

RWS-Based Tarot Euphemisms

Ace of Wands - The “burr under the saddle” card (aka the “itch that needs scratching” card)
Two of Wands – The “one foot in the past, one foot in the future” card
Three of Wands - The “patience is a virtue” card
Four of Wands – The “enlightened self-interest” card (aka the “bring home the bacon” card)
Five of Wands – The “collision of competing ambitions” card (aka the “aggravation” card)
Six of Wands – The “pride goeth before a fall” card (aka the “overconfidence” card)
Seven of Wands – The “fight fire with fire” card (aka the “from the frying pan into the fire” card)
Eight of Wands – The “discretion is the better part of valor” card (aka the “strategic retreat” card)
Nine of Wands – The “bloodied but unbowed” card (1) (aka the “last stand” card)
Ten of Wands – The “slouching toward salvation” card (aka the “lookin' for a place to hide” card [2])

Ace of Cups - The “All You Need is Love” card (3)
Two of Cups – The “lovers' pledge” card (aka the “puppy love” card)
Three of Cups – The “three's a crowd” card (aka the “lovers' triangle” card)
Four of Cups – The “one big yawn” card
Five of Cups – The “take the best and leave the rest” card (aka the “ashes of remorse” card)
Six of Cups – The “Neverland” card, where nobody grows up (aka the “don't worry, be happy” card [4])
Seven of Cups – The “I don't know what it is, but I'll know it when I see it” card
Eight of Cups – The “poisoned well” card
Nine of Cups – The “fat, dumb and happy” card
Ten of – The “Ob-La-Di, Ob-La-Da” card (3)

Ace of Swords – The “light-bulb moment” card (aka the “bright idea” card)
Two of Swords – The “mental block” card (aka the “horns of a dilemma” card)
Three of Swords - The “no pain, no gain” card (aka the “wrestling a porcupine” card)
Four of Swords – The “pause that refreshes” card (5) (aka the “lying down and avoiding” card [6])
Five of Swords - The “might makes right” card (aka the “kick in the pants” card)
Six of Swords – The “betwixt-and-between” card (aka the “unsettled mind” card)
Seven of Swords - The “false pretenses” card (aka the “conflicted intentions” card)
Eight of Swords – The “follow your heart, not your head” card
Nine of Swords – The “dark night of the soul” card (aka the “it's darkest before the dawn” card)
Ten of Swords – The “scorched earth” card (aka the “feelin' 'bout half-past dead” card [2])

Ace of Pentacles – The “ace in the hole” card (aka the “golden opportunity” card)
Two of Pentacles – The “if you see a chance, take it” card (7) (aka the “tipping point” card)
Three of Pentacles – The “plan the work and work the plan” card
Four of Pentacles – The “I, Me, Mine” card (3)
Five of Pentacles – The “beggars can't be choosers” card (aka the “Born Under a Bad Sign” card [8])
Six of Pentacles – The “embarrassment of riches” card (aka the “salving a guilty conscience” card)
Seven of Pentacles – The “unfinished business” card
Eight of Pentacles – The “perfectionist” card (aka the “nose to the grindstone” card)
Nine of Pentacles – The “Garden of Earthly Delights” card (9) (aka the “Hotel California” card [10])
Ten of Pentacles – The “Pangloss proposition” card (aka the “all is for the best” card [11])

References: (1) William Ernest Henley, from “Invictus;” (2) The Band, from “The Weight;” (3) the Beatles, various; (4) Bobby McFerrin; (5) Coca-Cola slogan; (6) Monty Python, from the “Australian Table Wines” sketch; (7) Steve Winwood; (8) Albert King; (9) Hieronymus Bosch; (10) The Eagles; (11) Voltaire. Also various adages, homilies, platitudes and biblical aphorisms.