



tillie
walden

the
Cosmic
Slumber
tarot

The illustration on the left side of the page depicts a large, stylized tree with a thick, textured trunk and dense, pinkish-purple foliage. Three golden circles, each containing a black pentagram, are positioned on the tree's branches. In the foreground, a person with long, wavy brown hair, wearing a light blue dress, is shown from behind, looking out over a landscape. The landscape features rolling green hills in the foreground and dark brown, forested hills in the background under a pale sky.

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FOREWORD

It was a hot summer, but they all are here in Austin, Texas. Hiding from the sun, I relentlessly tried to finish a book. My assistant, Beth Fisher, sat beside me. She swallowed books about Tarot. I had charged her with the task of research, which I could not find the time for. Life as a full-time cartoonist is brutal. As I labored over panels, she would occasionally burst out with laughter, or frustration, and proceed to explain to me the elaborate history or inconsistent narrative that existed within a card. This was my true introduction to what tarot cards meant. Beth is a storyteller, and she turned the deck into a drama for me. When I wrapped up my book and could finally begin sketching out ideas for the cards, we began to make jokes and find ways to connect the cards to real life. (The Princess of Pentacles: Joan Holloway.) The first round of drawings I made of the cards showed my inexperience with them. They were tentative, and I realized how vast this project truly was. When Mike and Darren asked me to make a tarot deck, I said yes without really thinking about it. It sounded cool, why not? But as I attempted to roughly draw out what would become 78 laboriously hand-painted and illustrated cards, I did have a moment where I thought, 'What have I done?'

I had not met Beth before this summer. I hired her as my assistant on a whim, which seems to be a theme for me. She sent me an email, I liked her tone, I said come to Austin. She appeared at the Austin airport

on the day of a bizarre storm, and while the wind pulled up street signs and sent cars off the road, we introduced ourselves. When she began working on a small notebook that was to be filled with tarot research, I didn't know what to expect. I am, on a good day, distant from most people. And having Beth sit next to me while I work was something I was not accustomed to. But as the summer got deeper, and our work got longer, I realized that I liked her, and that spending the day next to someone was perhaps not too bad.

After making sketches of the deck, I set about doing it again. This time with more gusto, and more confidence in my understanding of tarot. Beth watched like an all-knowing bird, gently making sure I understood what the cards really meant, and what symbolism was necessary (and what was, perhaps, dated and superfluous).

When the summer ended, Beth had to leave to go back to school, and I had a tarot deck to make. But the time wasn't right. I too had to go back to school. I had signed up for a three-month course to become a certified EMT (you know, the person who helps you in an ambulance) and it took over my life with the same force of that storm on the day I met Beth.

While I learned about how people die, and how to save them, thoughts about the cards stayed with me. I attempted to work on them, but progress was slow. The feeling wasn't there. Beth and I stayed in touch, and we relied on each other when our respective schools got under our skin. Finally, after three long months, I passed my mountain of tests and a national exam and became certified. I called Beth and told her I was ready to attack the tarot deck, that it was time. She believed

me. I drew the deck as a different person than when the summer first started. But tarot didn't change me; I can't lie and say it did. Beth did. She showed me then, and continues to show me, that I need people. And that is what inspired this deck more than anything. That we cannot, and we will not, be alone. That our destiny lies in our friends and family, and no reading can tell me different. That to simply create art is not enough to be a part of this world. It takes much, much more.

I have been honored to take part in the tradition of tarot. I did my best to heed what these cards have meant in history, and what I want them to mean in the future. At the very least, I have memories that I will hold on to till the day I die. Sweating at my dining room table, Beth at my side, telling me why the Pentacles are all good boys.

Thank you, Beth, for all your work, and for being my dear friend. Thank you Mike and Darren for asking me to do this deck. None of this would have happened otherwise.

Tillie Walen



INTRODUCTION

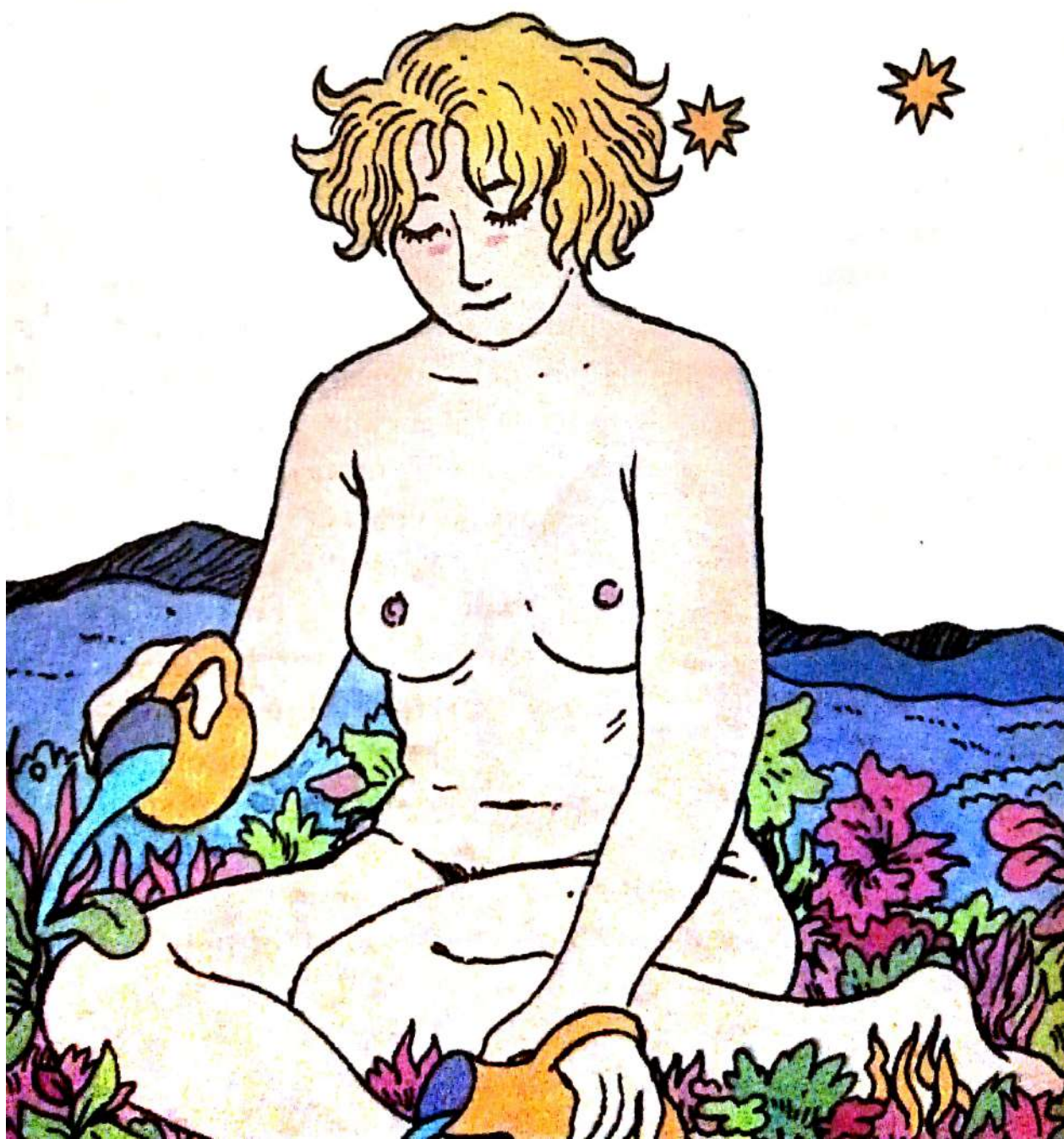
Everything this tarot encapsulates is conjured in its name. It was made with the intention of letting the tarot trace a path through the long, dark night of sleep. Because, in dreams, I really believe we walk the full spectrum of human experience. To me, dreams allow us to connect what does not fit together. But by doing so they often show us what we cannot see, because in consciousness we are limited by so much.

This deck is about the peace we feel when we're in a deep slumber, and the excitement we feel upon waking. It's the feeling of seeing someone in a dream you haven't seen in a long time. Of connecting with the impossible, sensing you are in another reality but accepting it. This state, deep in symbolism and wrapped in the unconscious, shares so much with the space within which we meet the tarot. A parallel world of omens and portents, archetypes, miracles and revelations. All these double meanings there to be unwound and, in doing so, bringing more clarity to the waking world. But dreams are only part of the equation – what solidifies this deck in my mind is the idea of the cosmic, of the cosmos. The Universe, eyes closed, revolving and dancing as she sleeps. Tarot lets us see the expansiveness within ourselves, and in approaching the drawing of the cards I often thought of the Universe; of the galaxies and stars and black holes. Just like the star-lit realm of dreams, we really know so little.

I hope this deck can shed a small amount of light for you and illuminate your path ahead.

THE MAJOR ARCANA

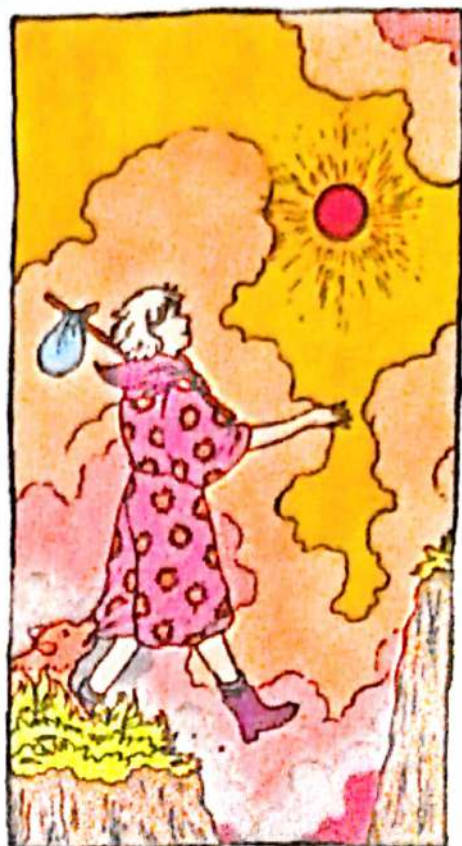
The 22 cards that run from The Fool to The Universe are known as the Major Arcana. "Arcana" is the plural of "Arcanum", meaning secret or mystery – so another way of describing these cards is Major Mystery. How perfectly apt! Unlike the Minor Arcana these cards evade simple answers with their layers of symbolism and flow of archetypal forces. Looking at the cards in



sequence – from The Fool and The Magus all the way through to The Universe – a tale of growth emerges, which is often called The Fool's Journey.



If a Major is drawn in a reading, it often carries extra significance—effects that are felt internally or event on a more universal scale in your life.



O. the fool

The Fool is the feeling of just falling off the edge into sleep. Before every beginning, there is the step one must take to begin. That is who the Fool is, the space before the start. Every moment to come exists within this space, and every card to come contains the Fool. Everything must first emerge from nothing, and though this needs a little blind faith, it will lead us to the places we desire to go.

While the Fool is filled with potential, there is a naivety to such a state. Potential does not contain within it the lessons we will learn from experience. Those lessons are yet to come, so it is worth appreciating the limits of what we know. Listen to the simple guides around you, just as the dog pulls at the Fool's robe. Let the primal part of your heart bring you to safety instead of letting your imagination be your only voice.



I. the Magus

The Magus emerges when the dream has truly begun. In the ground around you lies the growing potential of your creative spirit. Tend to that garden with the tools of your craft and watch what may flourish. But be wary – within the tangles of flowers and leaves lies mystery, trickery and illusion. With the start of a new adventure one must be careful to watch for a mirage. Not every splendid scene is made for you.

