

Fool's Gambit



Tarot Guide



Table of Contents

A Thanks to the Artist.....3

Introduction.....5

Tarot Basics.....10

How to Read (Tarot).....12

Meanings:

The Major Arcana.....17

Wands.....40

Pentacles.....55

Cups.....70

Swords.....85



*A Thanks
to the
Artist*

The Fool's Gambit tarot deck could not exist today if it were not for Elientje De Laet. She brought the entire deck to life by creating a total of 79 unique illustrations with minimal input. Not only that, but her unique art style perfectly brings out the whimsical, fun side of tarot that I had hoped to emphasize with this project. For this, I am extremely grateful, and would recommend her services to anyone who enjoys this art style.

If you would like to see more of her work, you can find her on Instagram:

[@ellie.patatellie](https://www.instagram.com/ellie.patatellie)

A decorative border in a light red color frames the page. It features stylized floral motifs, including leaves and small circular flowers, positioned at the corners and along the edges of a rounded rectangular frame.

Introduction




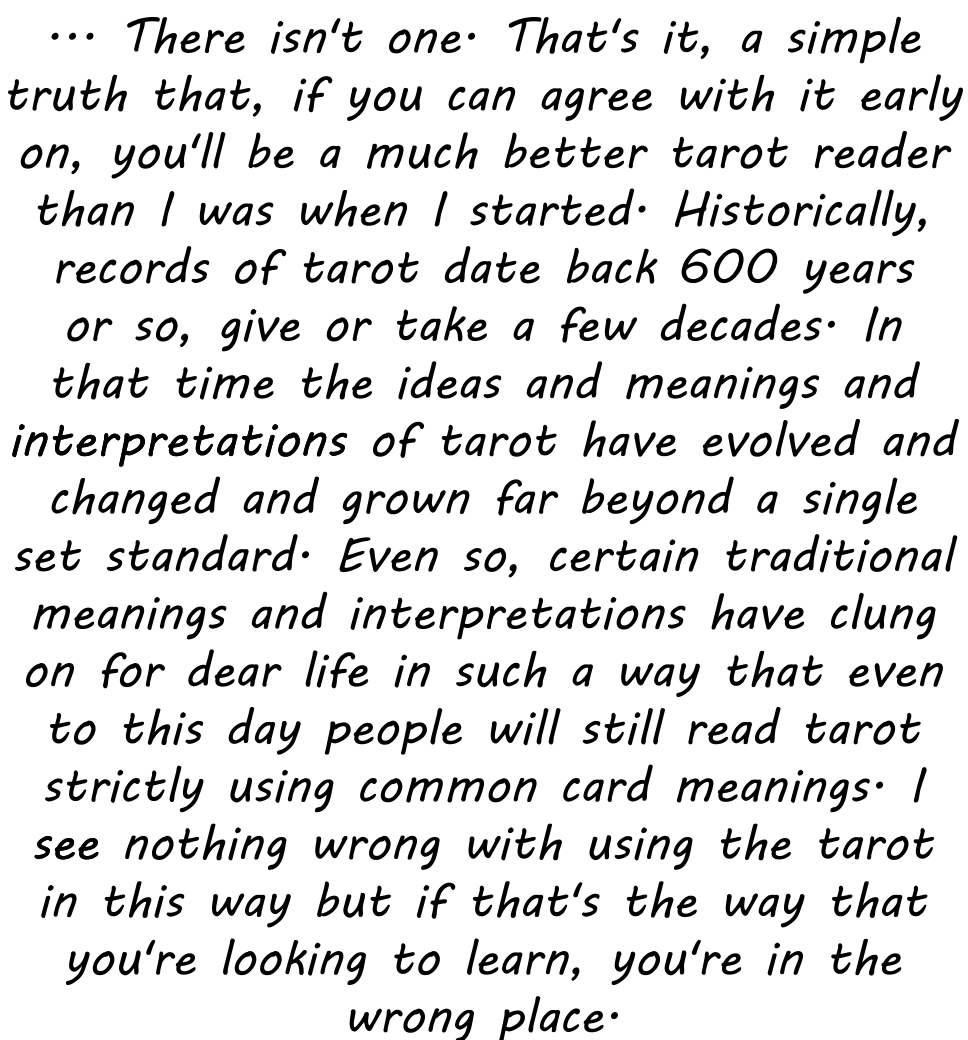
*Hello oh great and beautiful
reader!*

*Welcome, and congratulations on your
acquisition of the Fool's Gambit tarot
deck! Well, at least I assume that you
have a copy of the Fool's Gambit tarot
deck. If not, what are you doing here?
How did you come across this guide?
Regardless, I'm glad to have you.*

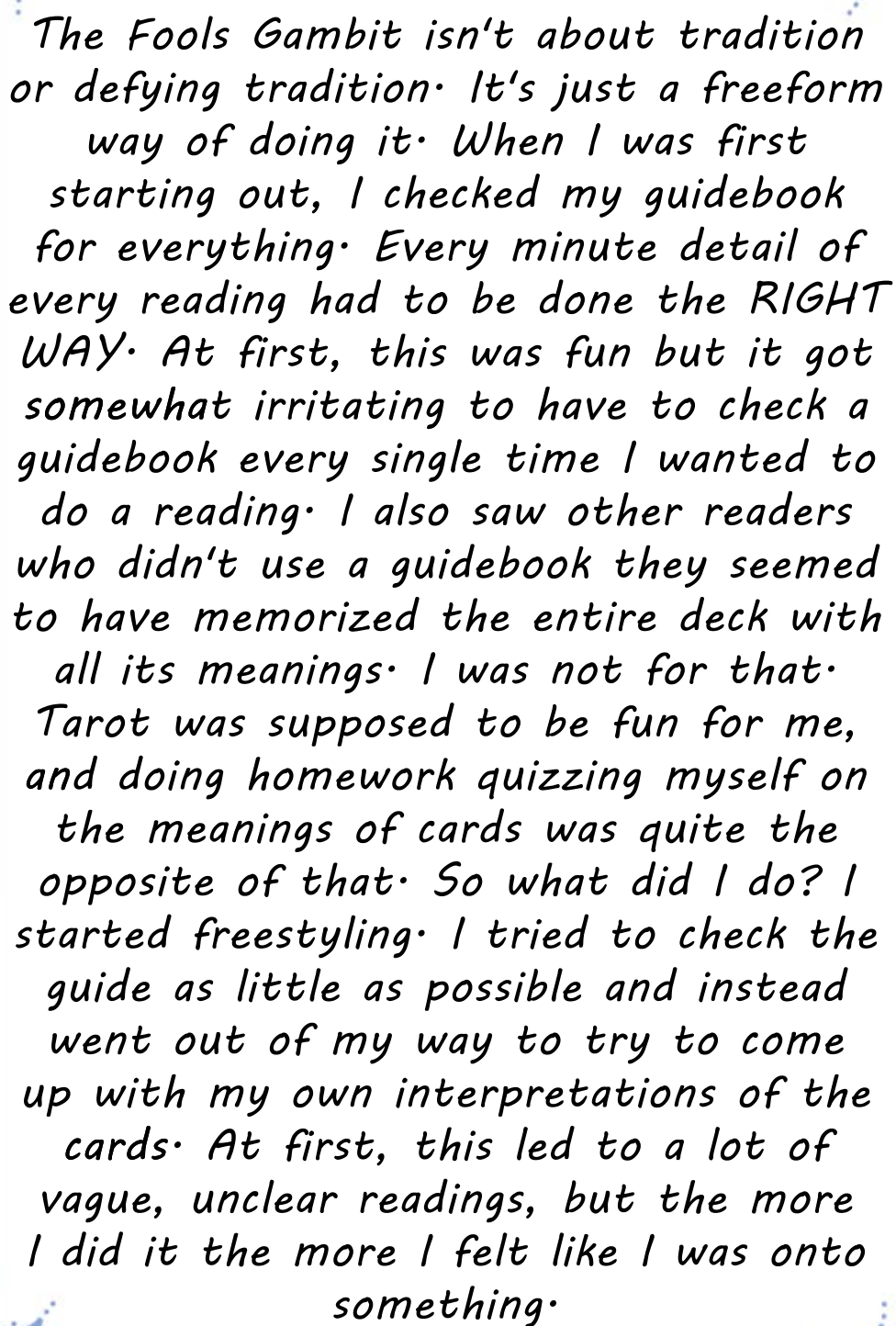
*Another assumption that I'm going to
make is that you are here because you
want to know how to read the Fools
Gambit. I know that especially when it's
your first time looking at all the symbols
and imagery of tarot it can seem pretty
intimidating trying to understand what's
in front of you. Luckily for you, you've
got me. I am here to tell you about
the bona fide 100% best way of reading
tarot...*

Are you ready?

