



## Eight of Swords

**Traditional meaning:** "... A dismal card in which the seeker is afraid of moving out of a situation which binds and restricts them. The restrictions are upon them through their own fear and indecision, but positively this card suggests that a sign will come to show them the way. The seeker must remain courageous as there are problems to overcome and important decisions to make. They will not remain paralysed by their own fears for ever."

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

**Relationships:** In regard to relationships **Eights** represent the need for ACTION, but not 'busyness'. Eight requires action that is organised, well thought out and managed to be resourceful and constructive; with an inherent intention to create more abundance with existing abilities, skills, opportunities, and resources in general. Without causing harm to others.

The inherent original intention would have been to share in the abundance already created on this Earth; the only thing that has actually changed is people's attitude – mostly in the apparent need to affix financial value to actions and resources. This is an example of a theory being put into practice for so long, that people have accepted it as fact; yet the same resources are still available as they were thousands of thousands of years ago ... aether, water, heat, earth, and ideas/consciousness to be worked with by anyone and everyone.

In this case, the **Eight of Swords** indicates this sharing has been stopped. To the degree that we may even be feeling alarmed, stranded and/or isolated in this knowledge. Temporarily we are blinded as to which direction to take or action to do next. This is as bad as it is to the degree we allow our emotions to swamp us, to have us stuck in the mud or quicksand, so to speak. The more we struggle with our emotions, the tighter the bindings pull, the more we sink into the quicksand.

It is time for decisiveness. Some clear sight. What is it we are refusing to see? While hanging onto past expectations and/or beliefs, we have refused to witness the disappearance of our higher intelligence. Our Higher Mind has always been present, but we have stopped using it and allowed our self to sink into an emotional trap that currently holds us prisoner. The good news is, it is of our own doing, so we can now un-do it. Even if there are others to blame, first we must choose to SEE what it is we have allowed ourselves to do, to become. From this platform of truthful insight we can re-empower ourselves to SEE a way free from this dilemma.

It is decision time; what is it we actually want to experience in this type of role? Clarity is the extreme opposite of confusion ... and clarity is the result of developing our personal values and expectations as an individual. We can then contribute these values as strengths and our expectations as personal goals, but not conditions for another to adhere to. We need to do the action of writing these values and expectations down, then take action based on them. As we do the actions we will know how to update or modify our values and expectations as we progress.

It is time for us to cut the ties binding us to our past decisions. It is time to make new decisions causing a new path with a new direction. This involves thinking clearly about what we actually do want, not worrying obsessively about our doubts and fears. It is time to build strength in the way we think; constructively.

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[Image: Rider-Waite deck of Tarot]