Above you, branches grow downwards, handing you the aspects of yourself that will soon come into play. These grow directly from the sky itself. In your hands you hold one object that is many; the pen, the candle, the brush, the wand. Whatever expression of your Will you require to create. Keep your eyes on your passions, and don't look backwards. Focus on what drives you forward, for everything you need is ahead.



II the high priestess

The High Priestess is the teacher we need. She is also a guardian of knowledge. There is a silence that hangs in the air as you consider her, for what she represents is somewhat elusive. There is no simple answer when it comes to the High Priestess, because many of her answers are questions. This is because she is the guide to somewhere deeper than anywhere you have been before. To get there, one must consider both mercy and severity and act intuitively. Both intend to lift you up, though they also both intend to challenge you.

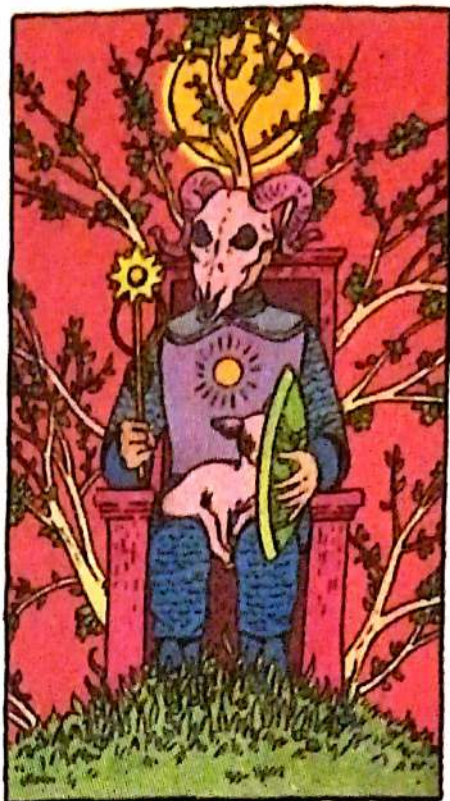
The secrets the High Priestess contains may be difficult to accept. There is often hardship in crossing new boundaries. But have faith in her power, and respect it, for this is the dark teacher of dreams and her lessons should be heeded.



III. the empress

The Empress is always here to pick us up. She lives in the ocean inside us and is always ready to lend a hand. She is a healer and a mother to all those who ask kindly. The symbol of Venus lies at her feet to remind you that she is here to love and protect. She is the one who has filled this entire ocean, and who keeps the waves churning. Despite her harmonious sense of self, she is not afraid of the deep water. It's from the deepest depths that the roots come to let the garden grow around her. Her body itself is the soil. Do not be afraid to let her nurture you, do not fear the love those around you want to give.

But be careful, do not think that her maternal nature means she is not fierce. She will drown you if you should try to cross her. To give love is to be vulnerable, and that should not be wasted on someone who will not honor it. Let yourself be vulnerable and feel deeply and you will be rewarded.



IV. the emperor

The Emperor is an authority you can trust. He complements the Empress, and feels just as deeply, but his way is to keep that hidden. Builder and a protector. When the ground beneath you seems to be crumbling, he will come to patch it up. He approaches life with a stoic demeanor and a seriousness towards the laws that govern both nature and society. But hold his belief with pride and wants to pass that on to you.

Do not forget to protect yourself. The Emperor has no shame about armor and shields. The world can be a brutal place, and creating a barrier between your skin and the air may be just what you need. He do this with pride – the Emperor has no room for shame. He wants to see you in the world as your strongest self.



♁ the hierophant

The Hierophant is a calling. They are also the structure around us – the physical boundaries of the world. These two are capable of interacting. The Hierophant must follow their destiny, but does so within the confines of what has already come before. You may think this lessens the beauty of the calling, but it does not. To work within a system is a way to transcend it. Do not be afraid of rules and limitations. Instead, look to them for inspiration. Every law around us has the mark of someone who is no longer breathing on this earth. Acknowledge the history around you and join its legacy.

Whilst the Hierophant is a teacher, he could also be there to inspire you to teach others yourself. Look around your life for those who need your guidance, and for those who can guide you. The Hierophant's keys can unlock your next steps and in turn be passed to those that follow. You are not alone in this world, and the story of this life is to be shared.



V. the lovers

The Lovers card is here to tell you that there is a choice in front of you. Or perhaps within you. Do not be fooled in thinking that a choice is simply a road that diverges into two paths. Picture a winding staircase that goes on further than you can imagine. Branching, dividing, rejoining with each ethical dilemma.

Dwelling within the Lovers, a guide can be found. It's the part of you that has both grown up and stayed young. Let that guide sit with you in these decisions. Do not make choices as your fearful self or your angry self. Look upon your moral dilemmas as the person you want to be, for that is how you will become them.



VII. the Chariot

The Chariot comes racing into your life with a vision of victory. Step into the seat, grasp the reins and close your eyes. You do not need to look where you are going. The direction in which you are headed should be guided by instinct. Be bold and trusting, and unafraid of speed.

The canopy above you signifies the night, and yet, night is all around you. It is unclear how many dreams you are in right now. You have a primal will as strong as the lions that pull you. In noticing their power, seek your own. It is right there with you, waiting to be used.



VIII. Strength

It is time to become the master of your inner self. To do so, you must harmonize the different pieces that you are made of. The lion is your gut – the raw reactions, the instinct, the ferocity. The woman is your mind – the knowledge you hold, the dreams you have. The two must work together to find true strength.

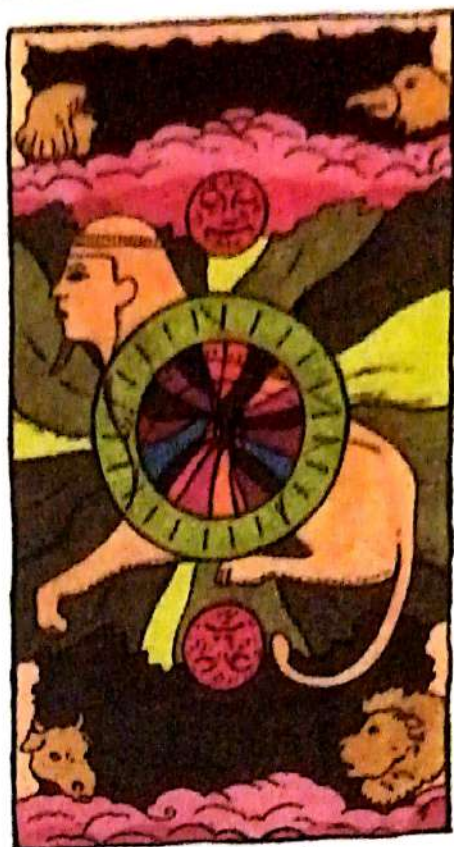
Remember that strength is not always loud, and is not always noticeable. Do not rely on others to validate your courage, look inward instead. You are the only one who will truly recognize the work you have done.



IX. the hermit

The Hermit beckons you to find space. Find a space for yourself, one that is vast enough to encompass the world that lives inside you. Wisdom is there for you in empty rooms and open skies. Don't be afraid of solitude. The knowledge you will gain will make you a good teacher, or even a good student.

The cat at your feet is what has become of the lions. No longer do you require roaring creatures to pull you outside of yourself. You need something far more gentle and mysterious. A companion that will not ask you for too much. Look into the cat's eyes, and you may begin to understand what you need to do.



X. Wheel of Fortune

Destiny is coming at you like a strong river. The current will not stop, and neither will you. Now is not the time for answers, it is a moment for questions. The wheel is spinning and cannot be stopped. Let yourself relax into your lack of control. Be like a child – let the universe take care of you. Where you will land is unclear, but that is the truth of all life. Control is an illusion.

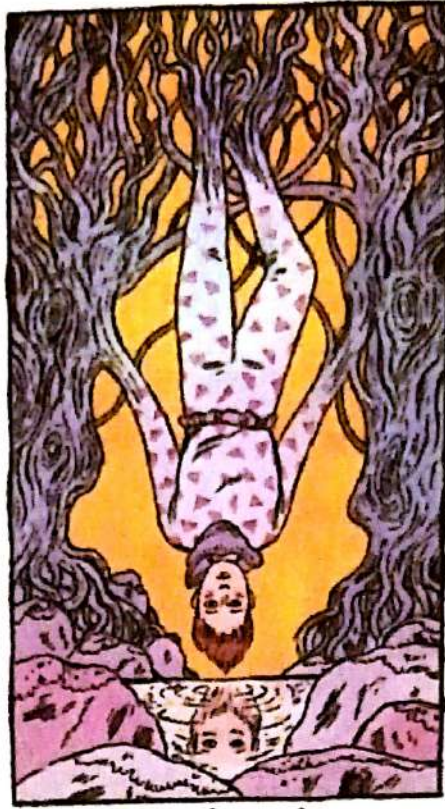
Remember too that the universe does not act alone. There are many forces at play, and many spirits that watch over you. Fate is a crowded room. You are not alone. Breathe in and let yourself be taken down the river.



XI. Justice

Justice is not what you expect. It is not harsh or overbearing – it is instead overflowing with honesty and fairness. Now is the time to step back and be your own judge. Your life requires that you look at it clearly. Analyze what helps you and what doesn't, what you need, and what you want. The answer will help you attain balance.

Be patient as you seek justice. This is not a process that can be rushed. Deliberate with calm and care.



XII. the hanged one

The Hanged One signifies a spiritual transformation. Growth is already happening, and it is possible it will take you to a place you don't recognize. There may be pain in the process, and you may feel as if you are stuck. Just as watching paint dry is ineffective, don't watch too closely. Trust in the fact that change is occurring, and use it as an opportunity to be in the liminal state.

The reflection you see is who you will grow into. There is a higher place for you to go, a better self for you to become. Stretch out and open wide.



XIII Death

Death comes without warning. Even when it is expected, true change and loss often send us into an unrecognizable space. But Death does not come with ill intent – it comes as a candle to guide your way, for there is a dark path ahead. Not dangerous, but simply unseen. Inevitable change which is perhaps uncomfortable lies ahead, but it is through this change that you will be able to start over.

An ending must always occur for there to be a new beginning. Something must be lost to truly gain. Hold the light close to you so you may see your way through.



XV. temperance

Temperance beckons for balance. There are many forces at play in your life. Opposites and contradictions abound. But do not turn away from these opposing energies. Instead, look closely. There is a space between them, and that is where you will find the harmony you need. Your answers lie between trees, between steps, between voices.

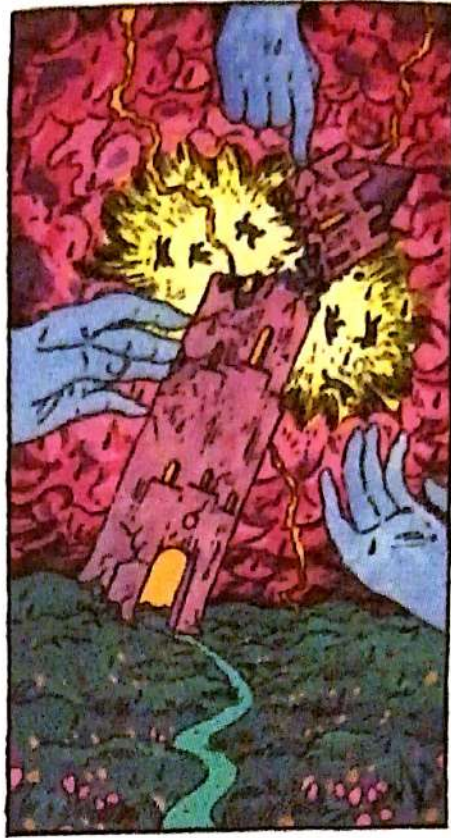
Be wary of anything that claims to solve it all, or claims to make something go away. There are no quick fixes, and your scale will easily tip to one side. Balance requires work and contemplation, and can be lost as quickly as it is gained. Be patient and seek the harmony around you.



