

Tarot Cards - Starting Pitch

110 Wanton Wontons

Statement of Purpose

Tarot card reading can be an interesting and engaging process for users seeking fortune-telling. The app is meant to provide an easy and streamlined way of engaging with the cards, as well as take away the required manual reading and learning curve of the interpretation of the cards through a combination of pre-generated texts and presentation.

Goals/Features

- Create a website that presents 3 tarot cards to the user that relate to the past present and future
- Give the user pre-generated responses that depend on the 3 randomly selected cards, but at the same time allow the user to interpret the responses on their own.
- Different visuals/sound effects for different cards
- Animations for the card shuffling, drawing, and laying out of cards
- Sound effects for drawing cards, ambiance for tarot environment.

Topics of Risks and Rabbit Holes

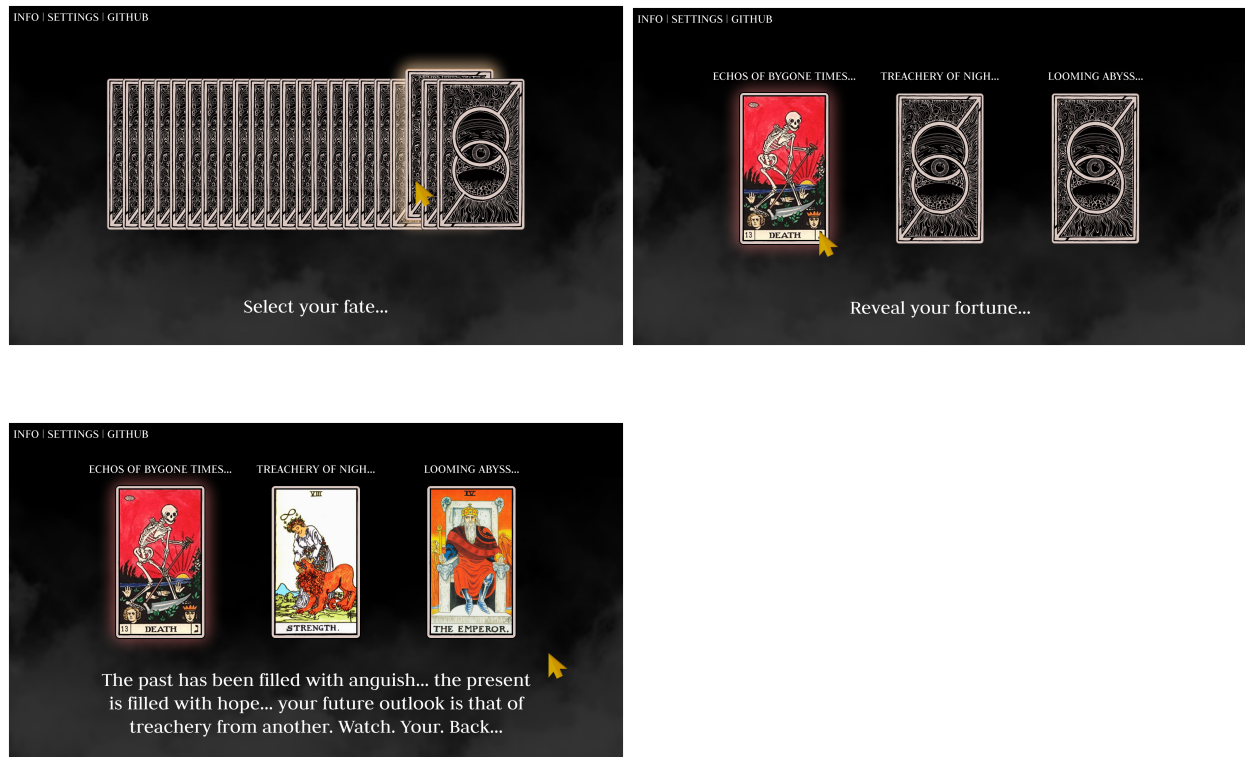
- The various visual effects we are interested in implementing poses the risk of being a deep and treacherous rabbit hole that could take many days if not weeks to get right. Because of this fact, we are planning to work on the non-essential features as an extra

once the core functionality of the process is complete such as the card selection and interpretation.

