



Six of Cups

Traditional meaning: “... *The Six of Cups can bring a meeting with an old friend or childhood acquaintance; an old lover may reappear or a love affair with roots in the past may be revived. This card can also mean that something with roots in the past may be reconsidered, and that past efforts may bring present or future rewards. [Or]... the Six of Cups could mean that the seeker lives too much in the past, or is too nostalgic and does not pay enough attention to present and future potentials.*”

[*The complete Book of Tarot*, Juliet Sharman-Burke, 1985 Pan Books, London]

Relationships: In regard to relationships **Sixes** represent the need for understanding, and if this is lacking, then mediation is called for. With good clear communication of personal values and expectations people tend to respect each other’s goals and aspirations, even unite with them to assist in the fruition of agreeable plans. Spontaneous cooperation is the result. So joint ventures, family gatherings, community planning all

benefit from the empathy and respect expressed by the Six.

In this case, the **Six of Cups** suggests empathy used in the past has been of benefit both to ourselves and others. We are being remembered in a positive way, so much so that someone is reaching out to connect with us again. It is up to us what we do with this connection.

Or is it us wanting to reach out to someone from our past? This can be done in our mind, or in person. Either way, it would be best to clear any emotional attachments to how they were in reference to our relationship with them. They, like us, may have changed significantly over time. Yet, more importantly, we can use this opportunity to set ourselves free of past restraints, emotional attachments; to what was or may have been.

In reference to this relationship we are discussing right now, we are receiving the feedback that we need to sort through childhood and adult memories, selecting the good ones to support our progress now. Not to wallow in the past, but to use the past to progress our present by releasing any emotional attachment to past upsets or ‘better times’. The past is past, and has helped to form who we are today. But the present moment is even more important.

It is important to be in present time with any relationship, to remember to file the past in the past and decide on a future that feels right based on our accumulated experience. We can spoil a great relationship by insisting it is measured with out-of-date expectations or beliefs ... are we doing this? Is this relationship we are questioning flowing because we are in present time, emotionally present with them now? Or is it stagnating because of out-of-date beliefs or fears causing us to live in the past in our mind and therefore not be emotionally available to another, or our self, now?

The over-riding message in this card: be sure to release the past and come into present time.

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[Image: Rider-Waite deck of Tarot]