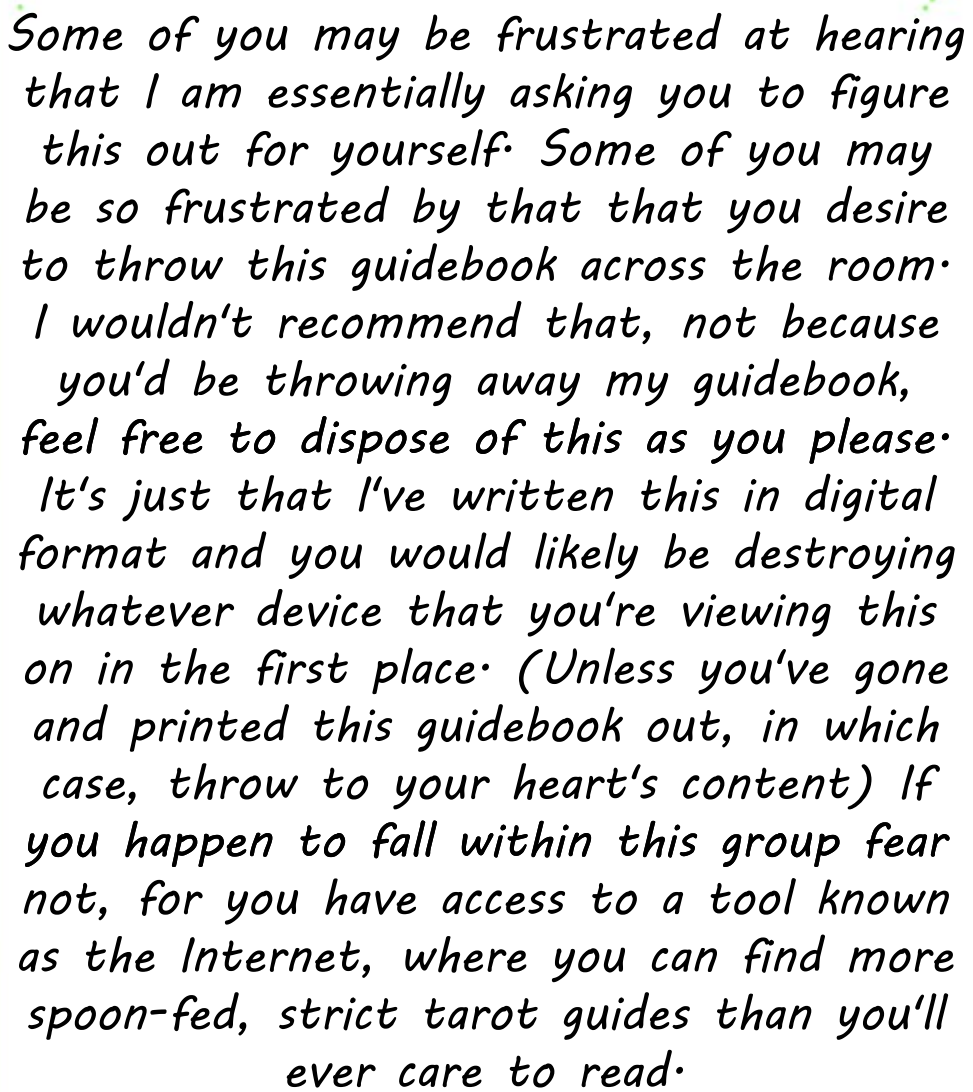




... There isn't one. That's it, a simple truth that, if you can agree with it early on, you'll be a much better tarot reader than I was when I started. Historically, records of tarot date back 600 years or so, give or take a few decades. In that time the ideas and meanings and interpretations of tarot have evolved and changed and grown far beyond a single set standard. Even so, certain traditional meanings and interpretations have clung on for dear life in such a way that even to this day people will still read tarot strictly using common card meanings. I see nothing wrong with using the tarot in this way but if that's the way that you're looking to learn, you're in the wrong place.

A decorative blue border with floral and leaf motifs surrounds the text. The border is composed of stylized leaves and small circular patterns, creating a frame for the central text.

The Fools Gambit isn't about tradition or defying tradition. It's just a freeform way of doing it. When I was first starting out, I checked my guidebook for everything. Every minute detail of every reading had to be done the RIGHT WAY. At first, this was fun but it got somewhat irritating to have to check a guidebook every single time I wanted to do a reading. I also saw other readers who didn't use a guidebook they seemed to have memorized the entire deck with all its meanings. I was not for that. Tarot was supposed to be fun for me, and doing homework quizzing myself on the meanings of cards was quite the opposite of that. So what did I do? I started freestyling. I tried to check the guide as little as possible and instead went out of my way to try to come up with my own interpretations of the cards. At first, this led to a lot of vague, unclear readings, but the more I did it the more I felt like I was onto something.



Some of you may be frustrated at hearing that I am essentially asking you to figure this out for yourself. Some of you may be so frustrated by that that you desire to throw this guidebook across the room. I wouldn't recommend that, not because you'd be throwing away my guidebook, feel free to dispose of this as you please. It's just that I've written this in digital format and you would likely be destroying whatever device that you're viewing this on in the first place. (Unless you've gone and printed this guidebook out, in which case, throw to your heart's content) If you happen to fall within this group fear not, for you have access to a tool known as the Internet, where you can find more spoon-fed, strict tarot guides than you'll ever care to read.

If, on the other hand you have yet to throw this across the room or delete the file that you are currently reading, then come on in and have a seat while I try not to overexplain tarot.

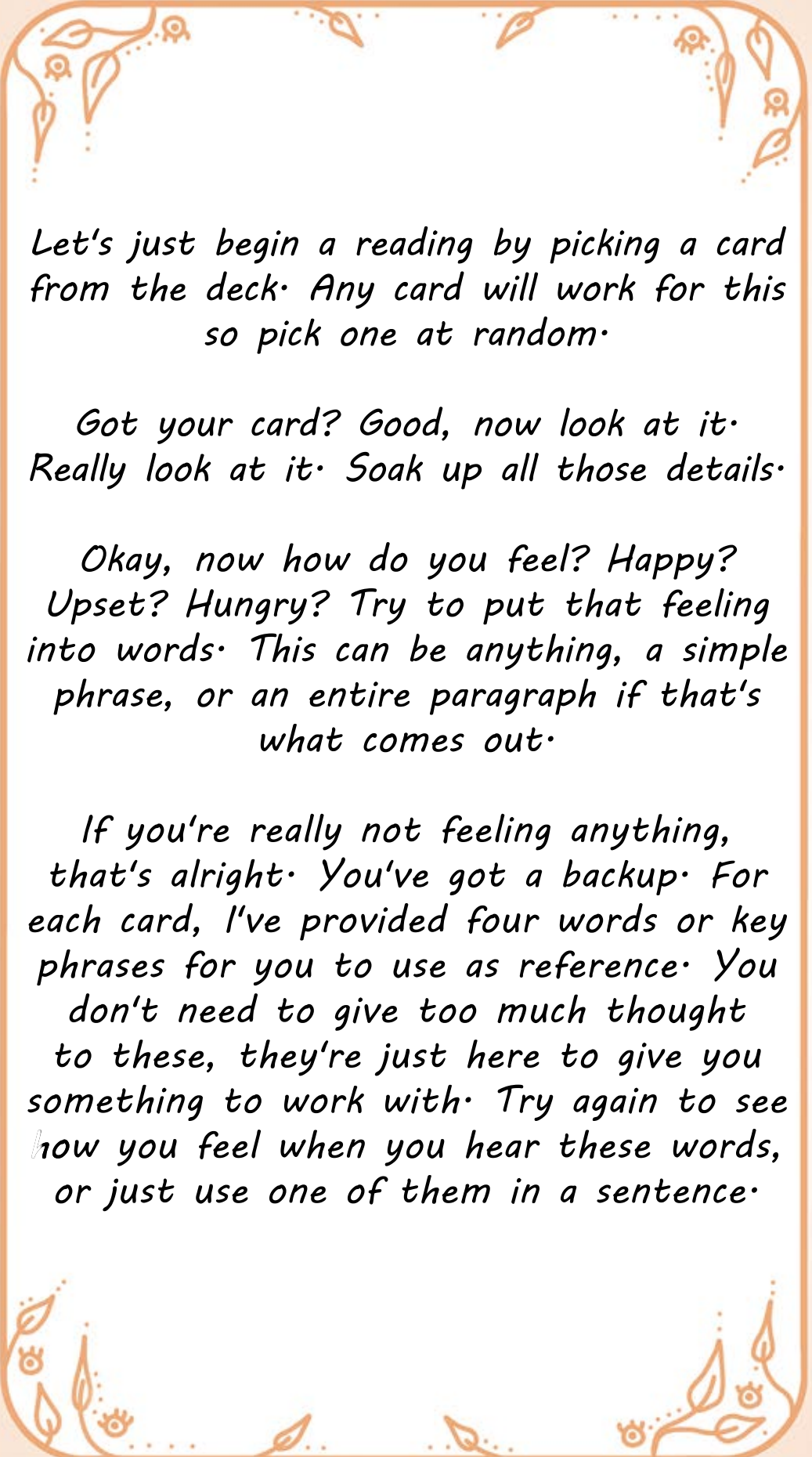


Tarot Basics

If you're completely new to tarot, let me start by giving you a general idea of how this deck is put together. There are 78 cards in total, composed of 5 suits. The first suit is called the Major Arcana, and these cards typically represent major events or influences in life. Many people will read these cards as indicators that there is something important coming through the reading. The remaining four suits are Wands, Pentacles, Cups, and Swords, and they are arranged similarly to the suits of playing cards. Each suit has numbered cards from 1 to 10, following which come the face cards in the order of Page, Knight, Queen, then King. The type of each suit also represents a different aspect of self and others. In the case of this deck, Wands correspond to energy, Pentacles correspond to the physical world, Cups correspond to spirit, and swords correspond to the mind. However, you'll likely see that depending on the context, your interpreted meaning won't fit perfectly into these given categories. Got all that memorized? Yes? No? Doesn't matter.

A decorative orange border with rounded corners, featuring stylized floral and leaf motifs in the corners and along the edges. The text is centered within this border.