- Text generation could additionally be problematic if not thought through. The current idea is to create card combination interpretations using ChatGPT, and storing the responses using a google sheets extension for easy accessibility within the code. The trouble could come depending on how we prompt the AI to generate the needed texts, and how much editing we will have to do around any strange or nonsensical interpretations.
- The usage of too many or too few cards. Currently, we are planning to use around 20 cards, more specifically the 22 Major Arcana cards that have broader interpretations. However, depending on the responses generated and how similar they may be, there might not be a wide variety of responses that leaves a lot to interpret.
- Image generation could also be a problem. While we could make use of generative AI for image asset generation, it is unclear if the quality would be up to par. The images generated by AI are often filled with strange inconsistencies or imagery. When the art is a large part of the presentation and is shown large on the screen, its quality might not be good enough and we might have to resort to finding fitting free images online or creating assets ourselves.
- The number of responses for all possible combinations might result in a text file that is too big for the website to load in a reasonable amount of time. This is a possibility that has to be considered as we implement the responses into the website.
- For the implementation portion, our group will divide into two groups, one focusing on the animation aspect and the other focusing on the response generation and display. Communication within each group, and between both groups will impact the progress

and efficiency of the development process. We will maintain constant communication throughout the process through standups and meetings.

Visual Representation



System Diagrams / Wireframes

In-progress: Experimenting with C4 diagram

Constraints

- Must be usable even without Internet connection

- Must be completed within 5 weeks
- Must still function normally even with poor network connection or no network connection at all.
- Use only JavaScript, HTML and CSS

User Personas

Name: Rick Smith

Occupation: Undergraduate student at UCSD

Age: 20

Background information: As he completes his third year of college, Rick tries to balance his internship and studies. He wonders whether he should take a break after graduation and before starting to work since he has always wanted to travel. Over the course of his studies, Rick has been able to save up a good amount of money so he could travel without worrying about his finances. His choices are traveling after graduation, and then start working, or immediately start working, and try to get a headstart. He considers both choices as viable, and not negatively impactful to him in the long term. However, he was still unsure of which one was the right choice. Indecisive, Rick decides to leave his fate up to the tarot cards for fun.

Goals:

- Reflect on what choice is the best for him, and see what his future entails through the use of tarot cards.

Needs/Wants from the app:

- Easy to use and functional
- Not have to worry about learning how the fortune telling works
- Wants a some prediction of what his future will look like
- Wants it to be a fun experience
- Simplistic in design but still have a “mystical” ambiance

Name: Janice Trout

Occupation: Accountant for a mid-sized company

Age: 26

Background information: In her mid-20s, Janice works a typical 9-5 job. She has a close circle of girlfriends and lives in an apartment. She lives in an area with high rent and is currently single. Living on a single income in her area is very hard, so Janice has been considering different options like moving, going for a new job with higher pay, getting a roommate, etc. She feels stressed constantly due to her monetary situation but finds momentary respite in self-care. She's not a believer in the mystical arts, but her friends have introduced her to tarot cards in passing and she feels that they could at least help push her to make a decision on her situation.

Goals:

- Reflect on her situation using tarot cards in order to (hopefully) reach a decision to improve her lifestyle and overall happiness.

Needs/Wants from the app:

- Easy to use
- Wants to be able to at least understand the different cards and how they work together in the typical past/present/future setup.
- Simplistic but also a smooth user experience.
- Wants the tone of the cards not to be too funny or too serious, but to allow her to gain more insight due to the reflective nature of the cards.
- Wants the cards to be noncommittal so that she doesn't feel pressured into believing that what they're saying is the truth.

Name: Emily Thompson

Occupation: Highschool student (volunteers at a local art gallery on weekends)

Age: 17

Background:

Emily Thompson is a 16-year-old high school student living in San Diego, California. She excels in her studies and has a strong interest in art, literature, and history. Emily first encountered tarot cards in a book about symbolic imagery and was immediately drawn to their intricate designs and rich symbolism. As an aspiring artist and scholar, she is keen to learn more about tarot cards from both an academic and lifestyle perspective. Emily is searching for a tarot card app that can help her explore the world of tarot in depth and find ways to integrate it into her daily life as a tool for self-reflection and personal growth.

