

Tell me a Story

By Pamela Steele and the Wizard's Pets Tarot

From the beginning of the Time of Man, stories have been for learning, teaching, and relaying valuable information. Before the written word, there were cave and rock paintings to help the storyteller remember the key points. There began the original 'Cliff Notes.'

As we master the art of tarot reading, our presentations gradually evolve into a story format. Each position, each card becomes a few sentences or a paragraph of the client's personal story. Your readings become more engaging and memorable, depending on your skills as a storyteller.

This workshop is designed to help sharpen and polish your skills as a tarot reader using story-telling to enhance your delivery. We use the Celtic Cross 10 card spread as our game board. This exercise will help you get comfortable with the spread (many have mentioned that they have issues with it) and help you further develop your reading style.

- First, gather a few divination decks and ten poker chips.
- Take number stickers and number the poker chips 1 through 10 and put them in a bag or a sack that you can comfortably fit your hand inside.
- Then, gather ten friends who may or may not be tarot enthusiasts but want to hang out, have coffee or cocktails, and have fun. Each person should have a tarot, Lenormand, or Oracle deck. If there's not enough to go around, you can share. It's best to be sitting in a circle where you can see and encourage one another.
- The poker chips are fun, reusable, and were the most obvious way of drawing numbers without tiny scraps of paper.
- Pass the bag of poker chips around with each person drawing one chip. The number on the poker chip corresponds with the number on the Celtic Cross spread for that part of the story. Each position and each card builds on the previous card and position to give depth, detail, and substance to the story.

*No poker chips were harmed during the creation of this workshop.

About the Author/Artist

Pamela Steele began this incarnation in Oklahoma, USA. She has to take this on Faith as she was much too young to remember. After over six decades of mostly poor decisions, Pamela now resides in Canada, Eh? There she works as a tarot reader, artist, and massage therapist who dreams of retiring, but it's more a pipe dream than an actual possibility due to the first six decades. Pamela is Cat-Dragon-Horse People whose love of tarot, or obsession with tarot, whichever you prefer, has driven her to apply her talents to create the Steele Wizard Tarot, the Wizard's Pets Tarot, and the Eternal Seeker Oracle.

“Tell me a Story”



with Pamela Steele
and the
Wizard's Pets Tarot

The poker chip you have drawn is numbered.
The number on your chip corresponds to the
numbered part of our story that you will be
relating to the rest of the group. Ready?

Let the Saga Begin!



(ok, you can turn the page)

The art of tarot reading begins with lovingly yet laboriously examining each card in detail, comparing what each of the masterfully written books tell you about what it should or could mean, while keeping detailed notes and a daily journal of your studies.

Eventually you become comfortable with your readings and begin to read for others. As your experiments in tarot evolve they generally morph into practicing on friends and family members. Finally, you may take the proverbial plunge and begin to read for The Public. Here's where you will develop and hone your personal reading style and build your clientele. Now is when you learn to tell the person whose cards are on the table, their Personal Story. You've learned to see the cards in context of the whole. You are able to weave the Story around the person, delve into the foundation, explore the influences, examine the possibilities and draw reasonable conclusions as to what comes next. Your readings are smooth, flawless and entertaining as well as engaging.

Here, you have mastered the Art of Tarot Story-Telling.

Story-telling, according to Wikipedia, "is the conveying of events in words, and images, often by improvisation or embellishment. Stories or narratives have been shared in every culture as a means of entertainment, education, cultural preservation, and instilling moral values. Crucial elements of stories and storytelling include plot, characters and narrative point of view. The term 'storytelling' is used in a narrow sense to refer specifically to oral storytelling and in a looser sense to refer to narrative technique in other media."

Further, from a historical perspective; "Storytelling predates writing, with the earliest forms of storytelling usually oral combined with gestures and expressions. In addition to being part of religious ritual, rock art may have served as a form of storytelling for many ancient cultures. The Australian aboriginal people painted symbols from stories on cave walls as a means of helping the storyteller remember the story." As there are no handy caves in our area, and the hotel would frown on petroglyphs decorating their walls, no matter how talented and creative the art may be, we will be using a tarot, Lenormand or Oracle of your choice to participate in this workshop.

- 1.The Plot: Exactly what is the situation? What's going on?
How deep is that pile?
- 2.The Hero/Heroine: This card describes and defines our main character. Perhaps physical characteristics and/or where they are emotionally or mentally. Maybe even a bit about their passion? But essentially, this card tells us about our Person.
- 3.The Motivation: What is driving our Hero? Fear? Money? Power? A 1957 Chevy? Hunger? Greed? Jealousy? Love? Desire?
- 4.History: A bit of background. Much like when the narrator steps out from behind the curtain and enlightens the audience as to Paul Harvey's Rest-of-the-Story as the actors do a freeze-frame in the action and dialogue.
- 5.Purpose: What does our Heroine have in mind? What is his Plan? What brilliant idea is brewing that brings great fortune? Or what stupid trick is about to be performed that promises dire consequences? What did that fortune cookie's little piece of paper have written on it?
- 6.Surprise!: What the Gods and Goddesses dump while our Heroine has been busy making plans. The unexpected, unexplained, un-called-for event or otherwise out-of-left-field encounter. Maybe good, maybe not. The event become our Hero's circus and thereby his monkeys.
- 7.Deep Dark Secret: Ok, spill. What is not being said? What is so well hidden the Hero can't see it for herself? What is behind that mask? Why does she keep pointing up and shouting 'LOOK!' when there's nothing to be seen?
- 8.Support Group or Peers: Does our Hero have a cheering section? Are there scantily dressed maidens wielding pom-poms on the side lines? Is her mother saying 'I told you so!' on the other end of the phone line? Is he really adopted?
- 9.Epiphany: Out of the blue, an idea forms that will enable our Heroine to find resolution. His own wits and guile will come into play and a Way will be found. This will involve looking outside the box, bun or other boundaries.
10. The Eureka Moment: Here we have resolution and restitution. Now our Hero will be at the next phase of her Journey and dealing with a whole new pile of bones.