How to Read (Tarot)

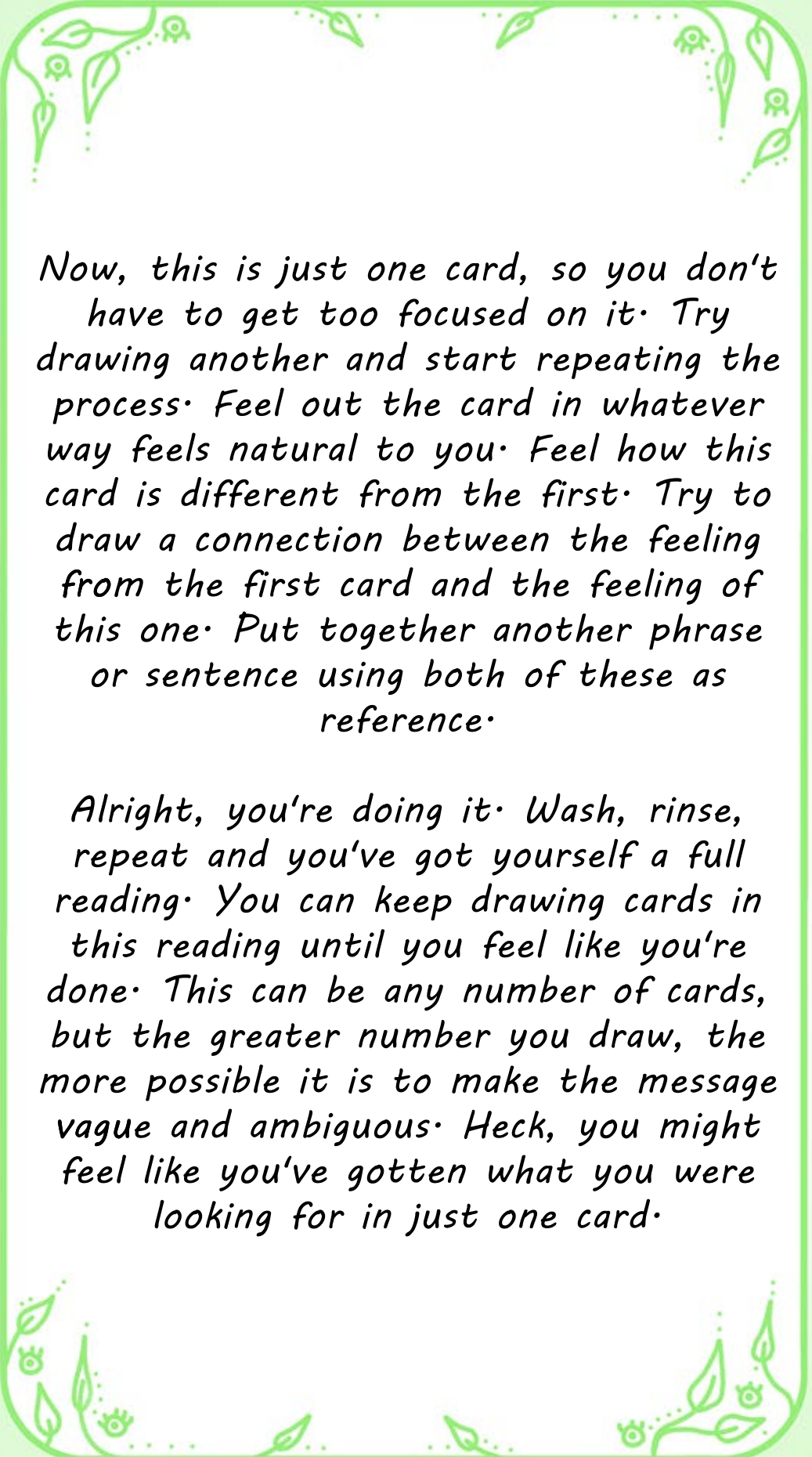


Let's just begin a reading by picking a card from the deck. Any card will work for this so pick one at random.

Got your card? Good, now look at it. Really look at it. Soak up all those details.

Okay, now how do you feel? Happy? Upset? Hungry? Try to put that feeling into words. This can be anything, a simple phrase, or an entire paragraph if that's what comes out.

If you're really not feeling anything, that's alright. You've got a backup. For each card, I've provided four words or key phrases for you to use as reference. You don't need to give too much thought to these, they're just here to give you something to work with. Try again to see how you feel when you hear these words, or just use one of them in a sentence.




Now, this is just one card, so you don't have to get too focused on it. Try drawing another and start repeating the process. Feel out the card in whatever way feels natural to you. Feel how this card is different from the first. Try to draw a connection between the feeling from the first card and the feeling of this one. Put together another phrase or sentence using both of these as reference.

Alright, you're doing it. Wash, rinse, repeat and you've got yourself a full reading. You can keep drawing cards in this reading until you feel like you're done. This can be any number of cards, but the greater number you draw, the more possible it is to make the message vague and ambiguous. Heck, you might feel like you've gotten what you were looking for in just one card.



A note on reversals:

A fairly common practice in the world of tarot is to to change the meaning of a card based on the orientation it is drawn. The version of this that I have seen the most is interpreting a card as the opposite of its given meaning if you draw it upside down. If doing it this way strikes your fancy, go for it. Sometimes I do, most of the time I don't. It's your choice, your reading.



Hopefully, you'll find that this is only as hard as you make it for yourself. The more you get out of your own way, the more it will flow naturally. Definitely don't try to make this a "perfect reading". You'll never hit that perfectly mystical point where all is perfectly clear and everything is resolved forever. Life isn't like that. Tarot isn't like that. The ideas you're getting out of this are like seeds. It's still up to you to cultivate and grow them. You can take what feels right and leave everything else behind.

Feel free to celebrate! You're a practitioner of the subtle arts now, lets see if you do anything interesting.

