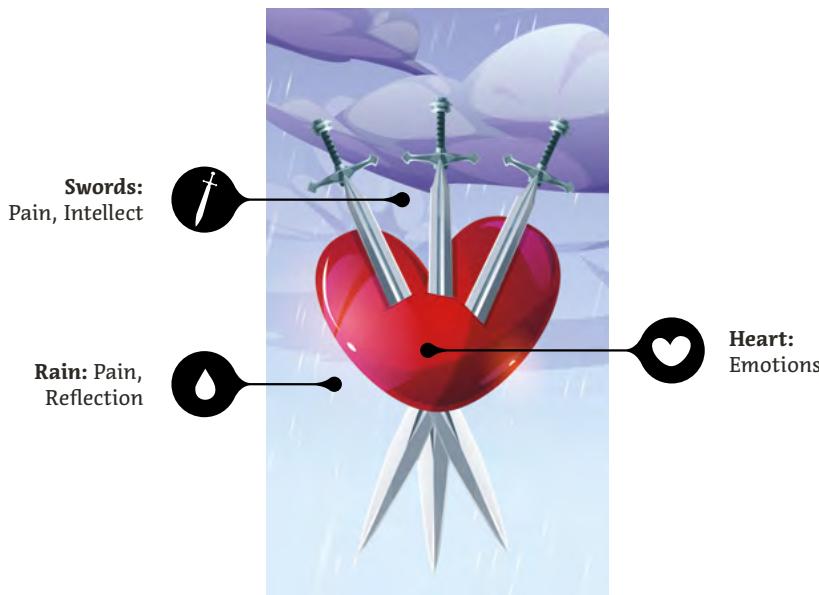




THREE OF SWORDS

M I N O R A R C A N A



Yes/No Reading:

Yes No Maybe

Names in Other Tarot Systems:

Golden Dawn: Lord of Sorrow

Tarot of Marseilles: Three of Swords

Thoth: Sorrow

			3, 12	3
PLANET Saturn	ZODIAC Gemini, Libra, Aquarius	ELEMENT Air	NUMEROLOGY	COUNT

Upright: Grief, Separation, Heartbreak, Sorrow, Emotional Pain, Alienation

The upright Three of Swords embodies themes of sorrow, heartbreak, and emotional pain, signifying a difficult period marked by grief, disappointment, or the sting of betrayal. This card reveals the hurtful words, actions, or realizations that have cut to the heart and left wounds that might be raw and fresh. It underscores the emotional toll such experiences take on our spirit, resulting in loneliness, loss, or anguish.

Despite its negative connotation, the Three of Swords conveys a deeper message of healing and growth. Although painful, these experiences often lead to profound personal insight and eventual healing. Though the wounds are evident, they mark the beginning of the healing process and moving through the hurt toward eventual recovery and understanding. Essentially, this card encourages acknowledgment of the pain, its origins, and the importance of processing and moving forward. Ultimately, the stormy clouds will give way to clearer skies, leaving a deeper understanding and insight behind.

Reversed: Recovery, Forgiveness, Optimism, Letting Go of Pain, Compromise

You're in a period of healing and reconciliation. There's a transition from acute grief to a more reflective and understanding state. When reversed, this card signifies the release of past hurts, forgiveness, or the strength to move on from a painful situation. The downward movement of the swords represents the removal of emotional burdens and the start of the healing process.

However, the reversed Three of Swords should also be a caution against suppressing or avoiding emotions. While it does indicate healing, there is a risk of prematurely pushing aside feelings without fully processing them, which can result in unresolved emotional baggage. It is essential to ensure that the recovery process is genuine and not just a superficial avoidance of emotional pain. Sometimes, it suggests lingering resentments or unresolved issues that need addressing before true healing can occur. The card emphasizes deep introspection, acceptance, and genuine emotional release for true recovery.

Upright Interpretations

General Reading: You might be experiencing a period of sorrow, disappointment, or heartbreak. This could be due to unforeseen events, betrayals, or realizations that challenge your emotions deeply. It's a time to acknowledge your feelings, process them, and find ways to heal.

Love Reading: You're experiencing heartbreak, separation, or misunderstandings in a relationship. There might be a betrayal or the surfacing of painful truths. For singles, it may suggest lingering pain from past relationships that affects current emotions or readiness for new love.

Health Reading: You might be feeling emotional stress that's impacting your physical health, or perhaps the mental strain of dealing with a health issue. Ensure you address both emotional and physical well-being, seeking support when needed.

Career Reading: There could be disagreements, unexpected setbacks, or the realization of hard truths about your job or colleagues.

Reversed Interpretations

General Reading: You are entering a phase of healing and recovery, potentially mending from past hurts. Alternatively, you might be avoiding or suppressing certain emotions, which could lead to unresolved issues. It's essential to ensure emotional processing is genuine.

Love Reading: Healing is on the horizon for relationships that have experienced turbulence. Forgiveness and reconciliation might be possible. For those single, it indicates moving past previous heartaches and becoming open to new romantic possibilities. However, ensure you're not overlooking unresolved emotions.

Health Reading: There's a potential for improved emotional well-being or recovery from a health-related setback. Stay mindful of repressed emotions, as they can resurface in the form of physical ailments.

Career Reading: Resolution and healing from previous workplace issues or conflicts are indicated. There's potential for improving work relationships and mending bridges. On the other hand, ensure you're not in denial about workplace challenges or issues that need to be addressed.

The Three of Swords depicts three swords piercing a heart, evoking pain, heartbreak, and sorrow. The heart-piercing imagery reflects the emotional anguish that hurtful words, thoughts, or revelations can cause. It could signify a betrayal, separation, or a hard truth that cuts to the core.

The card's backdrop often portrays rain and stormy clouds, emphasizing the themes of grief and sadness. Rain represents tears and emotional release, while tumultuous clouds symbolize heartbreak and emotional turmoil. The setting accentuates the sense of a trying period fraught with despair and sorrow.

The swords' arrangement, usually directly and straightforwardly, represents the blunt and unequivocal nature of the pain or realization. The arrangement leaves no room for ambiguity; the hurt is apparent and undeniable. In Tarot, the number three indicates growth, expression, and expansion. Personal growth and more profound understanding are possible through experiencing pain, even if it initially feels heart-wrenching.



ZODIAC: Gemini (May 21 – June 20) is an Air sign ruled by Mercury. The dual nature of Gemini embodies a mix of yin and yang, and Geminis often feel as though they have two distinct sides.



Libra (September 23 – October 22) is an Air sign ruled by Venus. Libras often strive for harmony and balance in their lives.



Aquarius (January 20 – February 18) is an Air sign ruled by Uranus. Aquarians are self-reliant, analytical, independent, clever, and optimistic.



ELEMENT: Air represents logic, intellect, and communication. The intangible element is considered to be active, masculine energy. It is associated with Spring, the Suit of Wands, and the East cardinal direction.



HERMETIC QABALAH Associated Hebrew Letter: Waw – Hook, Nail (Connections, Secure)



QABALISTIC SEPHIROT: Binah (Understanding)



TIMING: October 3 – October 12