

# THE DUELING PATH

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SOMETIMES WE CAN'T get around it—we must make an important decision. The responsibility involved is overwhelming. Or maybe it's not such a big deal, but we're stuck nonetheless. Either way, there's a decision which must be made, one which can't be reduced into an easy yes or no answer. That's where the Dueling Path can be of use.

The Dueling Path sets out two possible futures for examination, which are presented as two visually distinct paths. Cards 2 through 5 represent the first path, or choice, under consideration; cards 6 through 9, the second one.

Concentrate on the two paths, or choices, to be considered. Then shuffle the deck and choose ten cards at random. Place them as shown in the diagram on page 135.

## CARD 1:

The foundation from which the decision will be made., summing up the present situation. This may also symbolize the history leading toward this moment.

## CARD 2 (PATH #1):

This card sums up the first choice, offering an overview of it.

## CARD 3 (PATH #1):

Helpful influences and positive reasons for choosing the first path.

## CARD 4 (PATH #1):

This card is crossed over card 3, symbolizing possible obstacles to be considered if the first path is taken.

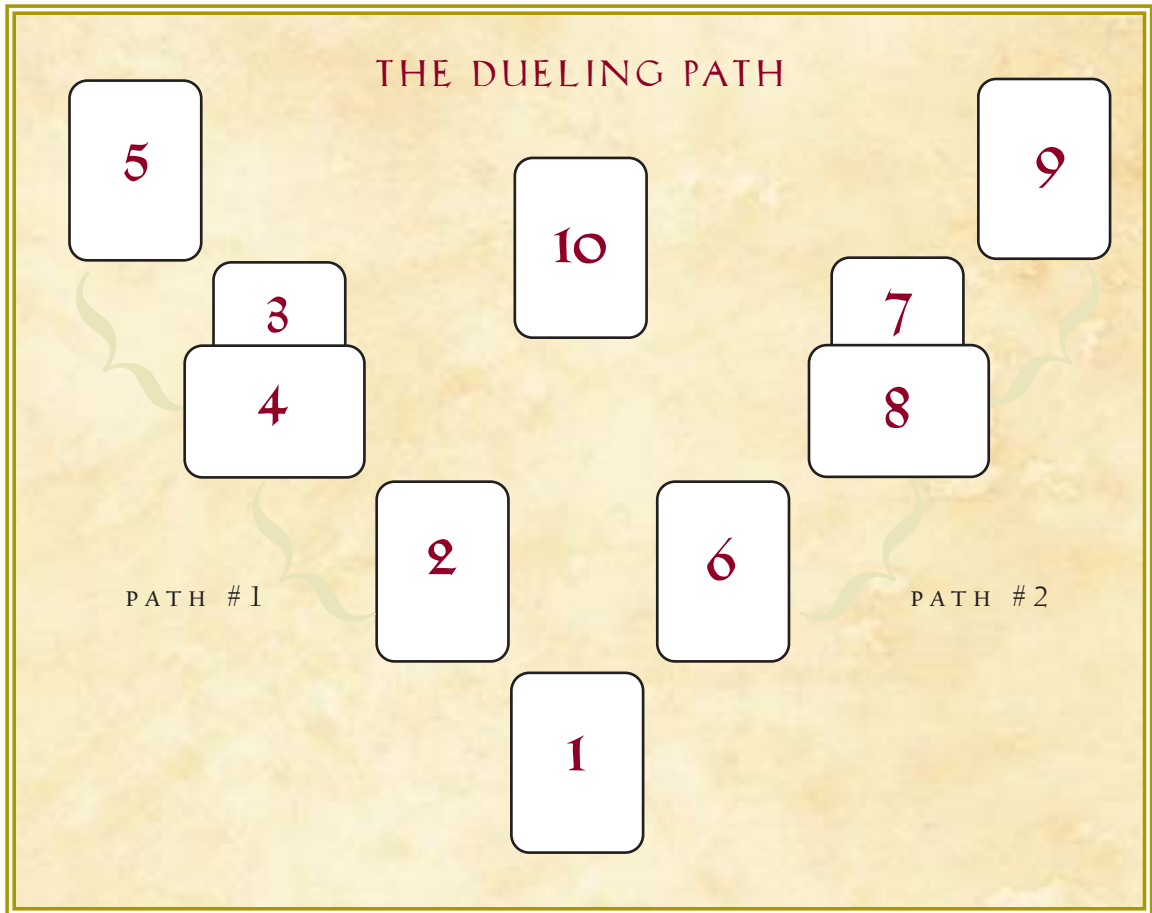
## CARD 5 (PATH #1):

The possible outcome if this path is chosen. This card reflects the influences creating the outcome shown here.

## CARD 6 (PATH #2):

This card sums up the second choice, offering an overview of it.

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### CARD 7 (PATH #2):

Helpful influences and positive reasons for choosing the second path.

### CARD 8 (PATH #2):

This card is crossed over card 7, symbolizing

possible obstacles to be considered if the second path is taken.

### CARD 9 (PATH #2):

The possible outcome if this path is chosen. This card reflects the influences creating the outcome shown here.

## Using the Lover's Path Tarot

### CARD 10:

This card is the heart of the matter. It sums up the emotions to be taken into consideration if the decision to be made will be satisfying.

#### *variation for two:*

The Dueling Path can be adapted for two people with conflicting ideas about a situation, offering them the opportunity to concretely explore each possibility. Instead of two paths representing two choices for one person, each path would represent the desire of each partner—one path per person.

Alternate deck shuffles with your partner as you both concentrate on your situation. Lay the cards as shown in the diagram on page 135. Cards 1 and 10 are to be read as described earlier. However, cards 2 through 9 should be read as so:

### CARD 2 (PATH #1):

This card sums up the first partner's choice, offering an overview of it.

### CARD 3 (PATH #1):

The first partner's reason for wanting the first path.

### CARD 4 (PATH #1):

This card is crossed over card 3, symbolizing the second partner's objections to the first path.

### CARD 5 (PATH #1):

The possible outcome if this path is chosen. This card reflects the influences creating the outcome.

### CARD 6 (PATH #2):

This card sums up the second partner's choice, offering an overview of it.

### CARD 7 (PATH #2):

The second partner's reason for wanting the second path.

### CARD 8 (PATH #2):

This card is crossed over card 7, symbolizing the first partner's objections to the second path.

### CARD 9 (PATH #2):

The possible outcome if this path is chosen. This card reflects the influences leading to the outcome.