XV. the Devil

The Devil surrounds you like a gilded cage. The night rests around you, and your mind is firmly planted in the material world. But the cage has a door that is unlocked, and this night will soon come to an end. Right now, you are only seeing half the story.

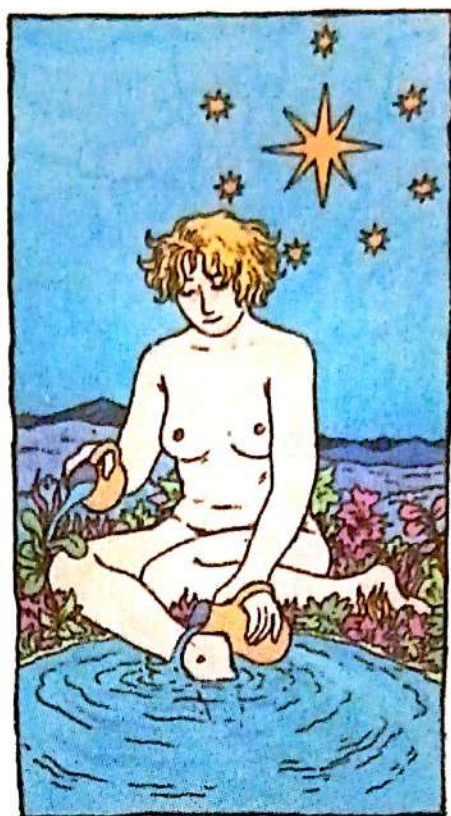
Your desires right now tempt an unfinished version of yourself. Wealth, ego and sex all draw you in. Try to understand why you want these things, and what they will give you. In these questions, secrets will be uncovered.



XVI. the tower

There is no sugar coating the message that the Tower is a sign of calamity. One that may feel quite personal as this structure has been built by yourself. Every effort you've put forth has added a brick. Every concept you considered true and firm cemented this seemingly unmovable structure.

But now the work you've done comes crashing down by cosmic forces. This may seem like a moment to give in, to let the destruction own you. But you cannot be reborn unless first you come back to the ground. The foundation of the Tower will remain, and it is on the same spot that you can begin again. This time, you'll lay the bricks with the understanding of what can bring them down.



XVII. the star

The Star enters your vision like a welcome breeze on a hot day. Just in time, she is here for you to offer wisdom, guidance and healing. She is a part of the earth, just as you are. Take her lead and connect with the grass and water around you; then look into the sky at night with optimism, hope and star-lit vision.

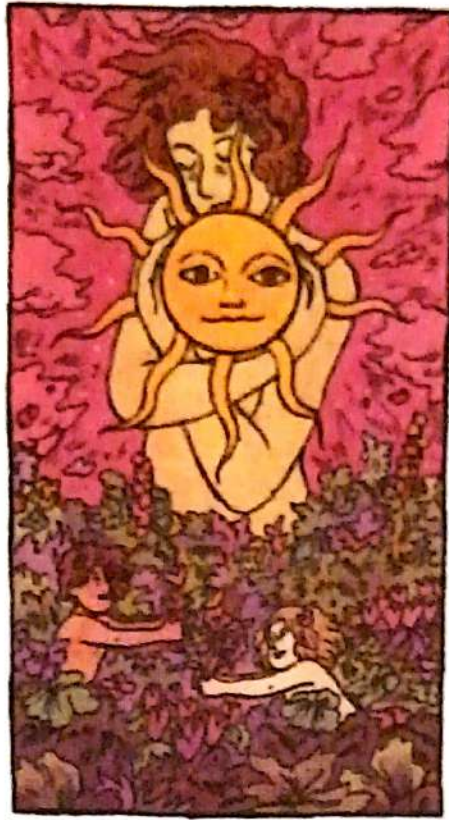
The wisdom she offers you is twofold – it is yours to take, and yours to pass on. Hope is a legacy that we are all a part of. Don't let it stop with you.



XIII. the moon

The Moon reigns in the sky brimming with tears and mystery. But her tears are not like our own. They roll down her rocky surface and fall to earth, each containing its own dream. Right now you feel trapped in the middle of the night. The dark is so endless that all sense of the approaching morning is lost. Every action takes you deeper within yourself. Myths, wild oscillations of the imagination, fears. Only intuition can guide when the light is so deceptive.

The water around you is overflowing, and your subconscious and conscious minds feel it all. Look closely at the reflection, this shadow of self – in its shimmer you will see the first hint of dawn.



XIX. the sun

The Sun brings its light to shine on your successes, and to bring tidings of joy and play. Fresh vision and revitalized energy. Notice where you are tense, and let the warmth of the Sun loosen you up. The material world around you should be responding to your victories and accomplishments.

But we only have one sun, and it is one every person must share. Take the optimism and success that you have been given and share it. Recognize that this light is not only yours.



XX. Judgement

Judgement comes to you in the brief, crystal moment right before a dream ends and consciousness begins. The moment when all the connections are made, when you could not possibly let the dream end. Judgement cries out that an epiphany is here – answers are around the corner, and divine intervention calls to you sweetly.

You are not being lifted up on your own, though. Many have helped you get here. It does not matter if those who have helped you have continued to do so. Every time someone has helped you reach a higher place, even in the smallest way, has played a part in you getting here.



XXI. the universe

The dream has ended, and it's time to wake up. This is not cause for any sadness; in fact, it's the most wonderful gift. Because upon waking, the entire universe is yours to experience. The world is ready for you to join it.

The Universe comes at the end of a long path. You have faced terrible trials and gone to all of your limits. But every tear and ache has been worth it, because you have come to the greatest gift of all. You are alive, you are awake. You are loved, and you are welcome in the Universe.

THE MINOR ARCANA

The Minor Arcana are made of four suits, just as in a regular deck of playing cards, each with an elemental association. In a tarot reading, they appear when the message concerns the material world, and they are of a more day-to-day nature than the cosmically charged Major Arcana.

A general theme runs through each of these suits:

TORCHES: (Wands in a traditional tarot deck):
Fire. Willpower, creative pursuits, career.

CUPS: Water. Intuition, emotions and relationships.

SWORDS: Air. The intellect and ideas.

PENTACLES: Earth. Finance and resources, home and health.



These run from Ace to Ten in each suit, with certain similarities appearing in each number. Aces often suggest the start of something new, for example. Following this are the Court Cards: Princess, Prince, Queen and King. Big personalities emerge here! These cards often, but not always, represent a person in a reading.

TORCHES

ACE OF TORCHES:

Inspiration and reinvigoration. Light bursting forth in the dark. Creative matters will be especially fertile.

TWO OF TORCHES:

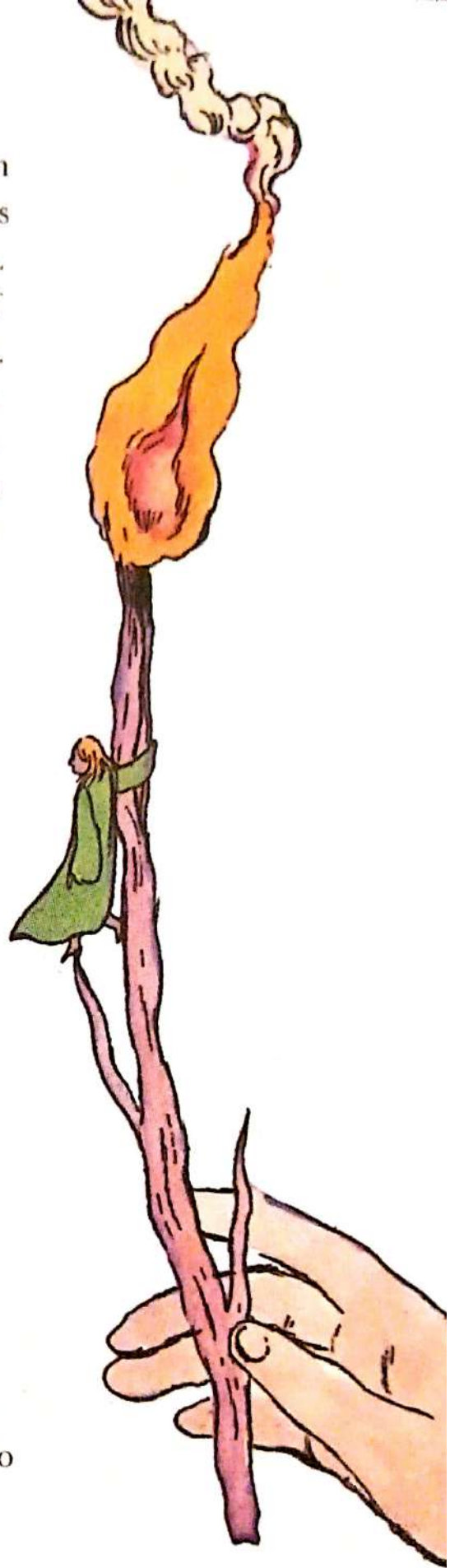
Determination and direction. You are faced with two paths. Do not be afraid. Be prepared to face the unknown.

THREE OF TORCHES:

Maturity and calm. You are prepared for what is coming. Do not give in to impulsiveness.

FOUR OF TORCHES:

Comfort and completion. You have worked hard. Let yourself rest within your successes.



FIVE OF TORCHES: Competition and struggle. The intensity in your life is palpable. Others are vying for what you want. Stay fierce, stay focused on your goal.

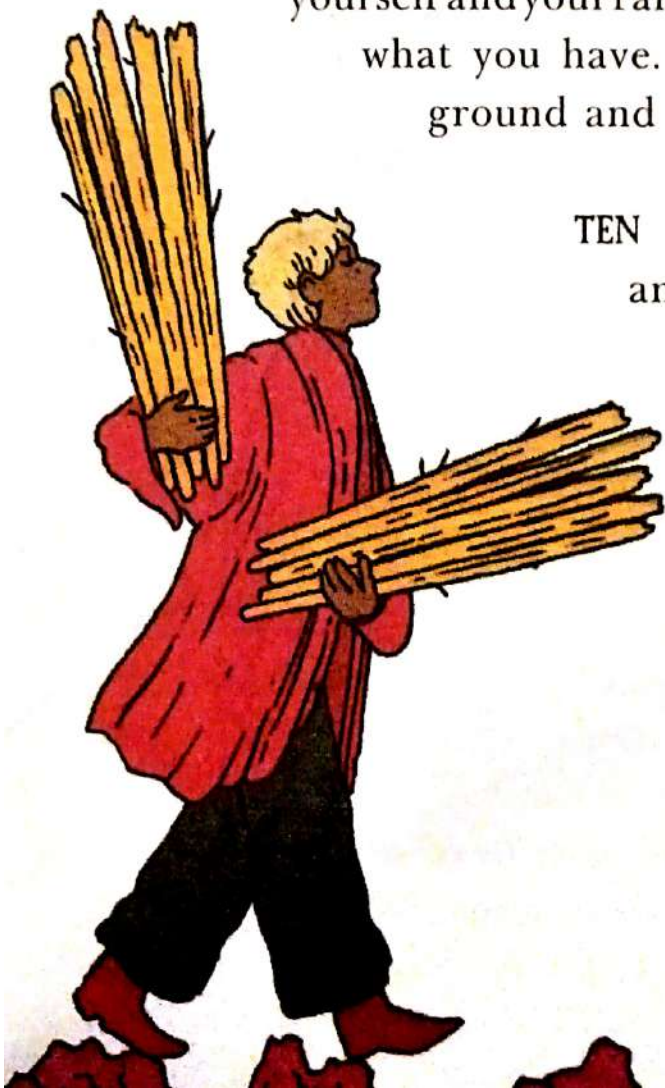
SIX OF TORCHES: Hope and celebration. You are close to success, or it has already begun. Relish its bright force in your life.

