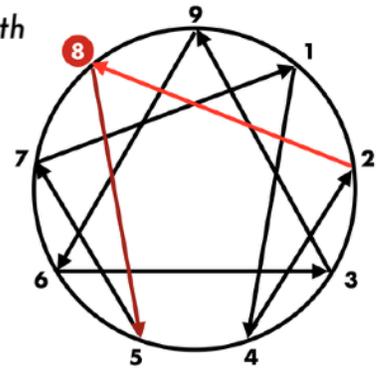


## TYPE EIGHT: The Challenger



### Overview:

Eights are strong people. They'll probably find a way to let you know. When an Eight enters a room, they know intuitively who the powerful people are, and will probably gravitate toward them. Eights enjoy a good verbal challenge, and if two Eights have a lively discussion, many others in the room might think a fight is going on when the Eights are thoroughly enjoying themselves. Eights fight as a way of making contact. They like being strong, and if they see a person who is weak, they are glad to be a champion for that person. Their first response is, "What am I going to do?" If you're the one trying to bully someone, the Eight will quickly reveal your vulnerabilities and put you in your place. Eights crave intensity and are highly competitive.

Deep down, Eights don't ever want to feel vulnerable. Their drive for power may cause them to be controlling and intimidating. They often won't realize how harshly they are coming across to someone who doesn't share their love of intensity, a trait for which they are unlikely to apologize. While an Eight might appear shameless or angry, it is not anger that motivates them, but rather a passion and total commitment to truth, life, and justice. Eights make wonderful allies but frightening enemies.

### Am I A Eight?

- Do you enjoy taking charge in a group?
- Are you known for your willingness and ability to take a stand and speak up?
- Does it irritate you when people are indirect or manipulative or won't just say what they mean?
- Do you have a hard time ever letting your guard down?
- Are other people sometimes intimidated by your tendency to bring conflict into the open?
- Do you want to be respected more than you want to be liked?
- Do you take a while to trust people?

Color: **Black and White**

National Code: **Spain**



Healthy Mascot:

Tiger



Moderate Mascot:

Bull



Unhealthy Mascot:

Rattlesnake



## Eights in Scripture:

**Miriam**, the sister of Moses and Aaron. She was a leader of Israel, along with her two brothers. When the Egyptian soldiers were drowned in the Red Sea, Exodus says "Miriam the prophet" took a timbrel in her hand and led all the women to sing and dance a song of victory:

*Sing to the Lord, for he is highly exalted!  
Both horse and driver he has hurled into the sea.*

**Samson** is another potential Eight in scripture. He was physically strong and quite demonstrative about his power. He loved the intensity of battle, but he likewise enjoyed the public challenge of riddles and interactions, both with his friends and his foes. Killing 1,000 soldiers with a donkey's jaw, ripping a lion in half, and carrying the gates of a city to the top of a hill and leaving them there are all examples of a strong person who enjoys showing off.



## Eights in Pop Culture:

It's hard to think of a clearer example of a (not so healthy) Eight than President **Donald Trump**. He loves public challenges, confrontation, and controversy, and you'll do well to find any record of him apologizing for anything. Love him or hate him, he demonstrates a lot of Eight characteristics.



**John Wayne** is another famous Eight. He's made many films as a hero who has challenged the bully and saved the day for those

weaker than him. He was also known in regular life for confrontations with people like Frank Sinatra.

A healthy Eight can be generous, magnanimous, and a champion for those who are vulnerable.

A screenshot of four tweets from Donald J. Trump. Each tweet includes a profile picture, name, handle, and a 'Follow' button. The tweets are as follows:  
1. "An 'extremely credible source' has called my office and told me that @BarackObama's birth certificate is a fraud."  
2. "Sorry losers and haters, but my I.Q. is one of the highest -and you all know it! Please don't feel so stupid or insecure,it's not your fault"  
3. "Happy New Year to all, including to my many enemies and those who have fought me and lost so badly they just don't know what to do. Love!"  
4. "I would like to extend my best wishes to all, even the haters and losers, on this special date, September 11th."  
At the bottom of the screenshot, there are statistics for the fourth tweet: 4,510 RETWEETS and 4,138 FAVORITES, along with a row of profile pictures of users who interacted with the tweet.

**Growth for Eights:**

It is healthy for Eights to cultivate a gentler side. Male Eights should not delegate all warmth and caregiving to females. Vulnerability can be healthy, and it is certainly helpful for relationships. Eights will have power, so they will do well to contemplate the responsible uses and expressions of it. It can be a good thing when they use it to bless and not to overwhelm.

It may be worth an Eight's time to view Brené Brown's TED Talk titled "The Power of Vulnerability." It has now been made into a book, also, available on Amazon.



type eight image from **the Visual Enneagram**

available on **amazon**

### **Eights Need To Know:**

- To be a true leader, people need to follow you *willingly*. This requires that you respect how they see the world.
- You can plan, but you can't always control outcomes.
- Learn to value moderation, collaboration, and patience, and cultivate the self-awareness to practice them.
- You cannot avoid or deny vulnerability and still have healthy relationships.
- You can't always be in charge. Learn to follow other leaders gracefully.
- You can't affect the world without being affected by it.
- Not every problem can be solved by action and strength.
- If you don't allow yourself to experience feelings, you can't share them.
- You're not always right.
- You thrive on stress, but other people don't.
- It is worth finding something bigger than yourself to focus on.

### **How To Care For The Eights In Your Life:**

- Remember that Eights are aggressive. It's nothing personal and they mean no harm. Don't mistake their strong opinions for attempts to hurt you.
- Eights are strong and assertive, but they still need care.
- With Eights, you have to stand up for yourself. If you are not forthcoming or direct, you will be invisible to them. If you bring intensity, they'll probably like you for it.
- Eights want you to get to the point. Be brief, straightforward, and truthful.
- Eights are sometimes controlling because they don't want to be controlled.
- Do what you say you will do. Let an Eight know if you are all in or not.
- Don't talk about Eights behind their backs. Tell them what you think. They can handle it.
- If an Eight is unhappy with you, they will tell you. If they seem upset but don't talk to you about it, it likely has nothing to do with you.
- Eights don't like flattery, but do want to be acknowledged in straightforward ways when they have contributed.
- Eights are high-energy, and it is good for them to get into an exercise program to use up some of their energy.
- Sometimes they will mistake tenderness for manipulation.
- They are often unaware of how they affect others, so you may have to help them perceive this.