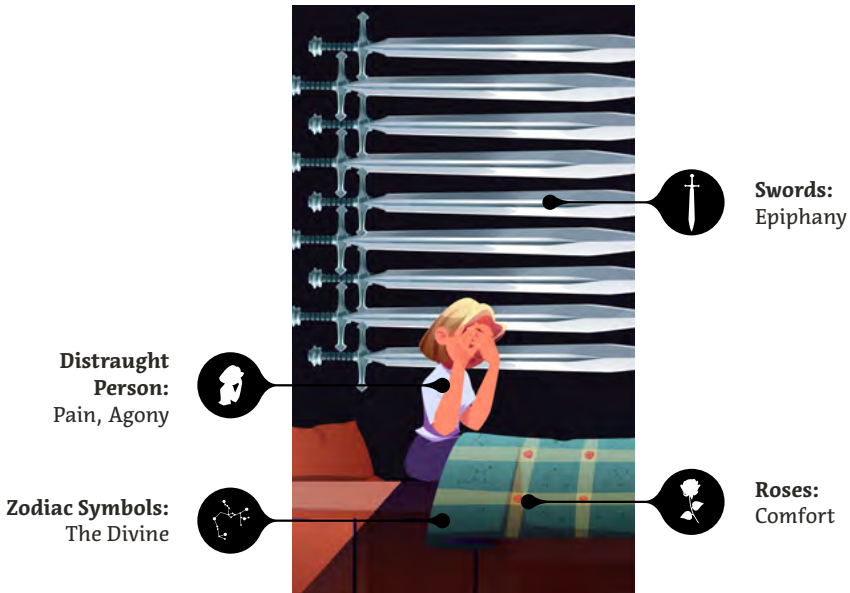




# NINE OF SWORDS

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 Despair and Cruelty

**Tarot of Marseilles:** Nine of Swords

**Thoth:** Cruelty

			9	9
PLANET Mars	ZODIAC Gemini, Libra, Aquarius	ELEMENT Air	NUMEROLOGY	COUNT

**Upright: Hopelessness, Anxiety, Panic, Guilt, Trauma, Worry, Fear, Nightmares**

This card paints a picture of deep psychological turmoil. It embodies the dark night of the soul, where worries, regrets, and fears seem to amplify, often out of proportion to the actual situation. This card represents the harsh grip of anxiety, sleepless nights, and the mental spirals that can feel inescapable.

However, as dire as it sounds, the Nine of Swords also serves as a potent reminder that much of this torment is internal and self-created. While the concerns may be based on real issues, they are often exaggerated by the mind. It's a call to seek support, counseling, or healing to address these internal struggles.

The Nine of Swords offers a poignant visualization of the internal battleground where fears, regrets, and anxieties wage war, making clear the profound effects of mental and emotional turmoil.

**Reversed: Secrets, Deep-Seated Concern, Inner Turmoil, Recovery, Improvement**

When the Nine of Swords appears reversed in a reading, it often signals a potential release from overwhelming anxiety and fears plaguing someone. They may be on the cusp of moving beyond the sleepless nights and distressing thoughts haunting them toward a place of clarity and healing. This card can serve as a reminder that the worst of their worries might be an illusion, and that the reality of their situation is not as dire as they imagine it to be.

However, the reversed Nine of Swords can also indicate a tendency to repress or avoid dealing with the root causes of their anxieties. Instead of confronting their worries and addressing them head-on, they may be burying them deep down, only to have them resurface later. This card urges them to seek help or find coping mechanisms that allow them to face their fears and concerns directly. Only by acknowledging the sources of their stress can they truly begin the healing process and find the peace they seek.

## Upright Interpretations

**General Reading:** The Nine of Swords is commonly known as the “nightmare” card, representing anxiety, fear, and being overwhelmed by negative thoughts or regrets. It signifies a mental torment that might be exaggerated or more perceived than real.

**Love Reading:** When related to love, the Nine of Swords can indicate intense worry about a relationship or harboring deep-seated insecurities. For some, it might suggest sleepless nights due to relationship problems or fear of commitment.

**Health Reading:** In terms of health, this card may imply sleepless nights, stress-related illnesses, or mental health issues. It's a sign to seek support and not let anxieties fester.

**Career Reading:** Professionally, the Nine of Swords can signify stress and anxiety over job security, workplace conflicts, or fear of failure. It can represent an overwhelming pressure to perform.

## Reversed Interpretations

**General Reading:** In its reversed position, the Nine of Swords suggests a potential release from anxiety or beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel. It can also indicate confronting fears, understanding them, and starting the process of healing.

**Love Reading:** This card can signal a gradual overcoming of relationship anxieties or resolving miscommunications. It speaks of learning to trust and letting go of baseless fears in love.

**Health Reading:** Healing is on the horizon. This can denote improvement in mental health, getting better sleep, or finding coping strategies that work.

**Career Reading:** This card can point to a period of recovery after a stressful professional phase or the realization that workplace anxieties were unfounded or exaggerated.

A central figure sits upright in bed with their hands covering their face, seemingly in deep despair, anguish, and grief. The bed, which is meant to be a place of respite, becomes instead a site of torment, highlighting the intrusion of tormenting thoughts into the sanctity of personal space.

The dark or cold setting of the card, whether through the apparent nighttime or the bleak color palette, contrasts sharply with the usual safety and warmth associated with a bedroom. This contrast serves as a symbol of the mental anguish that can transform even the most peaceful of havens into landscapes of suffering. The nine swords typically depicted above the central figure or on the wall are pointed reminders of the card's intellectual and mental domain. Swords are traditionally associated with the realm of thought in Tarot symbolism, and in this card, they represent the oppressive nature of mental struggles, fears, regrets, and anxieties.

The dark background or atmosphere, devoid of light, captures the sensation of being trapped in the overwhelming grip of night, literally and metaphorically. This interpretation emphasizes the depth of emotional and psychological crisis.



**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:** Yesod (Foundation)



**TIMING:** June 1 – June 10