SEVEN OF TORCHES: Courage and determination. What you have feared is coming. There is no question that you will face adversity. The question is whether or not you will believe that you are capable of facing it. You are.

EIGHT OF TORCHES: Speed and trust. Move quickly and don't hesitate. You know what to do. Don't overthink it.

NINE OF TORCHES: Strength and home. Defend yourself and your family, and work to maintain what you have. Plant your feet on the ground and stand tall with bravery.

TEN OF TORCHES: Pressure and responsibility. There are new weights on your shoulders, but do not let them be a burden. Instead, let the heft show just how much you are able to hold.

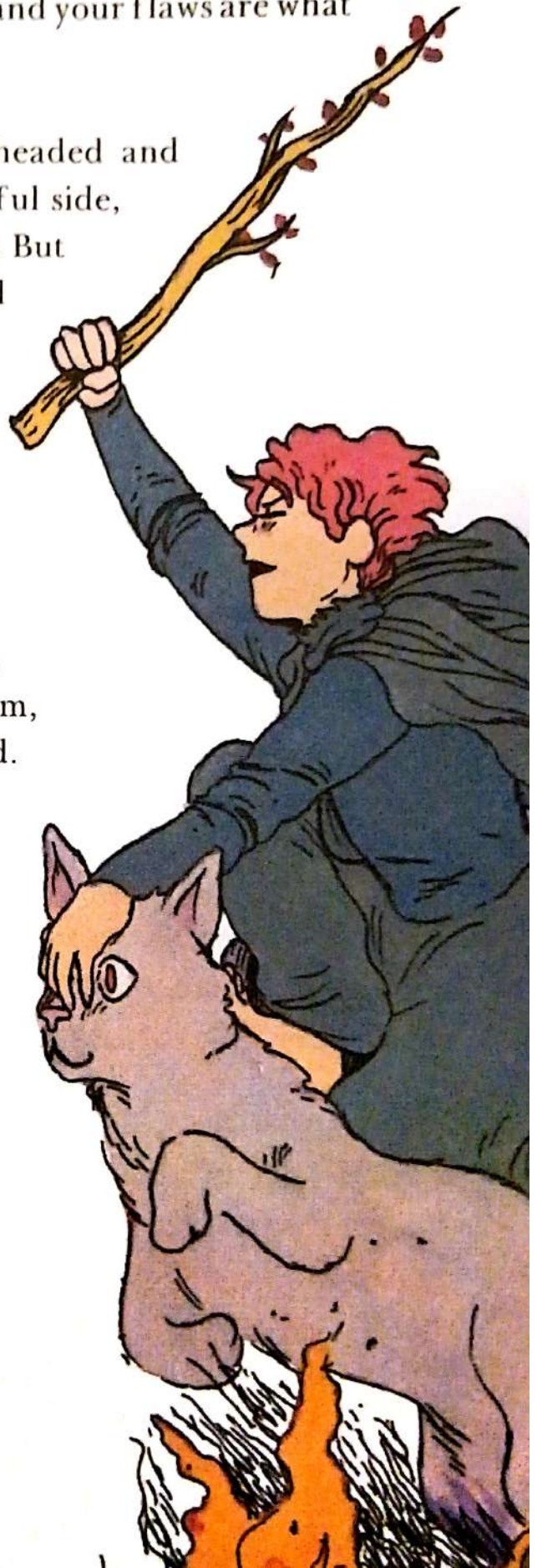


PRINCESS OF TORCHES: Tenacious and independent. You are audacious and present, but you can be careless. You run hot enough that you can burn yourself out. But you bring good news, and your flaws are what make you who you are.

PRINCE OF TORCHES: Hot-headed and colorful. You have a playful side, and you move with speed. But a part of you has potential for violence, and only you can reign that in.

QUEEN OF TORCHES: Authority and strength. Ignore the fools, listen to your heart. Your power comes from within. You are truly a Queen. Be firm, but kind, to those in need.

KING OF TORCHES: Action and justice. You are ready to make a move, but do so with honesty and tenacity. Let rules be your guide. Be careful not to let your energy explode; let it out with consideration.



CUPS



ACE OF CUPS: A fresh start, a new beginning. Internal growth is near. Find balance in your life. Harmony is on its way.

TWO OF CUPS: Unity and balance. Your relationships and pursuits have found a beautiful connection to one another. Enjoy the harmony in your life.

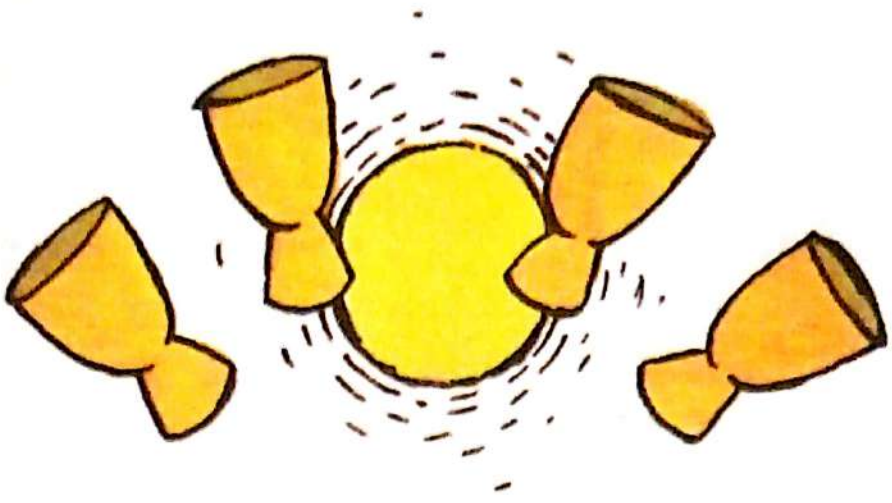
THREE OF CUPS: Success and joy. There has been a victory in your life. Allow yourself to celebrate it.

FOUR OF CUPS: Withdrawal and weariness. After a busy time, you feel aversion to your own joy. It is time to recuperate and refill your well.

FIVE OF CUPS: Grief and stagnation. You are trapped in your loss and continue to brood. While you feel you cannot go on, remember that time moves on regardless. Be like a clock, tick forward step by step.

SIX OF CUPS: Reflection and building. Look back upon the happiness you have felt, and honor this past by living the present to the fullest. Learn from what you have experienced.

SEVEN OF CUPS: Creativity and energy. The potential is alight around you; harness it. Use your time for what matters most.



EIGHT OF CUPS: Change and beginnings. To get what you want you'll need to go down a new path. Continuing on your current road will not work. Break off towards a new start.

NINE OF CUPS: Dreams and wishes. What you have waited for is here, and your dreams will come to fruition. Send your hopes out to the Universe and she will answer back.

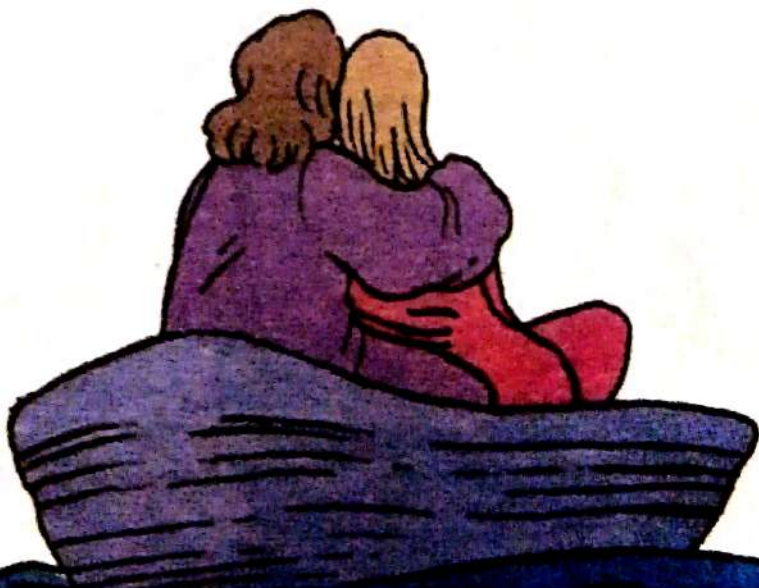


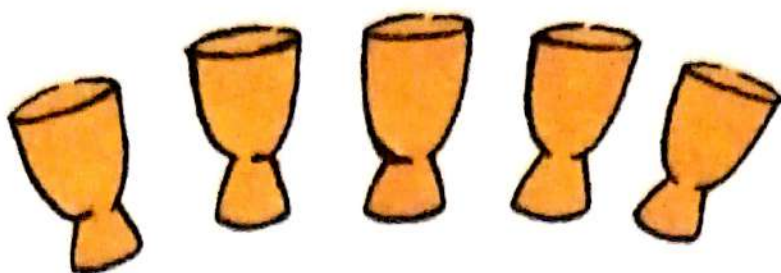


TEN OF CUPS: Harmony and bliss. Happiness is here, but it may not look the way you expect. Don't seek an explosive joy; instead, appreciate the peace and notice your satisfaction. These feelings are here to last.

PRINCESS OF CUPS: Innocent and romantic. Like your mother, you are a gentle and loving dreamer. But unlike her, you are more grounded. Your heart is deeply connected to the earth, but make sure no one takes advantage of that. Protect your sweet self.

PRINCE OF CUPS: Beauty and lies. You are here for secrets. You are subversive and romantic, and few truly





know your inner self. But they recognize the outside because you are made with style. Take the time to be more than beautiful, and attempt to be vulnerable with those around you.

QUEEN OF CUPS: Wise and disconnected. You are the Queen of the dreamy inner space. You are loving and kind, and your wisdom floats around you. Be ready to help, and share your dreams.

