





reading material



Coffee cup *reading* is a way of fortune telling, performed in numerous Mediterranean and Middle Eastern countries. It is known in other forms in other parts of the world such as *reading* patterns in tea leaves or wine sediments. These kinds of *readings* are also known as Tasseography (known also as Tasseomancy or Tassology). The actual ritual of *reading* is performed differently throughout the world and the interpretations of various symbols can vary greatly depending on the historical culture. Traditionally coffee that is used for *reading* needs to have grinds that sit at the bottom of the cup after most of the liquid is drunk. It is often believed that the drinkers of coffee should not read their own cup.

For this little project, we photographed four cups and sent the photos to a number of people in 6 different countries, some of whom were familiar, to different extents, with the coffee cup *reading* rituals, some were not even aware of the fact that such a tradition existed, this is the result of what came back.



- 01 there is a hint of a new beginning, it's very light and fragile, it can be lost if it's not encouraged, there is a woman with a curly hair, she's leaning on the trail in front of you, she's there, or possibly she was there, her hair is waiting for you
- 02 a black hole, dead end, you are going to start something and it will end up disastrously, very bad, although it seems to start very white
- 03 this makes me think about a king with the crown and the beard
- 04 you are under a great deal of pressure but you will receive, gain something valuable, also you seem to be distracted a lot

- 05 there is a double faced person, just behind your back. Could be a close friend of yours that you don't suspect of betrayal. I can see a cat, which means that a quarrel will disrupt your life, but only for a very short time. It may be related with that unreliable friend of yours. There is a bird too, just next to the cat, which means news – good news, because I can see a big dog – a symbol of reliable friends. They will help you to deal with your problems, after that, there is a brighter future ahead of you (white wide line that goes through all the cup) - it means all these changes will have a positive impact on your life, in the end...

- 06 I think I see some people, to the left hand side, one person looking into the 'emptiness' and two people standing closer together, behind this person in a pose that suggests that they want to say something, or do something, or get this person's attention. But he/she is unaware of it
- 07 a good friend of yours will help you meet your other half (a bit like a blind date). There are some people who will feel very protective of that relationship. That friend of yours, the one responsible for the future relationship has somebody angry with him but that person will not harm him because he has a guardian angel on his side.



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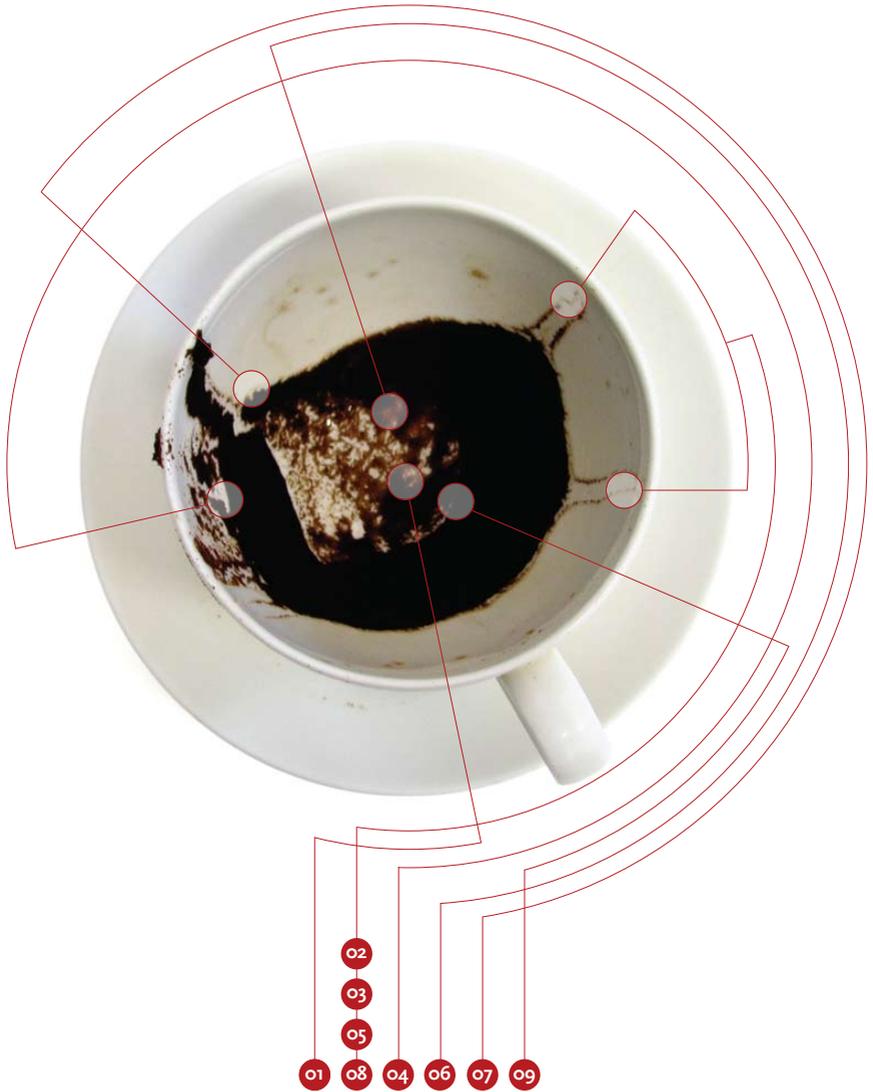
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- 01 I first saw an animal, it seems to be a nice one, perhaps a friend but you are going through a bad time, fortunately there is a friend who will help you to go through this hard times
- 02 there are two clear, and very different, separate roads, so perhaps journeys... and there is maybe a figure sitting down, and another one, a man standing in front of her (the one sitting down is a female) and explaining or telling her something
- 03 there are 2 people who are angry with each other or mad at each other. You can see on the right side 2 white silhouettes
- 04 your troubles are coming to an end. You'll face lots of happiness & abundance in your life. Something good will happen in 7 days or you might fall in love (another good thing). Two of your plans will be successful.
- 05 there are 2 small roads on the side, they should be taken advantage of
- 06 a hug or a dancer seen from the top
- 07 it's as if you are biting your own tail and days are passing by, nights too and only this morning you stopped to listen and look... around yourself
- 08 there are 2 roads in front of you but they seem to be closed
- 09 something was happening in the house. more conversations, people.... especially another person that you see a lot lately, looks like lots of late night chatting, but very nice. You feel good and there is also a heart in there, you are happy. Two plans that are coming out or two roads in your way, the first one will come out later than expected but the second will go as planned. Opposite to the two plans/roads i cannot figure out much as it is not very clear because of the angle the photo is taken. I think I'm taking this too seriously, please, take all this with a huge pinch of salt.





