

SAMHAIN FIELD GUIDE 04

Samhain ancestor spread

A six-card tarot or oracle reading for examining inherited care, boundaries, support, and one grounded action for the season.

FOR	TIME	FORMAT
Any tarot or oracle deck	15 to 25 minutes	5 US Letter pages

WHAT THIS GUIDE HELPS YOU DO

01 Read with a clear frame Use cards as reflection prompts, not proof of contact.	02 Interpret each position Follow a structured six-card layout and reading sequence.	03 Translate insight into choice End with one small, optional action that is yours to take.
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HOW TO USE IT

No tarot experience is required. Use upright cards only if you prefer. Reversals are optional. The spread does not require ancestry research or a particular spiritual belief.

The six-card layout

Place cards in two rows, left to right. Read each card through its position, then look for one practical connection.

1 ROOT What care or skill did I receive?	2 BOUNDARY What pattern needs a limit?	3 RELEASE What is not mine to carry?
4 KEEP What is worth carrying forward?	5 SUPPORT What helps me stay grounded?	6 ACTION What small step is mine?

POSITION	PROMPT	KEEP THE QUESTION GROUNDED
1. Root	What care, skill, or resource did I receive?	It may come from chosen family, a community, a teacher, or my own work.
2. Boundary	What inherited pattern needs a limit?	Name a behavior or expectation, not an entire culture or family as "bad."
3. Release	What is not mine to carry?	Choose an obligation within your control to set down or renegotiate.
4. Keep	What quality or practice is worth carrying forward?	Look for something specific and usable in daily life.
5. Support	What helps me stay grounded while I change?	A person, skill, routine, place, or practical resource.
6. Action	What small next step belongs to me?	Choose a step you can take without needing anyone else to change.

BOUNDARY

This is a reflective tarot or oracle exercise. A card is not evidence of contact with the dead and does not obligate you to act. You may skip a question, stop, or leave a card unread.

A reading you can complete

Let the position guide the card. Do not force a single meaning when a card feels unclear.

STEP	READING METHOD
1. Set a frame	Name the question: "What would help me approach this season with care and choice?" Take one comfortable breath.
2. Draw	Shuffle in a way that feels familiar. Draw six cards and place them in the numbered layout.
3. Describe first	For each card, note one image, symbol, or detail you notice before using a guidebook.
4. Connect to position	Read the card through its assigned prompt. Ask what the card suggests, not what it commands.
5. Check reality	Separate a useful reflection from a factual claim. Confirm facts directly before making a decision.
6. Choose or decline	Write one small action, one support, or "no action now." Close the deck and return to the room.

Reading notes

CARD	IMAGE OR WORD I NOTICED	POSITION-BASED REFLECTION
1. Root	_____	_____
2. Boundary	_____	_____
3. Release	_____	_____
4. Keep	_____	_____
5. Support	_____	_____
6. Action	_____	_____

Use short notes. The exercise should make a choice clearer, not create a second job.

Worked example

The cards below demonstrate one possible reflection. Card meanings vary by deck, reader, and context.

POSITION AND CARD	POSSIBLE REFLECTION	PRACTICAL CHECK
1. Root - Six of Pentacles	Care was sometimes offered through food, rides, and practical help.	Which support was freely given and safe to accept?
2. Boundary - Ten of Wands	I may be carrying more household responsibility than is mine.	What task can I name and renegotiate?
3. Release - Eight of Cups	I can step away from a role that asks me to ignore my limits.	What is one boundary I can state clearly?
4. Keep - Queen of Pentacles	I want to keep a steady, generous way of tending home.	Which routine already supports this?
5. Support - Strength	Patience and a trusted ally help me act without rushing.	Who can hear the plan without taking over?
6. Action - Page of Pentacles	A small written plan may be more useful than a dramatic promise.	Set a 15-minute time to make the plan this week.

The example, read together

ONE-SENTENCE SUMMARY

I want to keep the practical care I value while setting down the expectation that I must carry every household task. I will write a 15-minute plan and ask one trusted person to review it.

Why the interpretation stays modest

The cards can help a reader notice a theme, but they do not establish what an ancestor thought, what a family member intended, or what will happen. The useful test is whether the reflection leads to a safe, honest choice that remains yours.

Close the reading with agency

Keep what is useful, set down what is not, and write an action only if you choose one.

INTEGRATION	NOTE
A reflection that feels useful	
A claim I need to verify outside the reading	
One support I can contact or use	
My next step, or “no action now”	

Close in three moves

1. Close the deck	Turn over the cards, thank the practice if that suits your beliefs, and put the deck away.
2. Return to the room	Name the date, notice your surroundings, drink water, or wash your hands.
3. Revisit by choice	If you chose a practical step, check in after one week. You do not have to repeat the spread.

PRINTING AND REUSE

US Letter, portrait. Print at actual size or fit to page. The six-card layout may be reused with any deck. Keep this page with the notes only if they contain no private story you do not want stored.

A seasonal reflection can end with a single small choice. You are free to revise that choice as new information arrives.