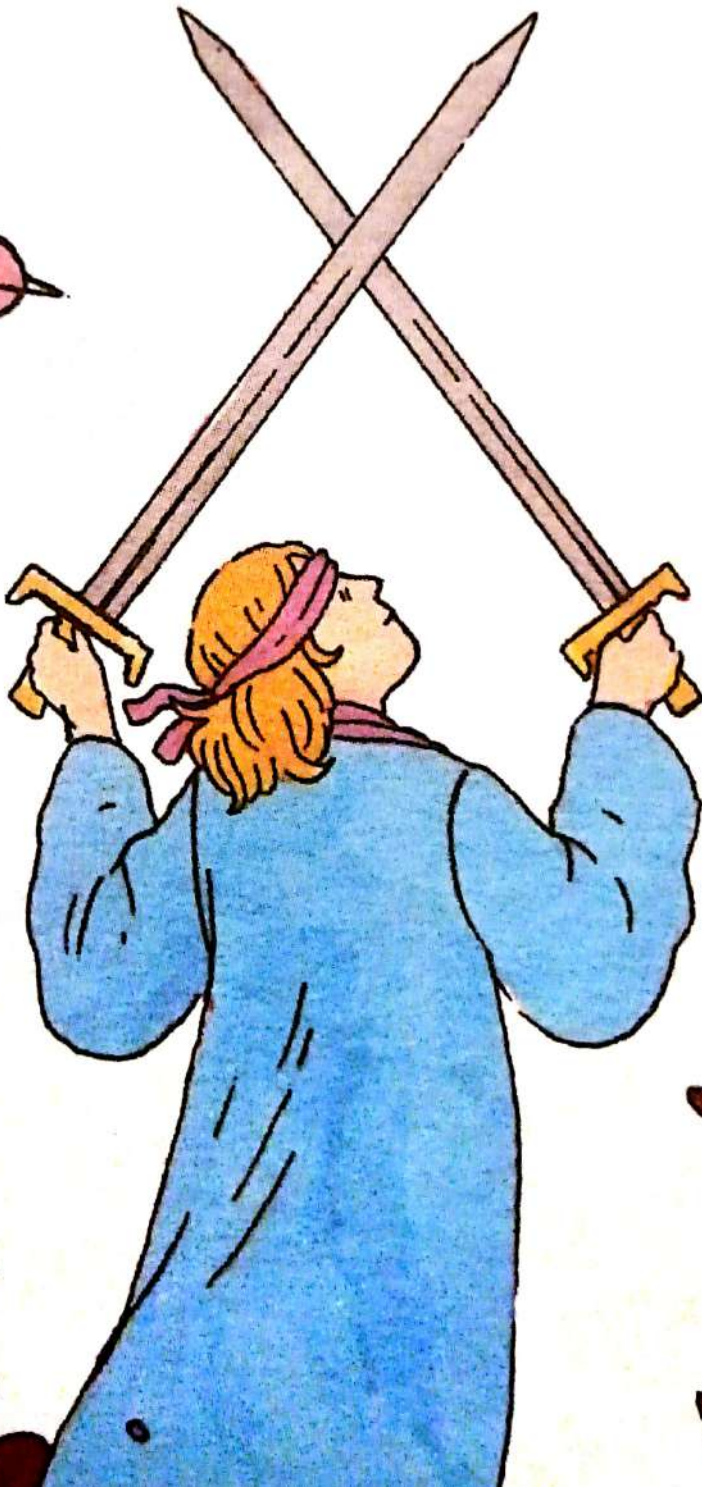
KING OF CUPS: Easy going and unfocused. A placid dude, ready to have a good time. You have a true heart, but you lack focus. You are fair and far from militant. All you really want to do is watch the flowers grow.



SWORDS

ACE OF SWORDS: Pain is present, but use your willpower to persevere. Reflect and grow no matter what is around you.

TWO OF SWORDS: Blind Faith. Be prepared to trust in the face of the unknown. It is impossible to know the future, let your strength be in your belief in the present.



THREE OF SWORDS: Endings and sorrow. There has been a cut through your life, leaving you isolated. Acknowledge your loss.

FOUR OF SWORDS: Rest and recovery. Retreat into yourself, find peace in your body. Solitude will help your mind work through the pain.

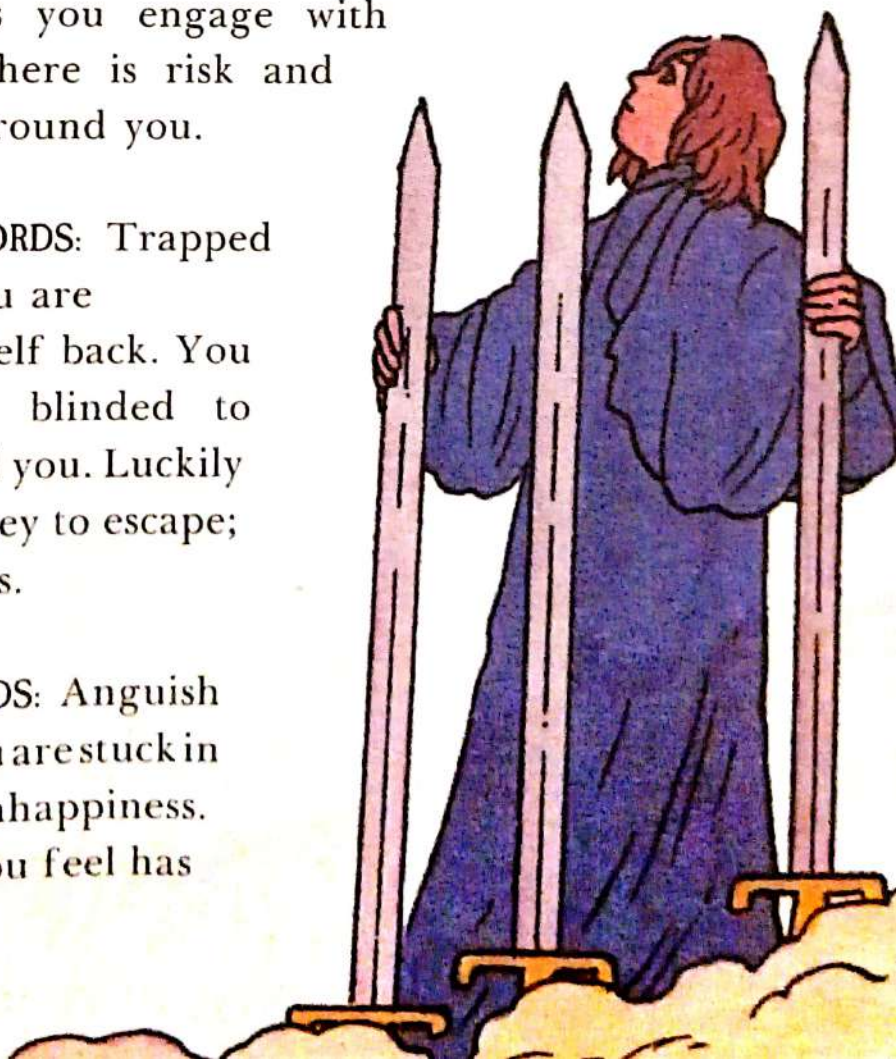
FIVE OF SWORDS: Victory and loss. Opposing feelings exist within you. Wonder is streaked with destitution. Try to adjust to the new world.

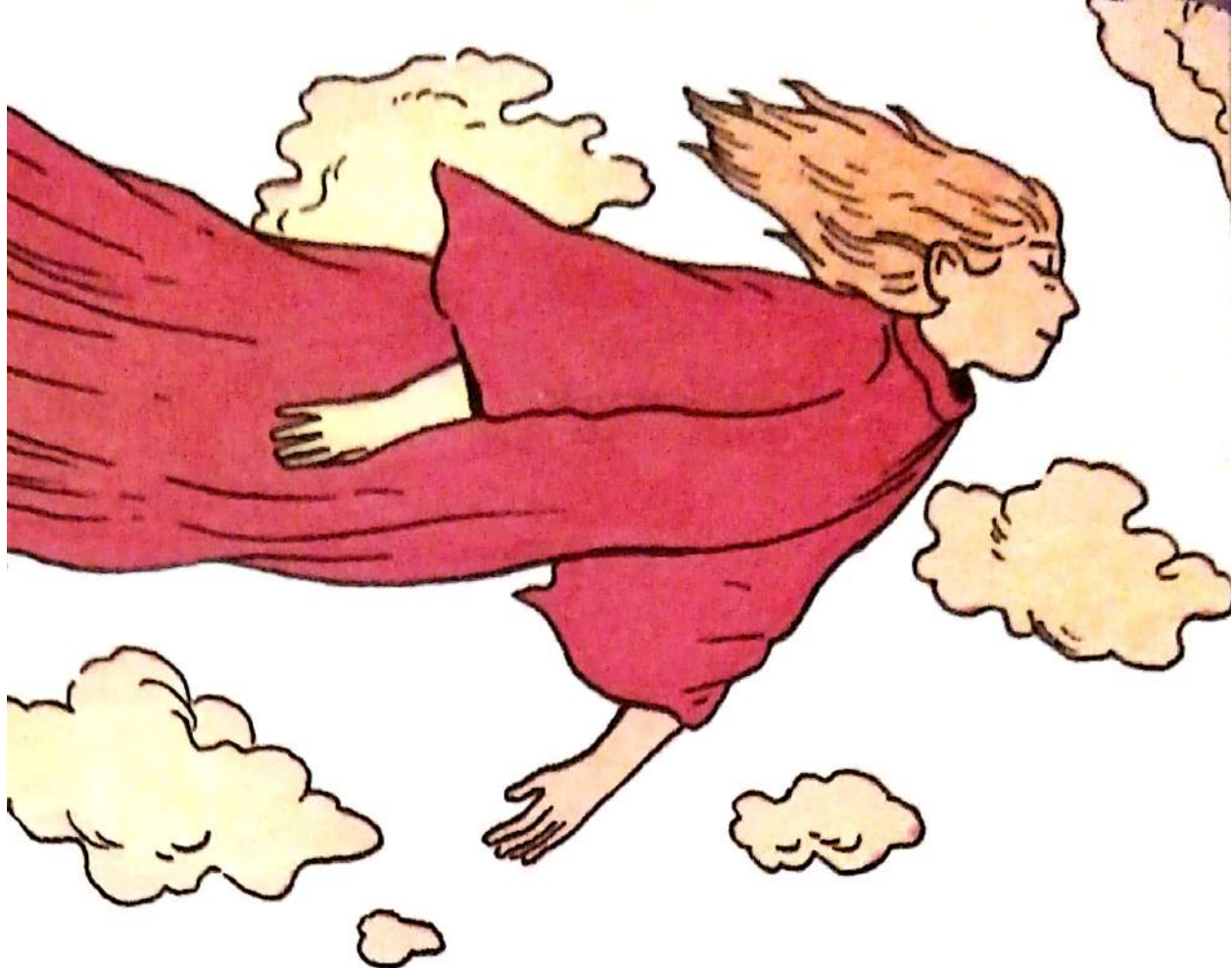
SIX OF SWORDS: Upheaval and progress. It is time to move forward after a difficult period. There is goodness and stability ahead. It will not be handed to you, you must seek it out.

SEVEN OF SWORDS: Caution and wariness. Keep your eyes open as you engage with the world. There is risk and superstition around you.

EIGHT OF SWORDS: Trapped and blind. You are holding yourself back. You have become blinded to what is around you. Luckily you hold the key to escape; open your eyes.

NINE OF SWORDS: Anguish and regret. You are stuck in a deep pit of unhappiness. The anxiety you feel has





become your only companion. It will not be easy to free yourself.

TEN OF SWORDS: Endings and fatigue. The long period of suffering you've faced is nearly over. Don't let your weariness stop you in your tracks. Continue on and you will find an ending and a new beginning.

PRINCESS OF SWORDS: Warrior and noble. You are the beautiful, avenging angel. Many fear you, and rightfully so. Your enemies are nothing compared to you. But you can be risky, so take heed. Find patience and harness your ferocity.

PRINCE OF SWORDS: Aggressive and combative. You believe the world is out to get you, and because of that you think it gives you the right to lash out. If you are able to cool off and come back to reality, your spirit could be used for good.

QUEEN OF SWORDS: Tough and loving. You are formidable, so many do not see that you are also very loving. You are a mentor and a good listener. You have been through a lot, and your experience informs who you are.

