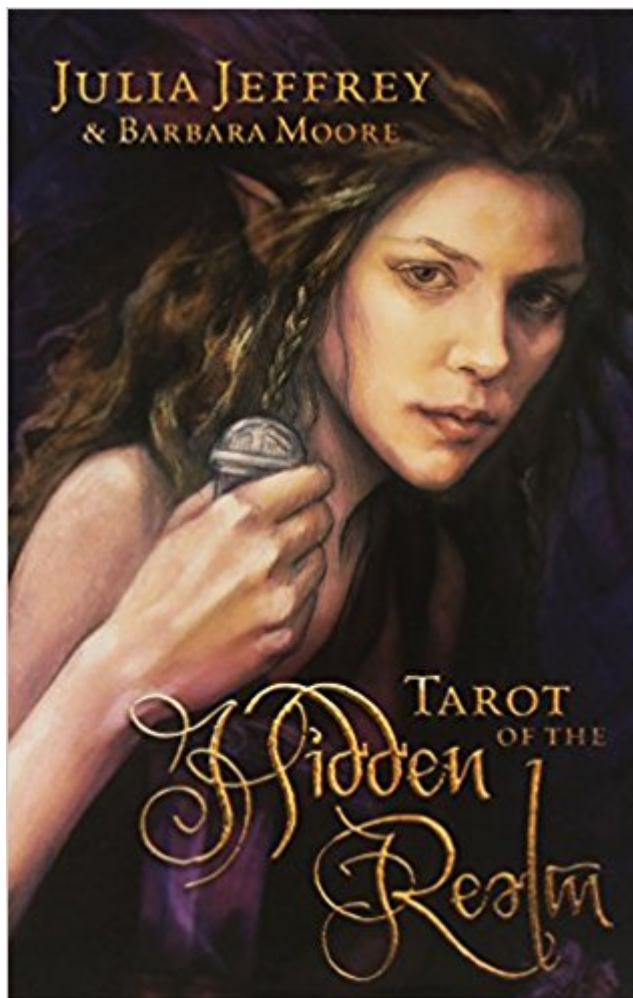


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# Tarot Of The Hidden Realm



## Synopsis

Evoke the powerful wisdom of the fae with the Tarot of the Hidden Realm. Instead of relying on esoteric symbols, this powerful deck uses the raw elements—water, air, fire, and earth—to speak directly to your emotions. The beautifully drawn figures follow the Rider Waite style, but express more energy and movement, drawing you in even as you draw their truths out. The companion guidebook reveals techniques and card meanings for beginners and more experienced readers alike.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Julia Jeffrey (Scotland) is an artist and illustrator with an impressive body of published work. In the early 1990s, at a party, someone put a tarot deck in Barbara's hands; she's held on tightly ever since. Tarot provides just enough structure so that we don't get lost as we explore the mysteries, plumb our dark corners, and locate our North Stars. Barbara has been reading and writing for as long as she can remember. She's published a number of books on tarot, including Tarot for Beginners, Tarot Spreads, The Steampunk Tarot, The Gilded Tarot, The Mystic Dreamer Tarot, and Tarot of the Hidden Realm. Writing is solitary work and is relieved by teaching tarot at conferences around the world. Barbara also loves working directly with clients, helping them uncover guidance and insight in the cards. Connect with Barbara online at [www.tarotshaman.com](http://www.tarotshaman.com).~

Of all my decks, this is my favorite. Stunning images, bright colors. The photos don't do it justice. The cards are normal tarot size, sturdy, and a little bit thicker than the others I have. The

book is a nice companion, since some of the meanings differ slightly from the Rider Waite Tarot. The only flaw I found is the box. It won't last long, and the deck has no safe place to be put inside after you take the plastic wrap.

I'm not a Tarot card reader; I bought this for the 78 mystical, fae paintings by a favorite, acclaimed artist. I'm not disappointed, I'm in heaven! Exquisite, enchanting, extremely personable and alive faces grace both the gratifyingly high quality cards and are also repeated in each of the book's entries. The writing is simple and easy to understand, even for this barely familiar reader, but also detailed and so interestingly laid out that I will, for the first time, attempt to learn Tarot. I can recommend this purchase confidently and enthusiastically.

