

- 11) Eventually put backings according to suits on your cards after you have discovered in which suit they belong. (Difficulty in distinguishing between Committee and Council is the main problem people experience. Wait to glue on backings until you are sure of the distinction between these two. The backings can be wrapping papers that complement each other. Make sure the pattern on the paper is such that you will not recognize what card it is from its backside. Also don't put writing or quotes on the back. Use a journal for that. If you don't want to do backings you can use stickers to distinguish the suits. (Some SoulCollagers never mark the backs of their cards with the suits at all, and that is okay too!) Back the Source card and the other two transpersonal cards, if you have them, with yet another pattern.
- 12) It is better not to decorate cards with sequins, feathers, etc., as you will want cards to lie flat so you can shuffle them and spread them out for readings. Also don't have pieces that stick out off the edge of the card, creative as that may be.
- 13) Putting a permanent finish on cards is always an issue. Cards represent parts of our Soul and are ever capable of transforming, so we want them to be accessible and able to reflect change. You may want to paste on top of an image later on, or add new images. Never discard cards; we can't discard parts of ourselves. But some cards that no longer have any energy for you, or seem to be irrelevant or repetitive of other energies, can be put away in a reserve deck. Then, if and when that ally or challenger resurfaces, you can locate it and put it back in the deck. Some people cover their cards with a light acrylic varnish so the edges don't come up. Another good solution is these thin, plastic bags that exactly fit the card. They protect well, look fine, and can easily be slipped off for reworking.
- 14) Find a box or container for your cards so they can be carried easily. But have a place in your home where cards can be displayed. Find a daily way to honor your guides, and work with them. Draw from your deck. Journal. This is Soul work, and not to be tucked away and forgotten for weeks.
- 15) Finally, even after you've made a hundred cards and think you are playing with a "full" deck, watch for images that grab you, and find time to create new cards...or add to current ones. Let it be your personal and living SoulCollage® Deck!