KING OF SWORDS: Serious and in charge. You are the authority. Your powerful mind is your greatest asset, but those around you do not always appreciate your hard truths. You respect the law perhaps too much, and often find yourself alienated from those around you.



PENTACLES

ACE OF PENTACLES:

Opportunity and enterprise are on the horizon, but be wary to not descend into greed and corruption. Use your ambition for good.



TWO OF PENTACLES: Financial strain. There is a lot you are juggling. Be steadfast. Better times are coming.



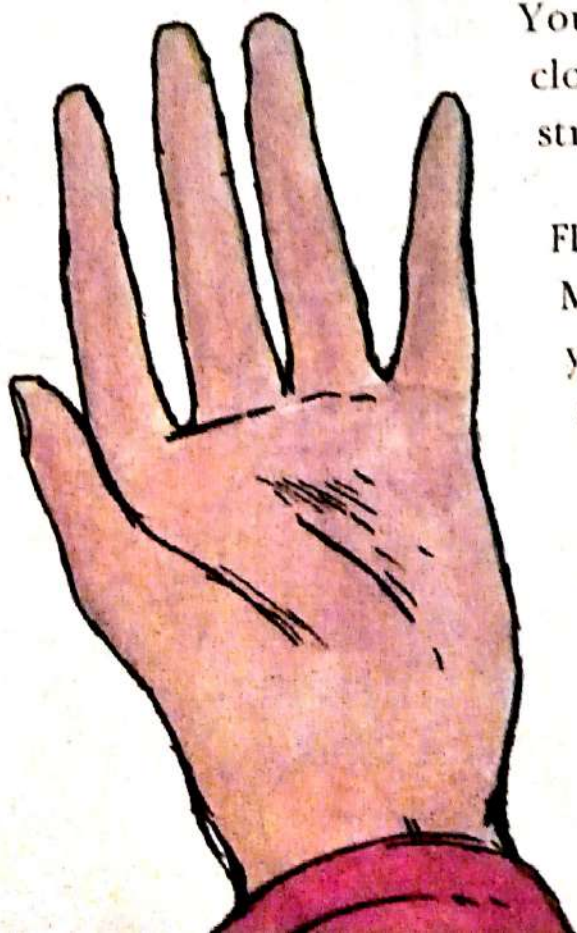
THREE OF PENTACLES: Honing your skills in preparation. Now is the time to make a move. Share your knowledge with the world.

FOUR OF PENTACLES:

Cautious and conservative. You are holding your wealth close and have begun feel a strong sense of greed.

FIVE OF PENTACLES:

Misfortune is near. Watch your financial interests, and search in your life for the root cause of your struggle.



SIX OF PENTACLES: Give and take. Balance has reentered your life. Maintain it by being charitable and open. Try to understand how what you have interacts with what others have.

SEVEN OF PENTACLES: Effort and benefit. Your hard work is taking you where you need to go. Continue forward. Do not be afraid of pushing yourself.

EIGHT OF PENTACLES: Work and more work. It is time to settle in and sweat. Work hard and don't procrastinate.

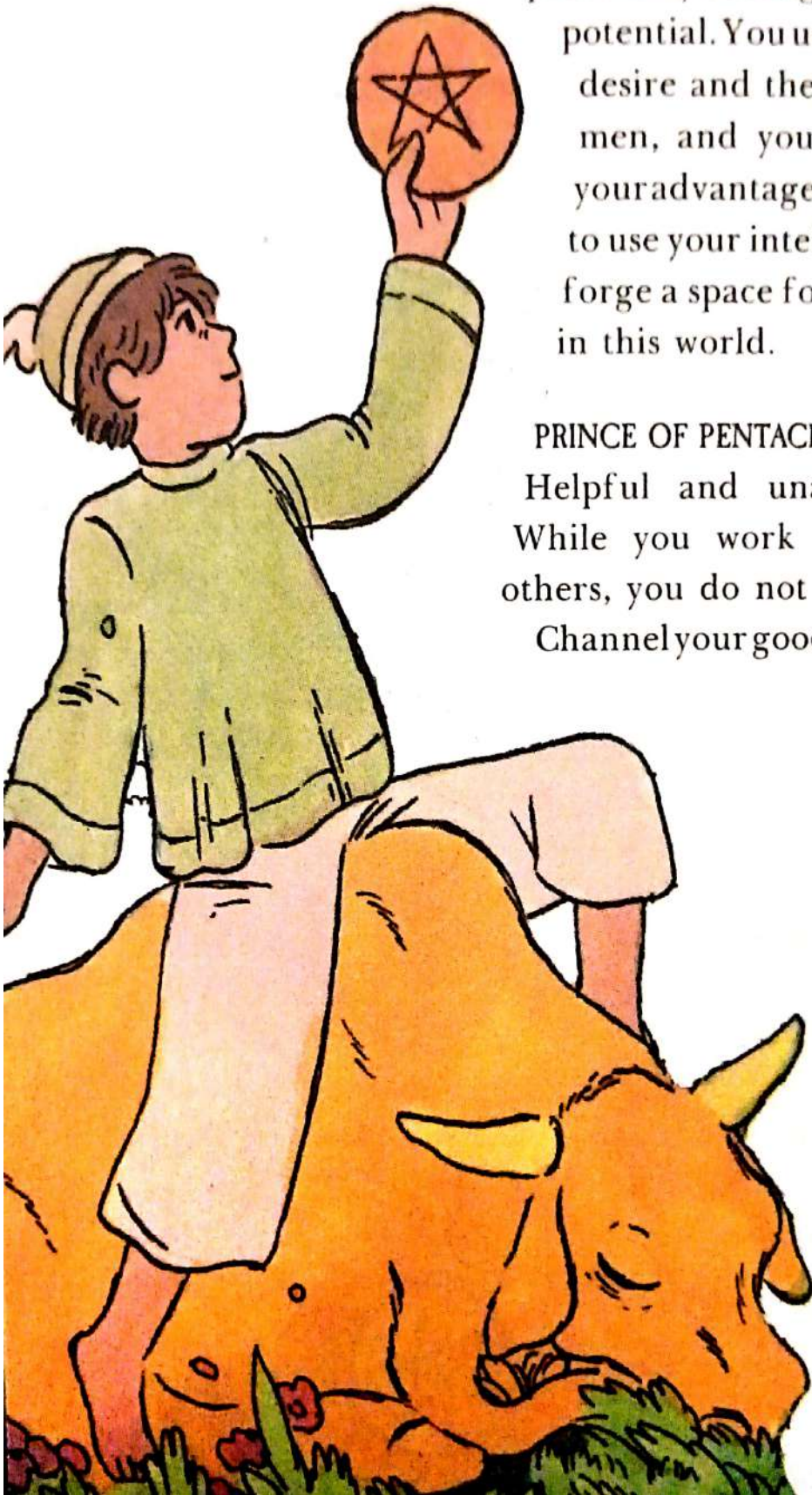
NINE OF PENTACLES: Stability and abundance. You have reached a rich plateau. Worry not for money. Look out from your perch and enjoy your dominion.



TEN OF PENTACLES: Stability and rewards. Enjoy the fruits of your labor. Do not compare your finery to others. Simply enjoy what you have.

PRINCESS OF PENTACLES: Intelligent and ambitious. You are the one everyone underestimates. But you are practically boiling over with potential. You understand desire and the follies of men, and you use it to your advantage. Continue to use your intelligence to forge a space for yourself in this world.

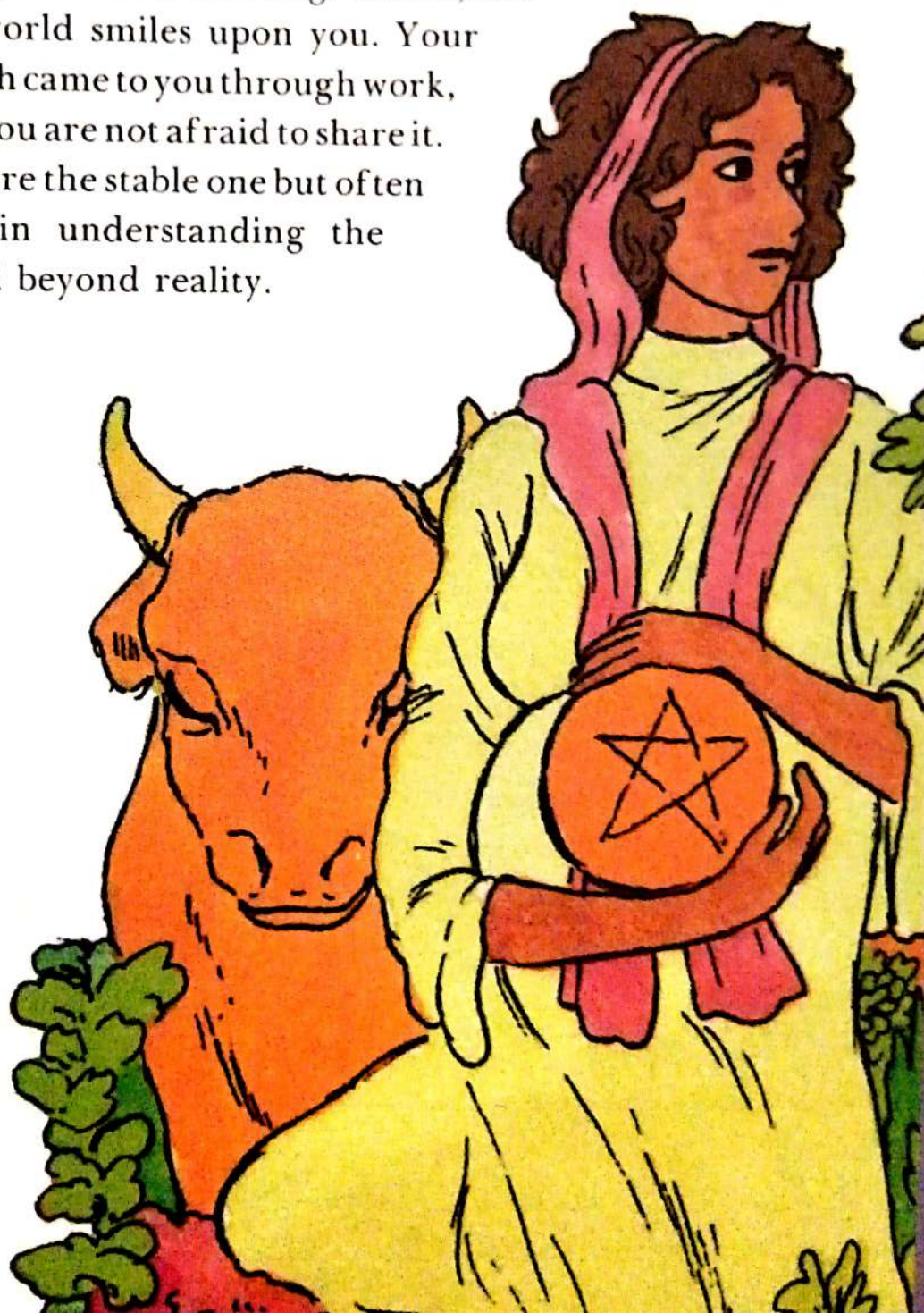
PRINCE OF PENTACLES:
Helpful and unambitious. While you work hard for others, you do not self-start. Channel your goodness back



towards yourself. You already know you are worthy, and you know how to take care of yourself.

QUEEN OF PENTACLES: Regal and benevolent. You are quiet and sensible, and understanding to the problems of those around you. While you have wealth, you do not worship it. You are realistic and empathetic, and everyone wants to be your friend or child.