Three seals playfully swoop through the water as a pretty girl floats just below the surface in a yellow-green sea, drifting, arms out, head turned down. Interesting, I thought, as I mentally compared this to the traditional interpretation, with the fourth cup hovering just out of reach. Is she looking down towards the fourth seal? I gazed into the image, felt her body as it twisted in the currents and realized, she is the fourth seal, her transformation just out of the frame of the picture. She is the selkie, the mythological beauty who sheds her sealskin to sunbathe on the rocks, enticing fisherman into tragic romances. Thus I discovered the Tarot of the Hidden Realm, by Julia Jeffrey, Artist and Creator, and Barbara Moore, Author. The cards, published by Llewellyn, are a standard size, a little thin, but no over-zealous laminating. They are easy to shuffle. Three sides are borderless with a simple title across the bottom, allowing the characters to interact with each other, gesturing one to another or gazing into an adjacent scene. The backgrounds of each scene depict natural environments, weather such as sun or storm or wind, or moody and stylized decorations. The backs (non-reversible) have an intriguing root-like knotwork pattern that curves into hearts and sweeps up into dragon eyes. As a rule, I don't refer to the books that come with decks, but when I do, I usually am looking for an answer to a specific question, such as what animal is that, or what is that person holding. But the book by Barbara Moore is not only well written, knowledgeable and informative, it is also evocative and highly descriptive, truly serving as a guide, sharing intimate knowledge of this realm. These cards feel to me like they reflect the influence of the Rider-Waite-Smith (RWS) lineage without being bound to it. You catch a glimpse of the poised concentration of a woman with blazing red hair as she turns past you, raising bow, arrow nocked, quiver on her back. (Eight of Wands) You look up from the dancing flames as a powerful, bare-chested man furrows his brow in concentration, raising a golden pentacle with iron tongs.

(Eight of Pentacles) Two young blonde women in pale yellow gowns look curiously at you as you interrupt the conversation they hold with a third who has not yet seen you. One raises a cup in welcome. (Three of Cups) Blood drips from a thorn-pricked hand, stains her diaphanous white gown, and she loosens her grasp of the deep red roses as she looks up and away, the wind of a stormy sky lifting her thick brown locks, crowned with a circlet of pink flowers. (Three of Swords) Some cards break from traditional imagery. Four blue butterflies flit above the shaggy hair of an ivy crowned girl. She looks over her shoulder with patient eyes. (Four of Swords) Water droplets spray as a gray sea rises in a deep, curving wave, crested with five horses stretching and bucking toward their destination. A tattooed woman the color of the stormy ocean displays a resolute profile. (Five of Cups) Six glowing dragonflies circle a woman decorated with tattoos of intricate knotwork and twisting flames. Her wild red hair extends in a thick ruff of mane around her head. Her arms windmill as she turns-- or falls-- in her dance or summoning. (Six of Wands) Some cards are intriguing, disturbing, complicated. A male child with ten red flames circling his arm and ten red teardrops flanking the red ink mask on his face clutches a tangerine to his bare chest. His vulnerable eyes look out, his back against a red wall. (Ten of Wands) (Upon consulting the book, I find that Barbara Moore says he is holding a phoenix egg.) A beautiful but wild woman in a chestnut colored gown lifts her strong chin as she tilts her head up, her gaze skyward, as seven reddish budding branches stick out of her disheveled hair like sprouting antlers. (Seven of Wands) Not only in the Seven of Wands do person and animal seem to merge. The Page of Pentacles distorts her young body into a bestial crawl as her snaky dreadlocks tumble over her shoulders. A man dances in the costume of a phoenix in the Nine of Wands. My favorite is the Four of Cups, the graceful woman undergoing her hidden transformation into the seal, the myth of the selkie. Other myths are also represented. Odin and his ravens are depicted on the Emperor card. The Mārrgān and her crow mirror each other as they fly forth in the Death card. And I wonder if the Strength card depicts Hel and her wolf-brother, Fenrir. Some of the Major Arcana are renamed, including the Faery Stallion for the Chariot, the Fortune Faery for the Wheel of Fortune, Shadowdance for the Devil, the Blasted Beech for the Tower, and Life Renewed for Judgment, a young girl standing among the oak leaves and holding out an acorn that has begun to sprout. Animals, birds and insects share the scenes with the natives of this realm. The Star is a favorite, as a fairy child gazes in breathless wonder as a butterfly floats towards outstretched finger. The Aces are all animals--the cunning red fox for the Ace of Wands, a playful and affectionate otter for the Ace of Cups, a sharp-billed heron for the Ace of Swords, and a safe but curious hedgehog for the Ace of Pentacles. Every person is absolutely real in this deck, each scene expressing action and emotion. The animals, tattoos, pointed ears, and