Goal:

- To find a tarot card app that offers a comprehensive learning experience, combining academic knowledge and practical applications.
- To learn how tarot cards can be used as a tool for self-reflection, personal growth, and artistic inspiration.

Needs/Wants from the app:

- Offer a comprehensive learning experience, combining in-depth information on the history, symbolism, and cultural significance of tarot cards.
- User-friendly Interface: The app should be easy to navigate, with a well-organized layout and intuitive features that make learning about tarot cards enjoyable and efficient.
- Provide a variety of tarot card spreads and techniques, along with detailed explanations and interpretations, to help her gain a deeper understanding of the cards.

Name: Karen Johnson

Occupation: Freelance Writer and Life Coach

Age: 45

Background:

Karen Johnson is a 45-year-old freelance writer and life coach living in San Francisco, California. She has always been intrigued by alternative forms of self-improvement and ways to maintain a balanced lifestyle. Karen has a successful blog where she shares her insights on personal growth, mindfulness, and wellness. After attending a tarot workshop with a friend, she became interested in integrating tarot cards into her daily routine to help guide her decisions and cultivate mindfulness. Karen is searching for a tarot card app that caters to her lifestyle needs and helps her incorporate tarot reading into her everyday life.

Goals:

- To find a tarot card app that offers daily guidance and helps her make mindful decisions.
- To learn how tarot cards can be used to foster self-awareness, personal growth, and well-being.
- To access resources that explore the connection between tarot reading and various aspects of her lifestyle.
- To have the ability to easily share her tarot insights and experiences with her blog readers and clients.

Needs/Wants from the app:

- Offer a user-friendly interface with features specifically designed for busy professionals, such as daily card draws, quick insights, and customizable notifications.

- Provide a range of tarot card spreads and techniques focused on personal growth, decision-making, and lifestyle management, with clear explanations and interpretations.
- Include a library of resources, such as articles, videos, and guided meditations, that explore the connection between tarot reading and various aspects of lifestyle and well-being.
- Allow Karen to track her progress, set goals, and reflect on her tarot readings through journaling and other interactive features.

Name: Don Carpenter

Occupation: Retired commercial real-estate lawyer

Age: 78

Background:

Don Carpenter is a 78-year-old retired commercial real-estate lawyer, who recently moved from bustling downtown Denver Colorado to rural Eastern Wyoming. Being a lawyer, Don has always enjoyed reading and writing, but over the course of his career he was mostly constrained to legal writing. Now that Don is retired, he hopes to explore his untapped creative and spiritual writing potential. He aspires to start a blog where he will publish a series of fiction novels. However, given the rigidity of his legal writing career, Don has been experiencing writing block and frequently struggles to get into the creative mindset necessary to write fiction. Don remembers that one of his previous legal clients, who was an experienced professional screenwriter, enjoyed the hobby of tarot cards. Hoping to ignite his creative writing routine with the daily use of tarot cards, Don is looking for a tarot card app that he can use long-term as a casual pre-writing routine to help frame his creative mindset.

Goals:

- Discover how a tarot card app can be used as a daily routine to inspire his creative writing.
- To put him in a creative mindset and help him overcome his writer's block
- As a daily practice to experience multiculturalism and get diverse sources of inspiration, since he no longer meets with diverse clients daily

Needs/Wants from the app:

- A simple interface is enough to inspire his creativity, but not overwhelming with difficult to navigate features. While Don is not completely technologically incapable, he is “old-school” and would be overwhelmed by an interface with too many options up front.
- Creativity and variety in the tarot cards. Don has had a successful career due to his attention to detail, and respects well-crafted writing. Since he intends to continue this routine long-term, he will notice and appreciate different responses and attention to detail, and otherwise is not likely to continue using the app long-term.
- Show multicultural influences and various opinions. Don has traveled many places in his life and enjoys hearing different opinions. Too many tarot cards that reflect only a single point of view or cultural/spiritual influence would bore Don.