KING OF PENTACLES: Practical and kind. You are steady as an old tree. You give back, and the world smiles upon you. Your wealth came to you through work, and you are not afraid to share it. You are the stable one but often lack in understanding the world beyond reality.



HOW TO READ THE TAROT

This is a brief introductory guide to reading the tarot. This will not be the only guide you ever need, but hopefully it's enough to get you started. So first off, choose your question wisely. The tarot spread you're using can often dictate the question, but if it's a more open-ended matter, try to avoid binary questions or being highly specific. Have a timeframe clearly stated and try not to look out too far if you want to avoid a woolly answer.

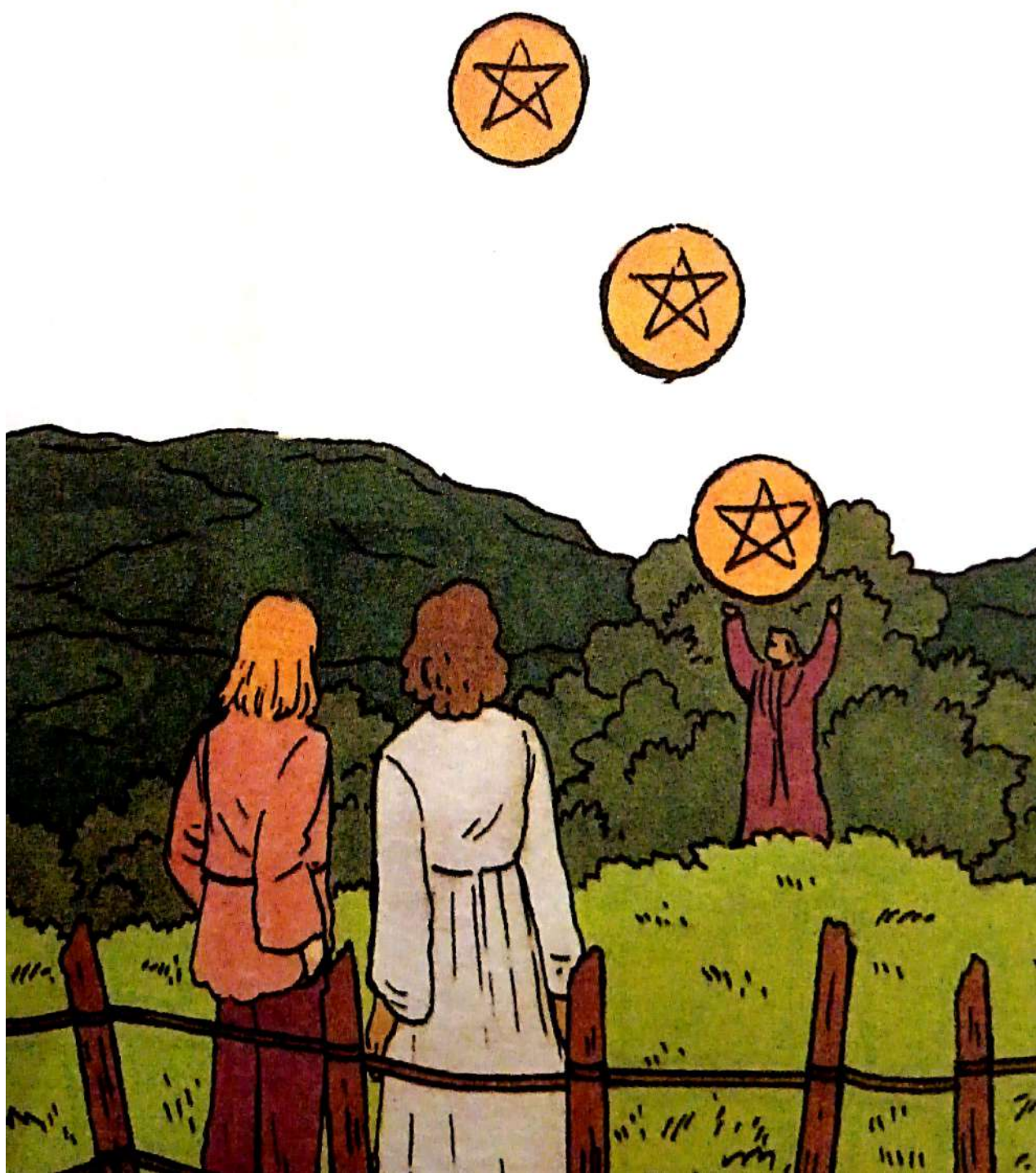
As the querent shuffles (and there is no wrong shuffle!*), guide their thoughts. Can they think back to the circumstances that led here? What is the current situation, and what are their hopes and worries? This helps focus both you and the querent.

You could either cut the cards and draw from the top, or fan the cards out and ask the querent to select them one by one. Every reader has their own personal way to select the cards, so feel free to experiment.

When you have laid out the cards, pause and take a moment. There's no rush. How do the cards fit into their position in the spread? How do they relate to one another? What is the overall picture? Perhaps, try seeing the cards as a comic – a visual story that unfolds. And trust your instincts!

All of this is bit like describing how to ride a bike. You can only truly learn through experience. So the best advice I have is to find a curious friend and read for each other. Practice, learn and most importantly enjoy!!

*If a card drops out when shuffling, put it to one side and include it in the reading. Think of this as a background environment card. If half the pack drops out, consider another shuffling style!



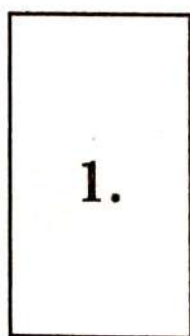
TAROT SPREADS

A tarot spread is a set way of laying out the cards, with each card position conveying a meaning. It's a way of putting structure around the cards and also helps frame the question.

Looking online is a great way to uncover new tarot spreads; in fact, it's almost overwhelming how many there are! But here are a few classic spreads that you might find useful, plus a couple that have been created just for *The Cosmic Slumber Tarot*.

DAILY DRAW

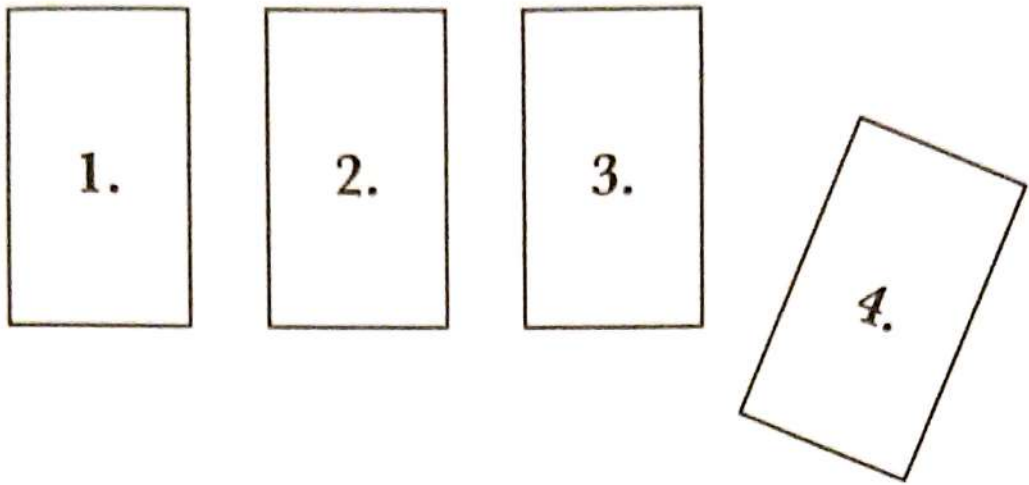
Beginners start here



This is less of a spread and more of a practice. Draw a single card at roughly the same time each day. Reflect on yesterday's card first. Does it make sense looking back? Was your reading right? And then draw for the day ahead. This is a great little routine, especially when you are starting out.

FOUR CARD SPREADS

Next steps



Below are a few suggested ways to use the above layout. They are all quick and easy to remember.

1. Past 2. Present 3. Future 4. Advice

Remember to clearly state your timeframe in the question.

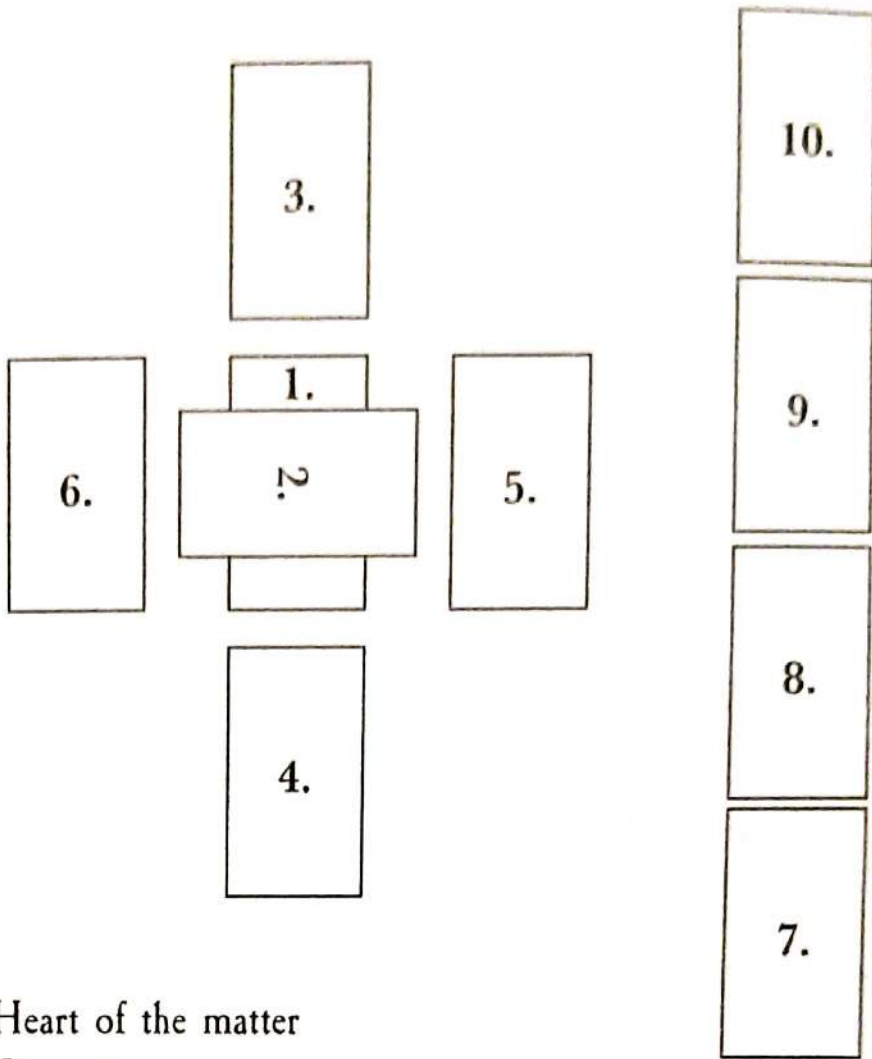
1. Positive 2. Negative 3. Result 4. Advice

A great way to show that all cards have both a beneficial and detrimental side. This spread is an excellent way to get to know the cards

Three in One

The first three cards combine to present a single response. This is an old-school fortune telling approach that is wonderfully flexible in answering all types of queries. Try noticing if a character in one card is looking at or interacting with other cards. Can you see one whole picture? The fourth card still sits apart as advice.