often unkempt hair show the freedom and elemental forces of the fairy kingdom. Every person is beautiful, each in their unique way. A variety of ages is represented from young children through gray haired elders. The deck lacks racial diversity, as does the folklore and peoples of the northern climes that these images derive from. It is not unusual to feel a sense of androgyny from many of the inhabitants of the Hidden Realm. The cards read beautifully and the characters' clear affect and captured moments let the story unfold easily and naturally. This is a lovely, powerful and magical deck ready to share its stories. The cards have a deep sensuality to them, although actual nudity is limited to only the World card. But there is a magnetic chemistry to the impending kiss between the flower crowned blonde innocent and the fae with skin the color of an oak leaf after the first frost. It seduces her--and us--into this kingdom of leaf and tree, where a tendril binds her hand, and a tiny pink rose opens its petals for us to see. The Tarot of the Hidden Realm is an artful, soulful and tantalizing deck, simple yet deeply personal. The sensuous detail allows us to easily cross into the twilight kingdom, to discover and share the heart-filled and heart-rending moments that we weave like flower garlands into the stories of our lives.

These cards are beautiful. Full of whimsy and grace. A peek into that other world I am sure exists somewhere! I truly cannot remember the last time I received a new deck where I LOVED 77 of 78 cards. And that one card still fits, it just not my favorite. Actually, I was ready to be disappointed. It's all too common these days to see a few gorgeous images on-line and excitedly expect some consistency with the art, only to be left wondering "what the heck"?! That is, happily, not the case here. The coloring is perfection. Not bright and glaring, but not too muted either. Also the spectrum of color is wonderful. When softer toned decks use the same few colors over and over in each card it becomes lackluster and dull. Nothing pops. These cards have no borders and the up close art just pulls you right in. Don't let the fairy theme fool you. These cards are a perfect balance of light and dark. Nothing fluffy about them! Not that I won't be using them year round, but these are just so perfect for the fall. It's inspired me to create a special cloth just for laying these cards on! Kudos to this amazingly talented artist! Thank you for creating this deck.

This is a beautiful hand drawn tarot deck, that I definitely gonna work with. I can't find another word for it, but crisp. Very intuitive and very deep. I dive head into this unreal forest and find myself being there as some weird elf, talking to the trees-)) It comes with a high quality guide book by Barbara Moore. All images except Ases have people or mystical creatures on them, on ases you have cutest animals, deck is very celtic-druid, well printed and nice packed. I am happy-)))

This is a beautiful deck. The artwork is exemplary. The images pull you right in and make you feel as though you are being pulled into a different realm. The only complaint I have about the images is that there is no symbolism in them. This is definitely going to be a 100% intuitive deck. The card stock is good and the feel of them in my hand is great. I recommend this deck to tarot readers and collectors. I wouldn't recommend it to anyone just starting out on their path of tarot though. It does not follow the RWS format. Oh, and the book that comes with it is well written, detailed and informative.

What can I say, other than I truly LOVE these cards! I was really looking for a more earthy, yet intense deck, and after much research I decided to add these to my collection. The artwork is outstanding, and each image is so captivating. The card stock is above and beyond what I had expected for being a mass produced item. Very nice to hold with a nice shuffle. The only thing I would recommend after purchase, is to buy your own cloth pouch, or little box to keep them in since the box is pretty big, and the cards have some room to slide around. The book is equally as great, and the interpretations of the cards are done very nicely. A big thanks to Julia Jeffrey and Barbara Moore for such a beautiful creation! Will be among my favorites for many years to come....

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