-The Fool



The Major Arcana





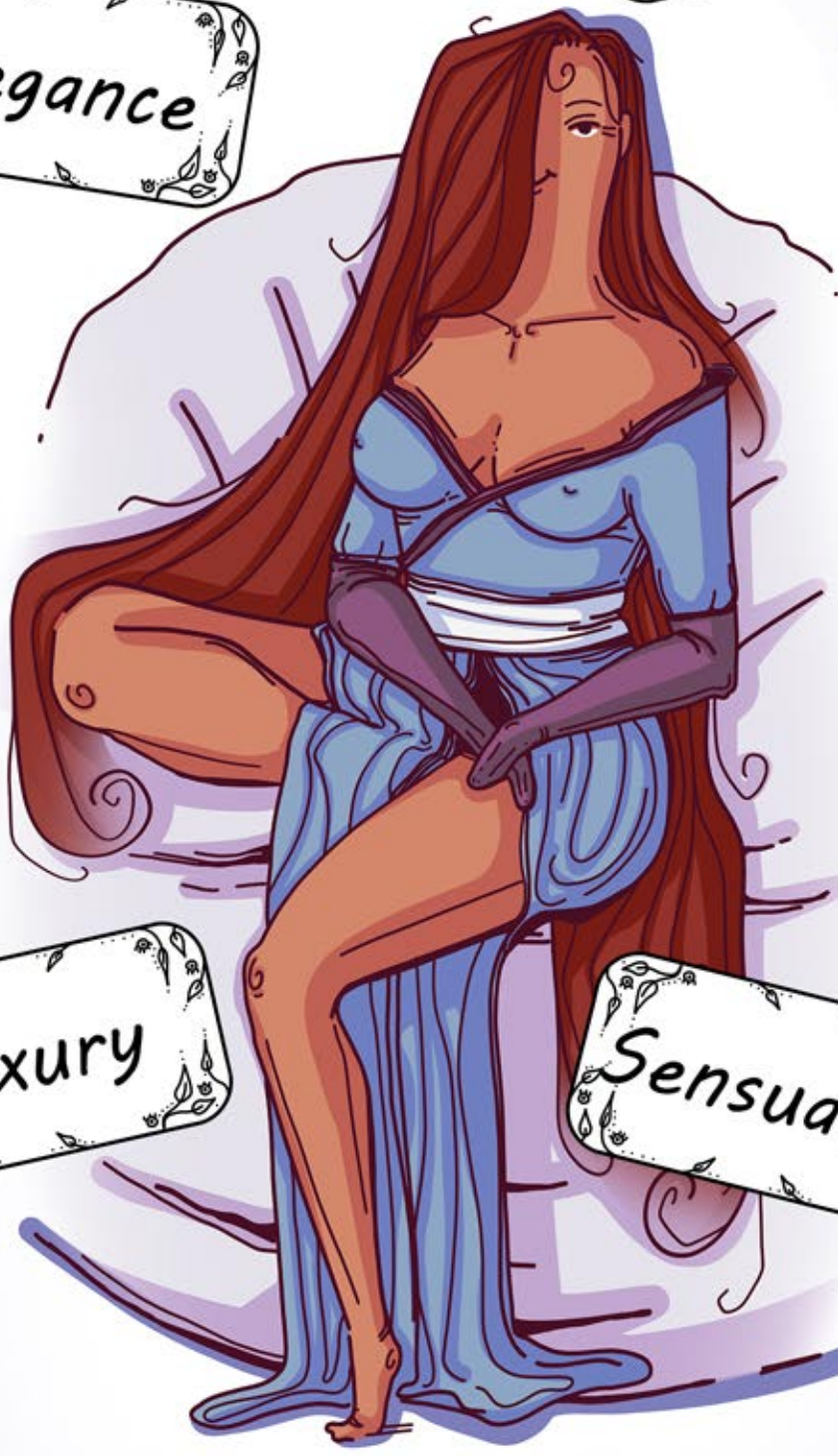
The Magician



3

Confidence

Elegance



Luxury

Sensuality

The Empress

4

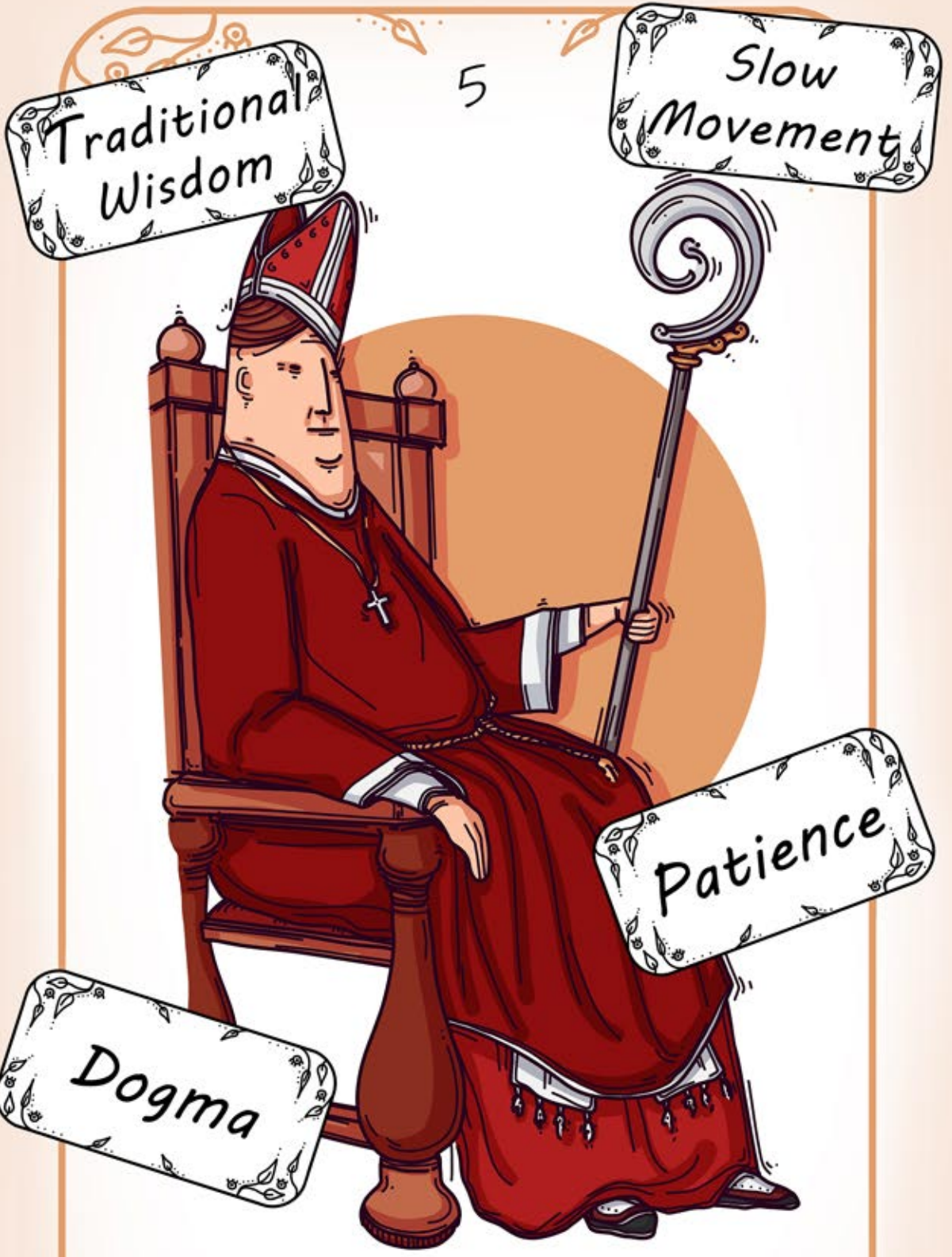
Structure

Routine

Stagnation

Complacency

The Emperor



5

Traditional
Wisdom

Slow
Movement

Patience

Dogma

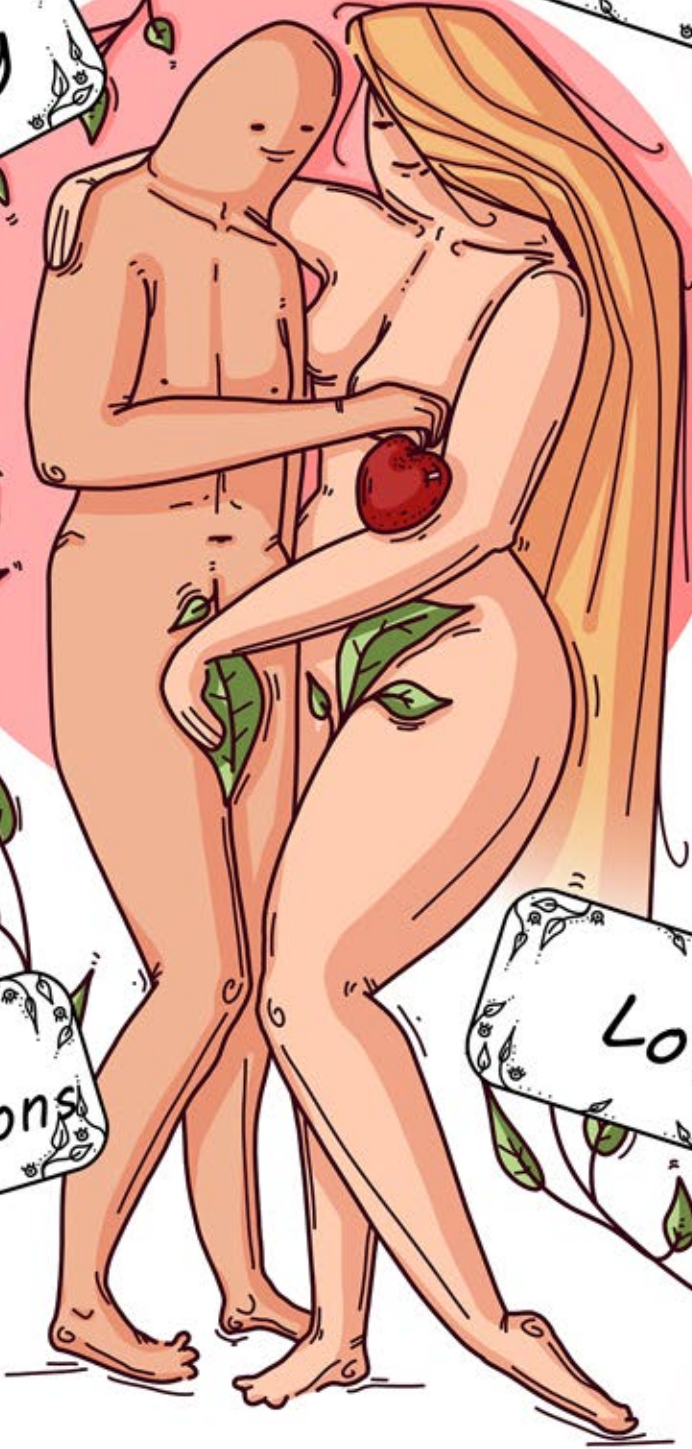
The Hierophant

Beauty

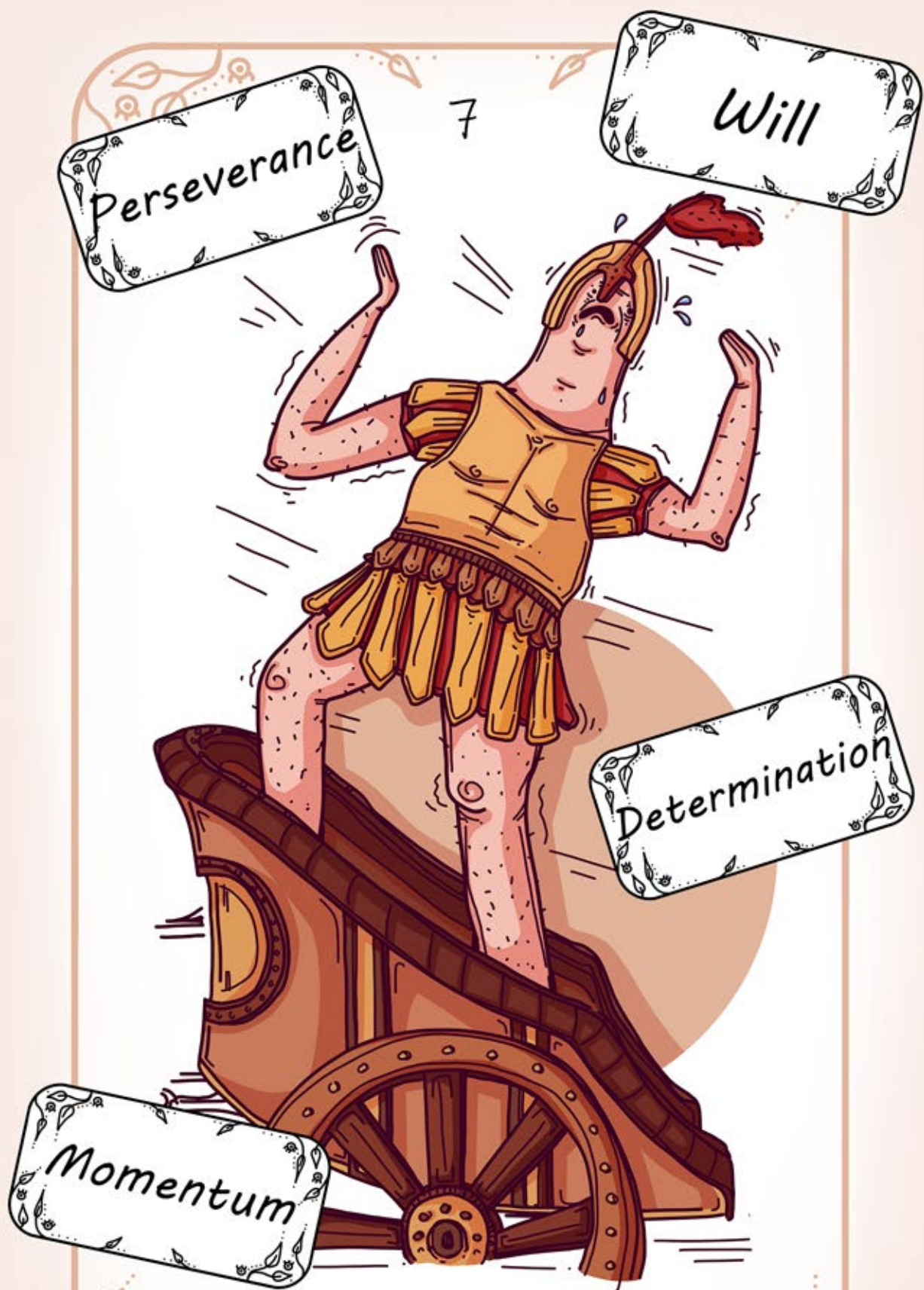
Unity

Unseen Connections

Love



The Lovers

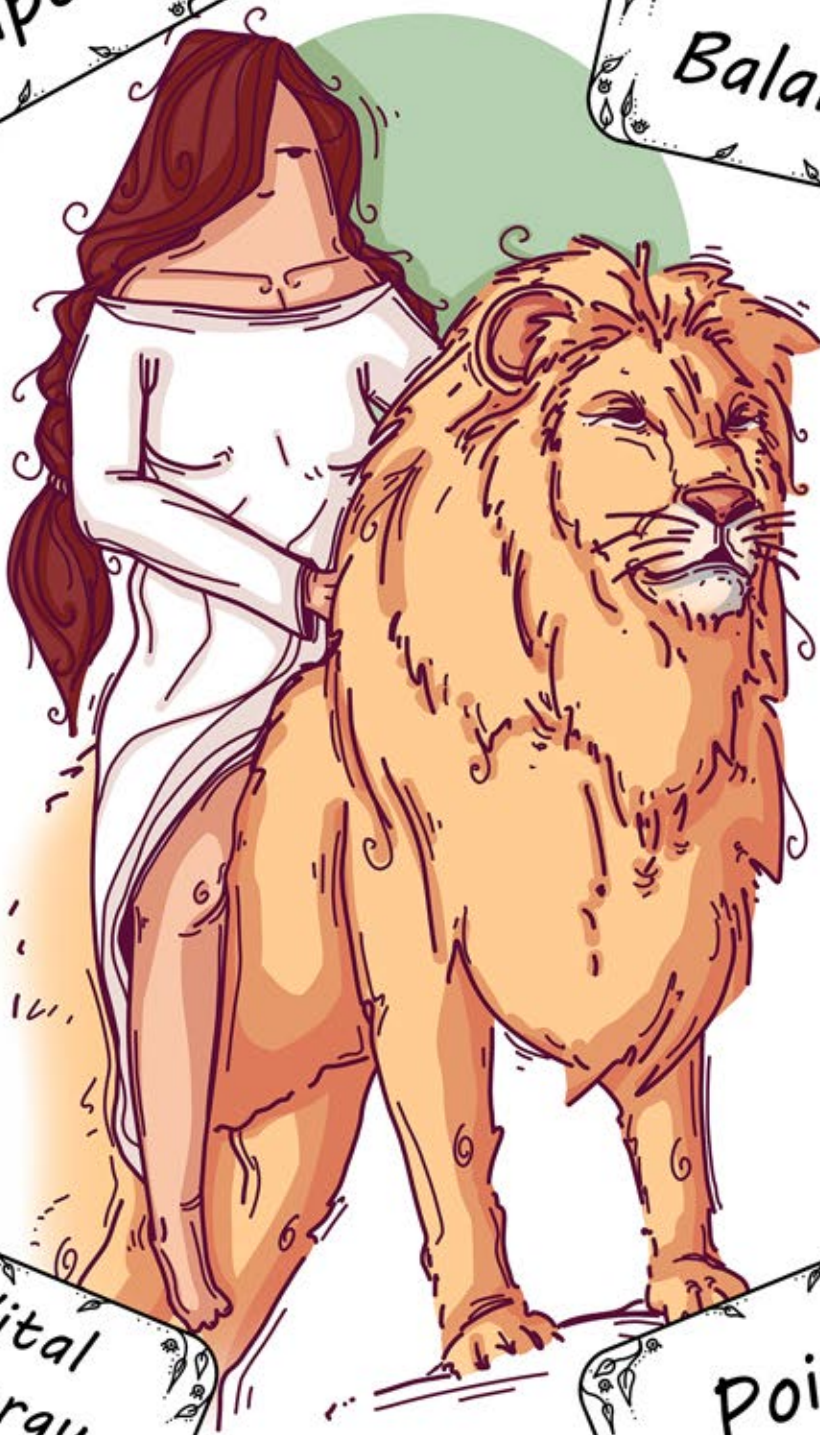


The Chariot

8

Willpower

Balance



Vital Energy

Poise

Strength



a

Isolation

Self
Discovery