- 01 I can see you walking down a very, very thin line, like a wire or something, you are holding tight onto a cloud and then start going down the biggest mountain there is, towards a huge pillow filled up with feathers, you lend on it very softly and you stop wanting to do anything because everything has turned into a big blue sky with lots of clouds that are taking you somewhere. Something will happen even though the feathers have nothing to do with chickens. The coffee cup never lies. Not much at least
- 02 you will have a trip to a desert, dust and wind, night and day it will be a trip to remember
- 03 a fishbowl or little child in the belly of a future mother or perhaps a vase with water during an earthquake
- 04 life full of happiness, joy & abundance
- 05 must say, I don't see much. Something that has been bothering You has gone and you are left relieved. There is an older man thinking about you, maybe some news from him or just a call, that's all.
- 06 I like this one, but I cannot say I see anything. If I really use my imagination I could maybe see an ultrasound-scan, baby-like shape, as if someone has cut out a part of the baby scan, one of those that some people put on their fridge (how inappropriate) when they are expecting a baby
- 07 this person is pregnant, it seems like a big stomach and there is a white thing in it. She will also take a journey on a train. This persons' or her child's name will start the letter "F" or will include that letter.





01 you'll go to a gathering where you will see lots of people dancing, it could be a wedding, it all looks like a flower, maybe it will be an outdoor event

02 you are surrounded by words, they are all around you but you look very yellow among them

03 this one is just beautiful, it reminds me of my grandmother's hand carvings, one of those intricate, finely made pieces that I think were a sign and a mark of those times, that show how much skill and patience people devoted to everyday things, and that I believe will never be the case again

04 you are or will be completely centred. Happiness & lots of joy ahead of you

05 a pattern by the artist Carla Accardi or the sand on the beach

06 a friend might be pregnant but she will be well supported

07 you had some doubts about a plan, but you might take the plunge as it brings you luck or rather, there are no obstacles for the completion of it. You have something from the past that is bothering you or maybe that is the reason for you to doubt yourself. Apart of that there are no major happenings and there is lots of monotonous days ahead making you aloof. You will/would hear some news but nothing alarming.

08 there is an alligator, not scary though, very playful, anyway the main attention is on the two elephants tirelessly pushing their way through the piles of crap that is the everyday life

09 this remind me of what my grandma used to say when reading coffee, you see dreams that u can't recall, your heart is talking to you and you are hearing it





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