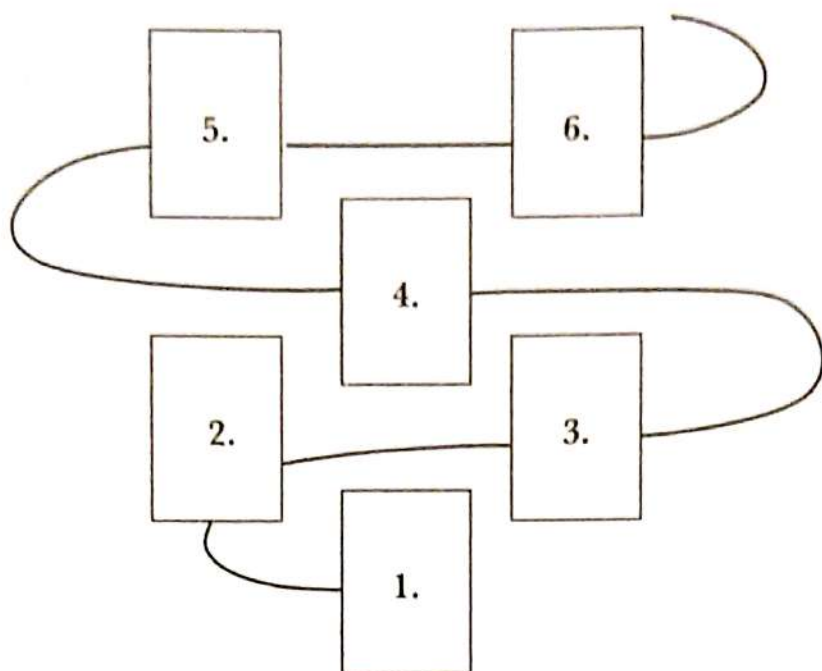
THE CELTIC CROSS



1. Heart of the matter
2. Obstacle
3. Crown, conscious influences
4. Foundation, unconscious influences
5. Past
6. Future
7. Attitude and state of mind
8. Environment
9. Hopes and fears
10. Outcome

A very classical tarot spread that has a few subtle variations in the wild. The tone is set by card 1, Heart of the matter, which represents what is foremost in the querent's thoughts or concerns. This is not a spread that needs a specific question.

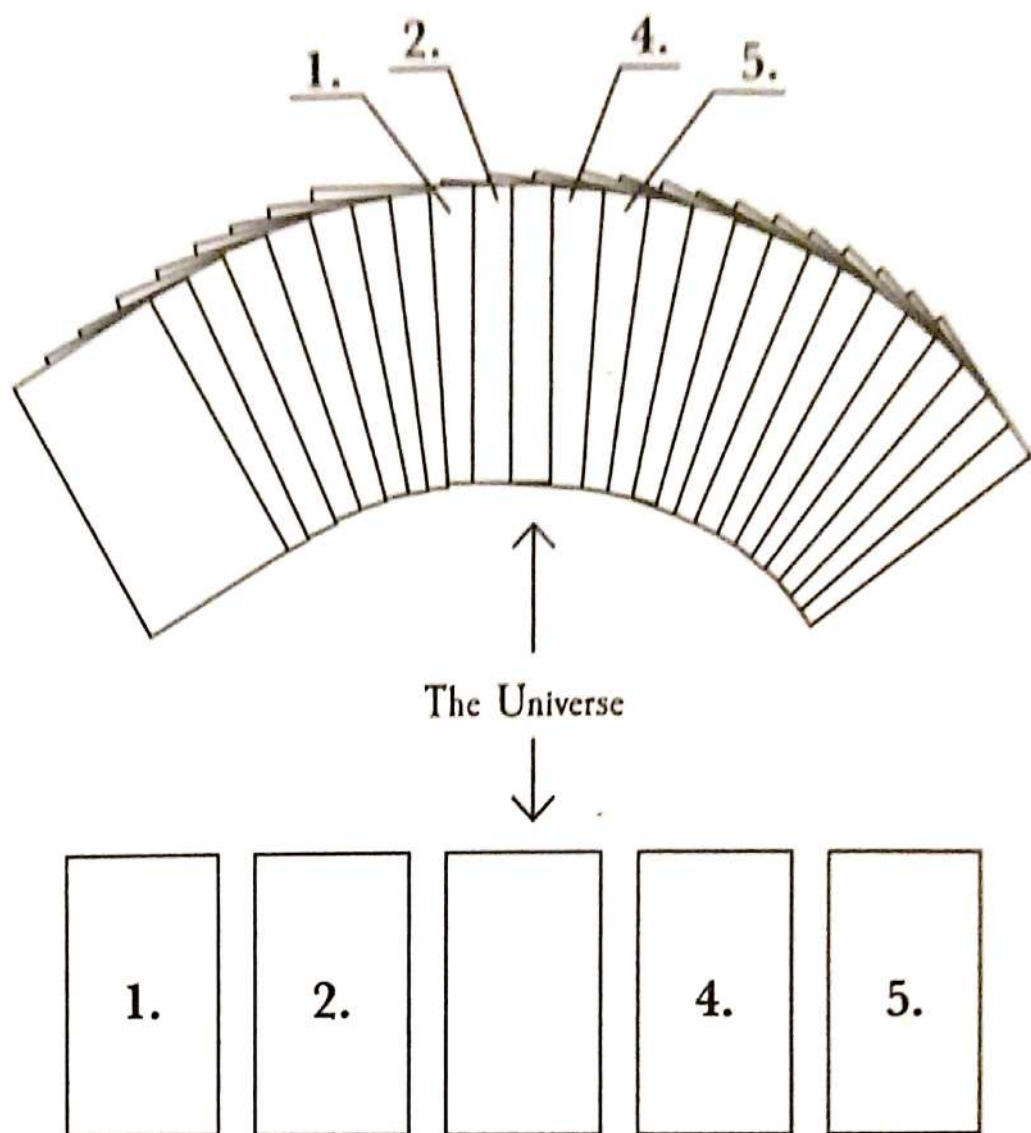
DREAM PATH OF THE SPHERES



1. Moon. Parting the veil. What do you know intuitively?
2. Mercury. Lucidity. What can be controlled through clarity of thought?
3. Venus. The Bond. Where should compassion prevail?
4. Sun. Revelation. What advice should be treasured upon waking?
5. Mars. The Nightmare. Where does conflict lie?
6. Jupiter. Wisdom. What truth is revealed?

Approach this spread as if it were a dream. The first card, the Moon, is the doorway to sleep; so relax, half-close the eyes and breathe deeply and evenly as the card is selected. Let the mind drift as you choose the cards – don't worry about which position you are selecting for as you draw. As the tarot reader, read the cards in a similar relaxed and loose way. Try to keep the barrier to the subconscious as thin as possible and let the dream flow.

OF WHAT DOES THE UNIVERSE DREAM



1. Underlying history
2. Recent concerns
3. The Universe
4. Immediate aims
5. Long term goal

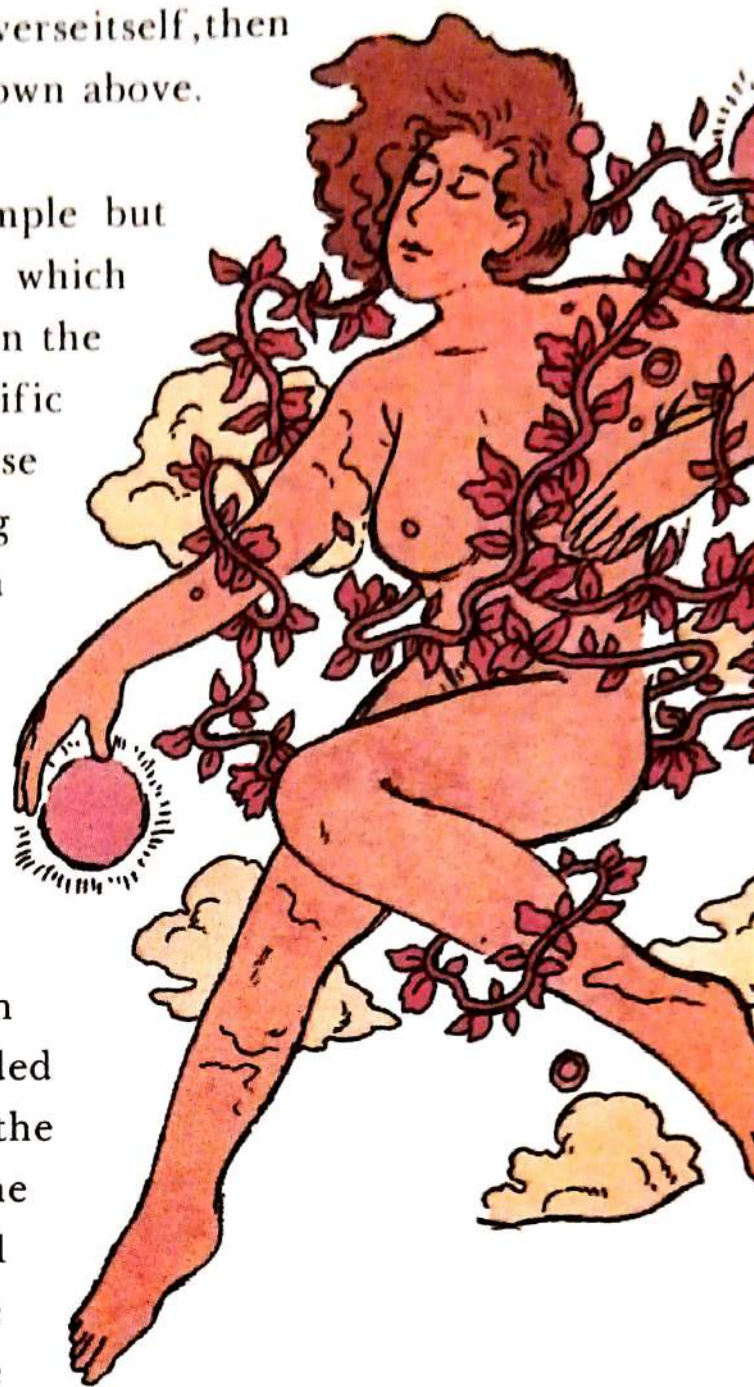
The key in this spread is how you select the cards. Shuffle the whole deck then turn them face up and look for The Universe. Take out the two cards that come

before The Universe, the Two that follow, and The Universe itself, then lay them out as shown above.

This is a very simple but powerful spread, which is great to use when the querent has no specific query. You could use it as an opening reading from which you could explore a single card.

But what if The Universe appears in position other than 3 (i.e. less than two cards preceded or followed it in the shuffle?) If The Universe is card 1 (no cards before it), then you are moving into a whole

new stage of your life. In position 2, the same applies, but card 1 represents things you are still carrying forward. In 4, then only one step lies between you and a settling point in life. In 5, WOW! You've arrived – you feel perfectly aligned with the cosmos. Barriers drop and life feels joyous and effortless.



BONUS CARDS



the morning



the night

THE MORNING

The Morning greets you with dim light. This card reflects the chance to start over, the chance to rise into the day a little bit stronger than yesterday. Use the energy of the morning for beginnings – a new project, a new conversation, a new feeling.

THE NIGHT

The Night comes when you need it most. It is the place for you to sink into and escape. The long day is coming to an end, but the night allows you to extend it, to draw the time out. While everyone else sleeps, you will work. Use the night to its fullest. The moon slows down the clock for you so you may have the time you need to face the problems ahead.