Looking
Within

Retreat

The Hermit

10

Natural
Cycles

Fate

Change in
Circumstances

Acceptance

Wheel of Fortune

11

Balance

Fairness

Truth

Action and
Consequence

Justice

12

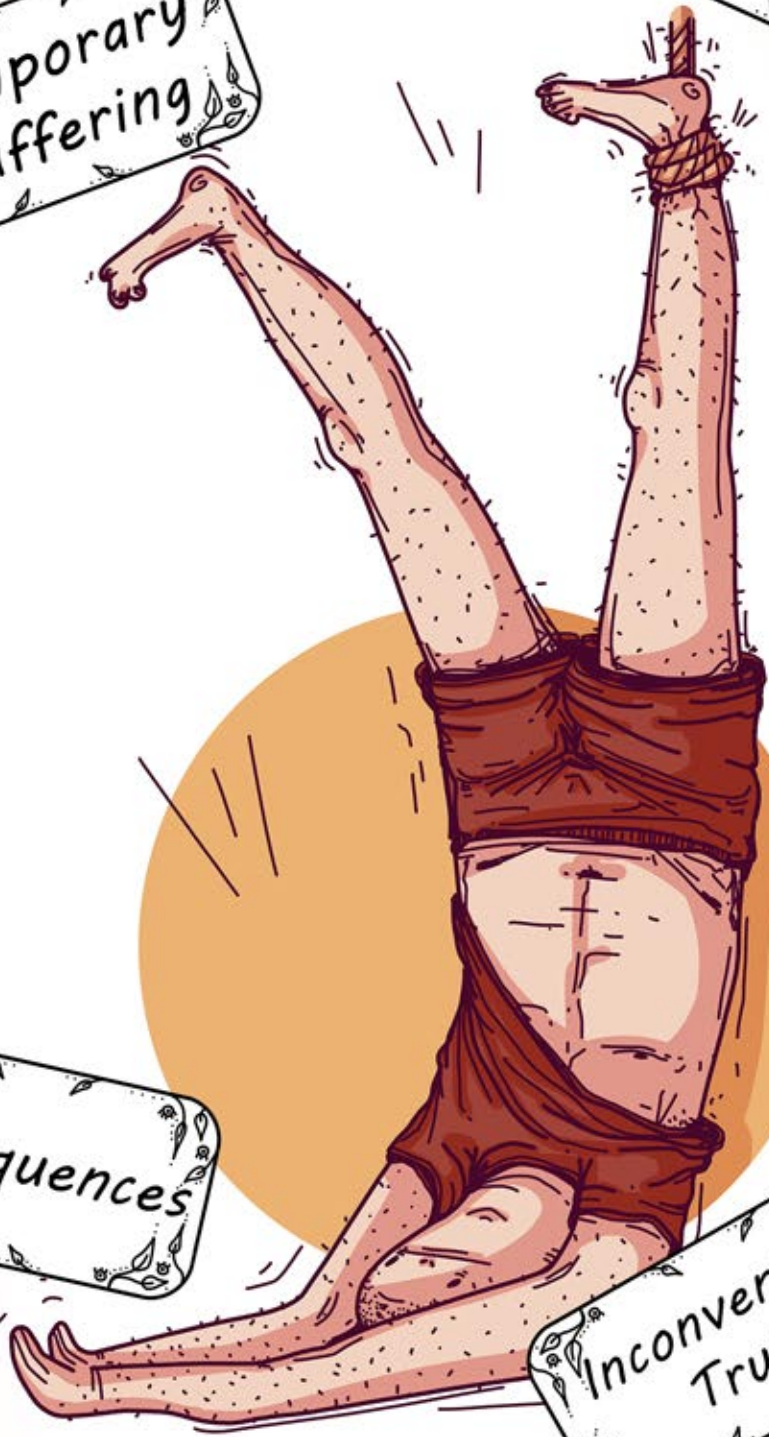
Lessons Learned

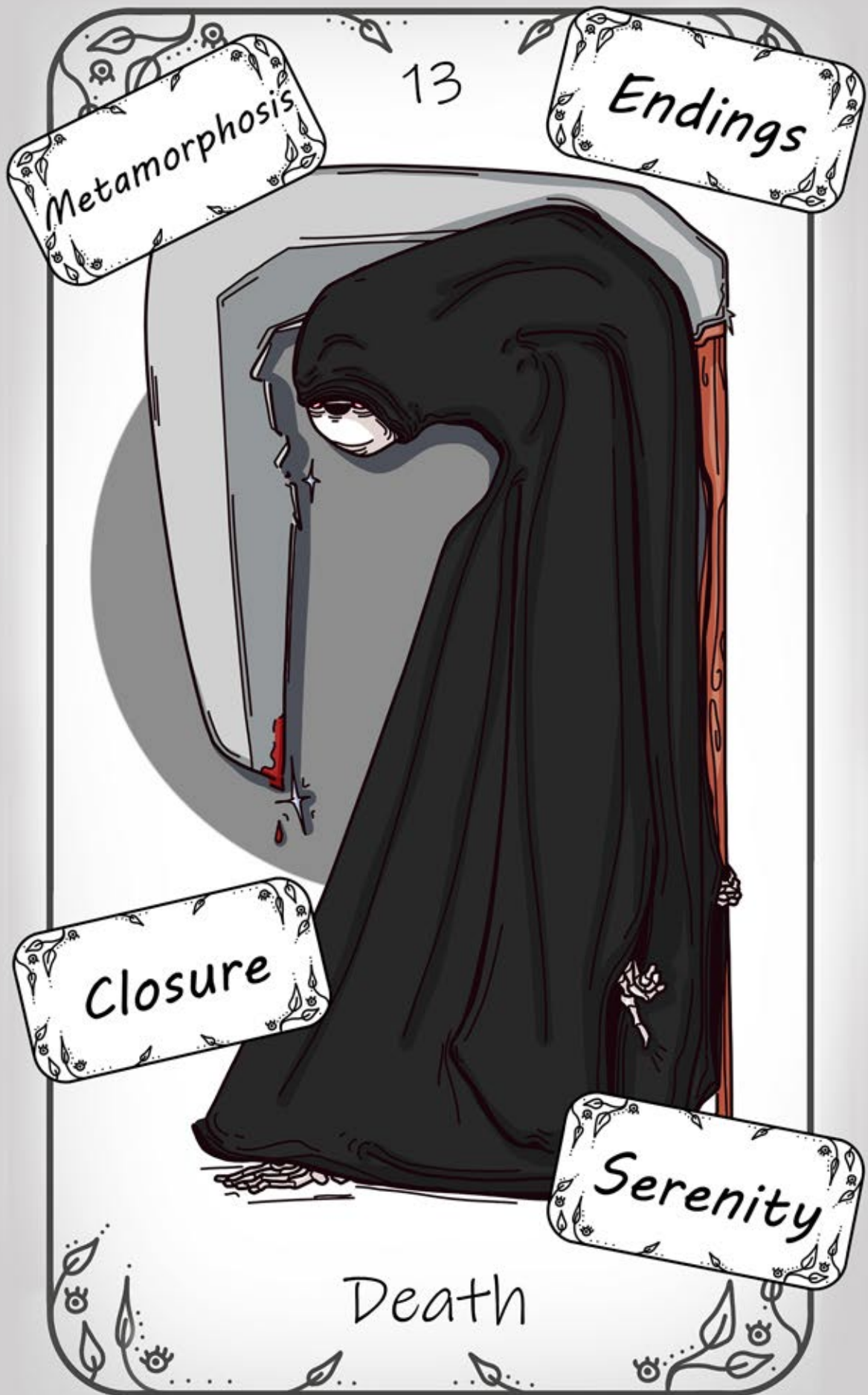
Temporary Suffering

Consequences

Inconvenient Truth

The Hanged Man





Expression

14

Patience



Inspiration

Creativity

Art



Temptation

15

Excess

Bad Habits

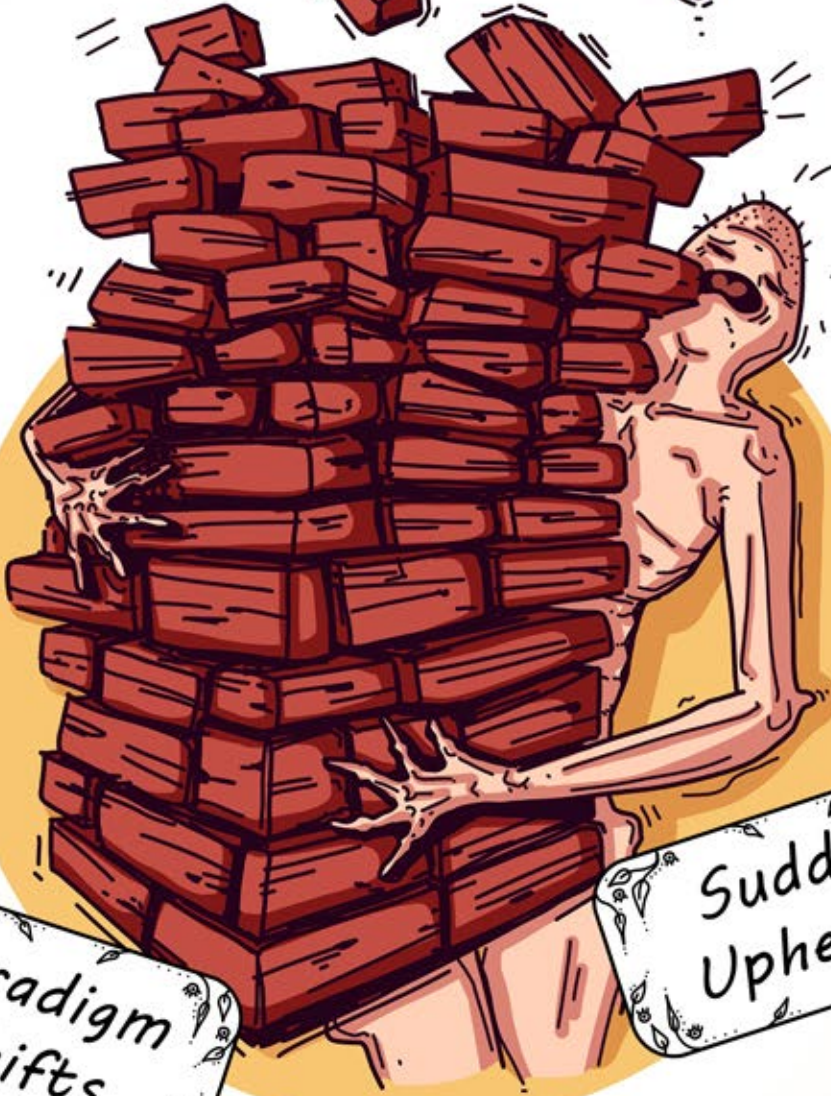
Deception

The Devil

16

Chaos

Collapse



Paradigm Shifts

Sudden Upheaval

The Tower

17

Possibilities

Dreams



Calmness

Trust

The Star

18

Hidden
Meaning

Unconscious
Mind

Intuition

Finding
Truth

The Moon

19

Energy

Life



Positivity

Vibrance

The Sun

20

Reflection

Conscience



Educated
Decision

Constructive
Criticism

Judgement

21

Interconnection

Unity



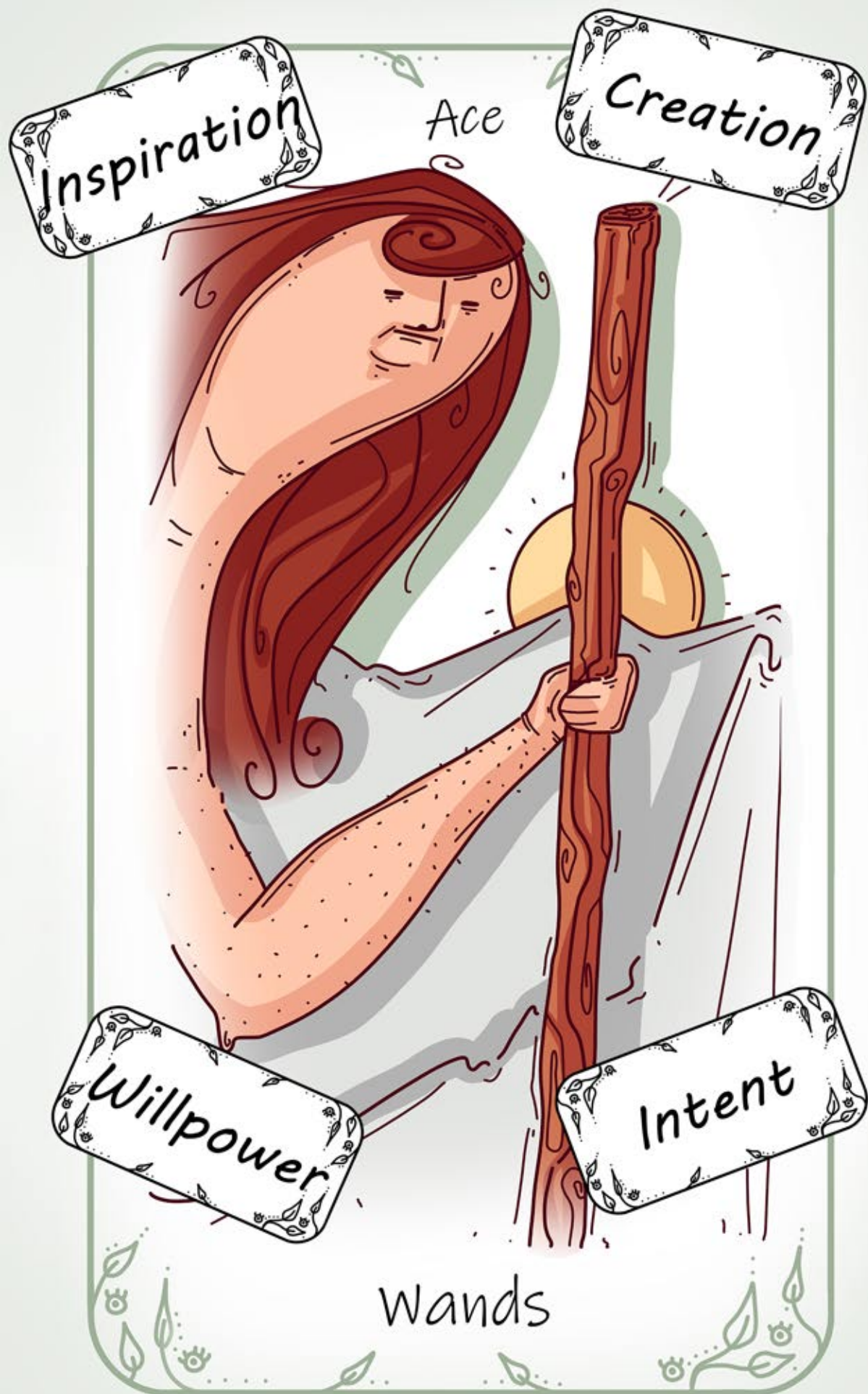
All Is One

Harmony

The world

A decorative border in a light green color frames the page. It features stylized floral and leaf motifs at the corners and midpoints of the sides. The motifs include leaves, small flowers, and dotted lines. The word "Wands" is centered in a black, cursive font.

Wands



II

Discovery

Ambition



Pilgrimage

Travel

Wands

III

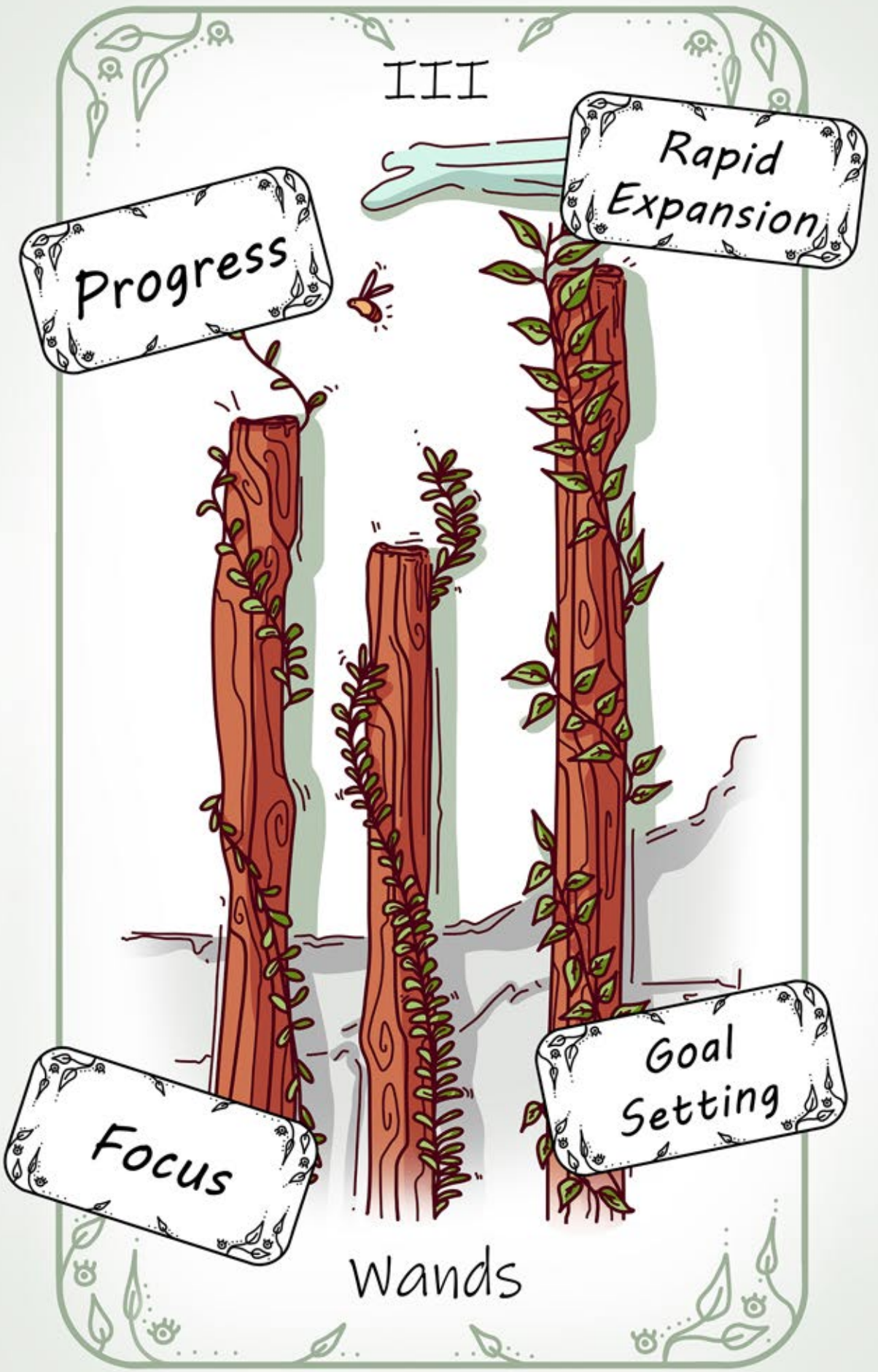
Progress

Rapid
Expansion

Focus

Goal
Setting

Wands



IV

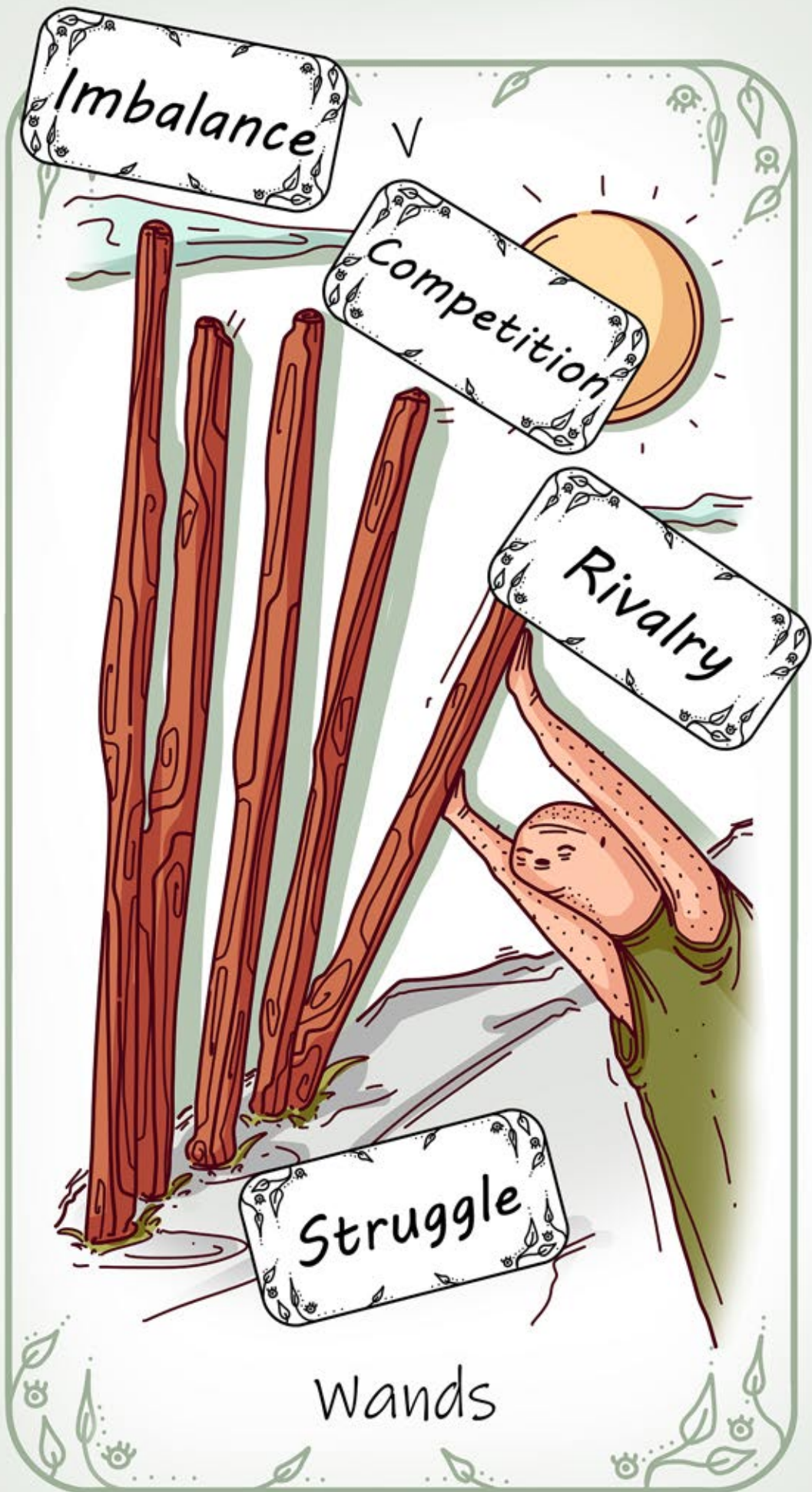
Community

Shared
Ambition

Teamwork

Joint
Effort

Wands



Wands

VI

Flourishing

Triumph



Hard Fought
Victory

Overcoming
Challenges

Wands

Safety

VII

Protection

Carefulness

Boundaries

Wands

VIII

Control

Abundance

Proactivity

Preparation

Wands

IX

Exhaustion

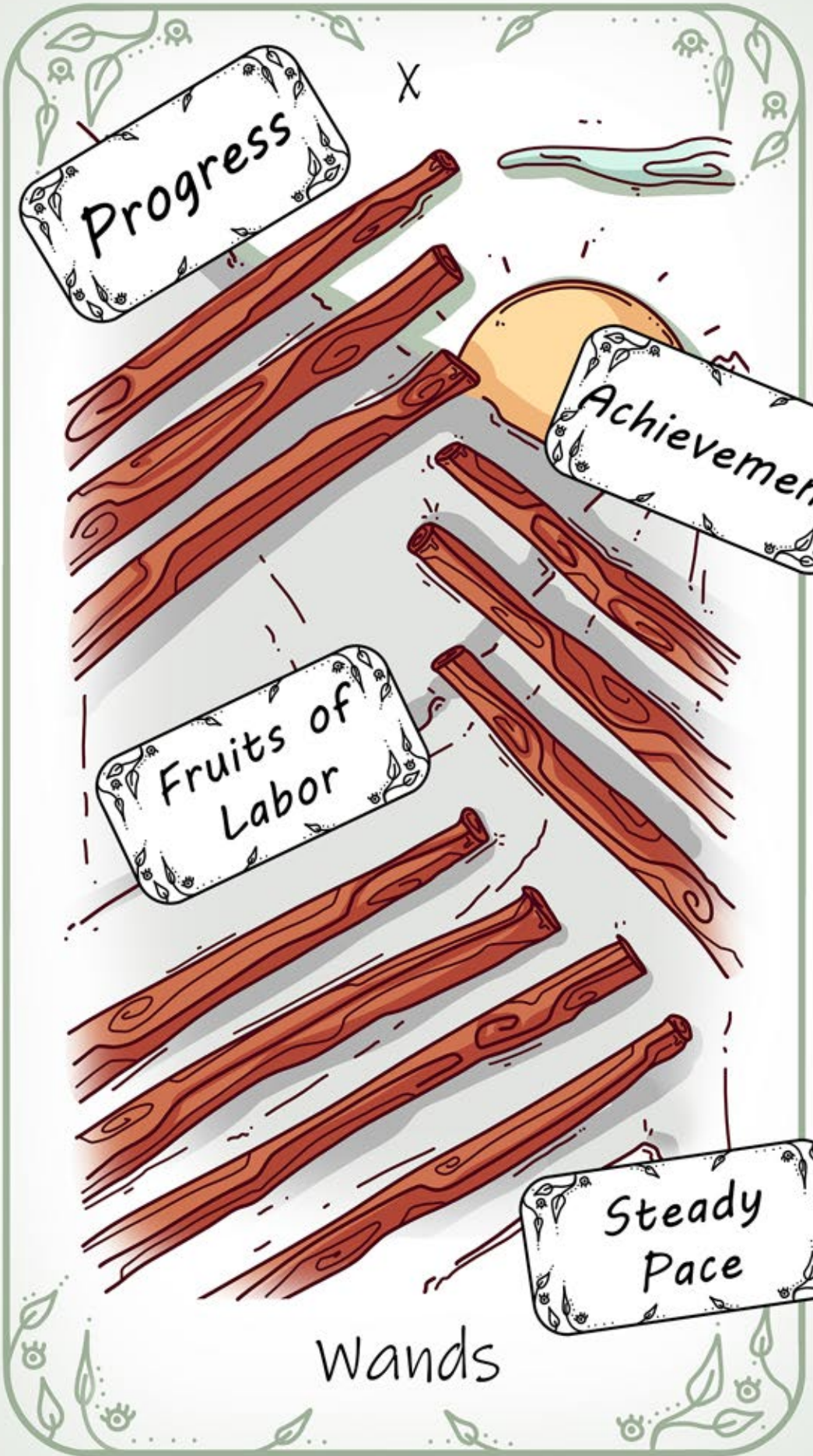
Strain



Tested
Faith



Wands



Wands

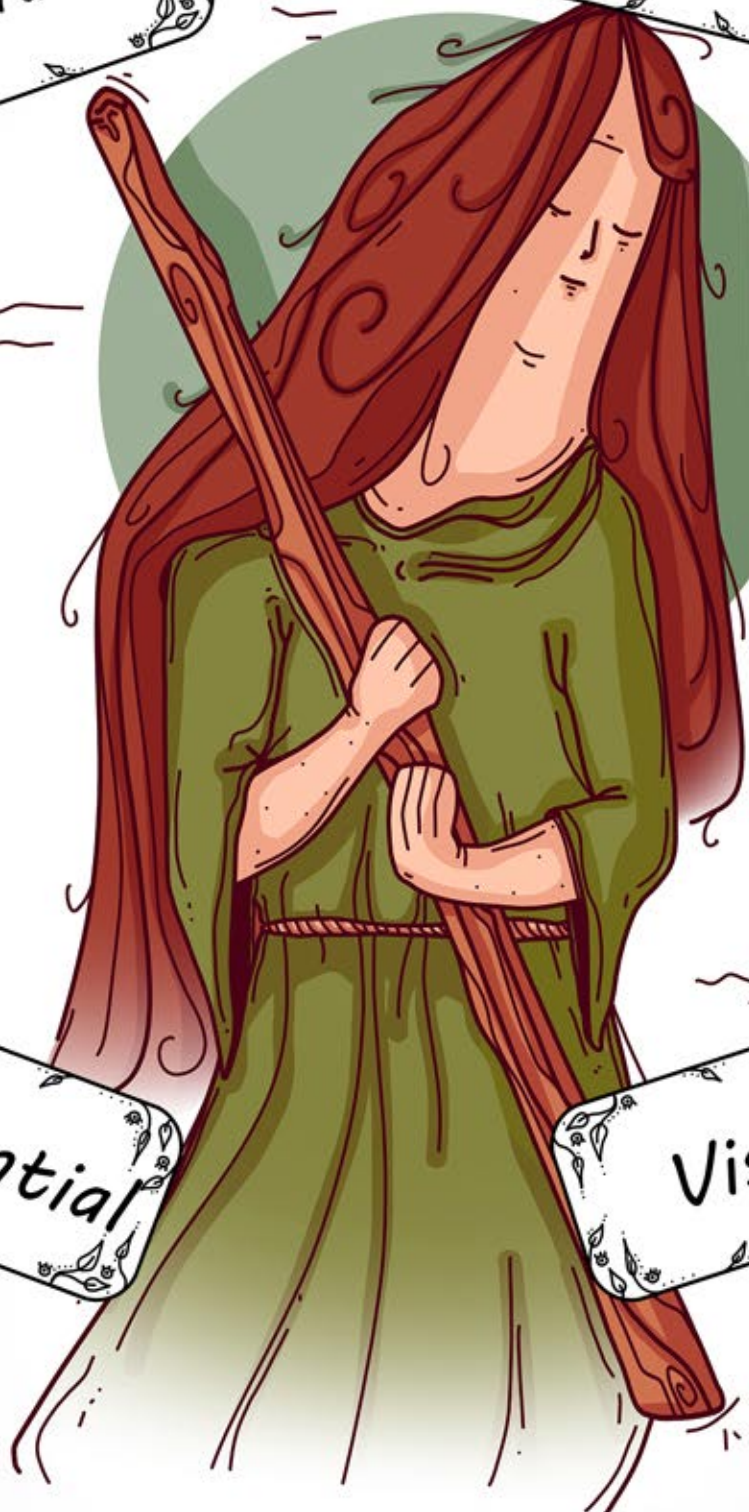
Exploration

Page

Enthusiasm

Potential

Vision



Wands

Knight

Adventure

Impulsiveness

Excitement

Bravery

Wands



Calmness

Queen

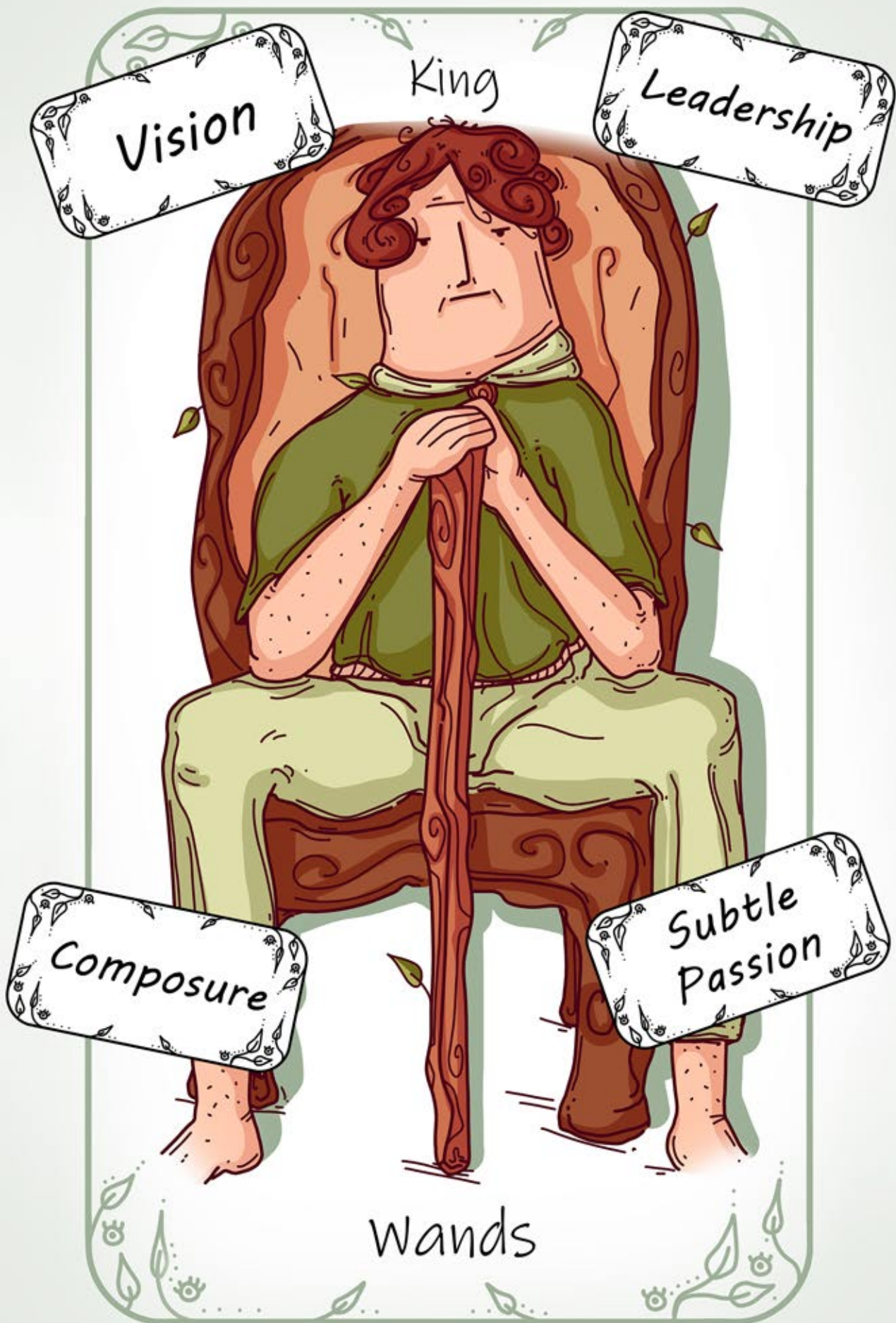
Determination

Ease

Flow

Wands





A decorative border in a light orange color frames the page. It features stylized floral and leaf motifs at the corners and midpoints of the top and bottom edges. The word "Pentacles" is centered in a black, cursive font.

Pentacles



II

Priorities

Adaptation

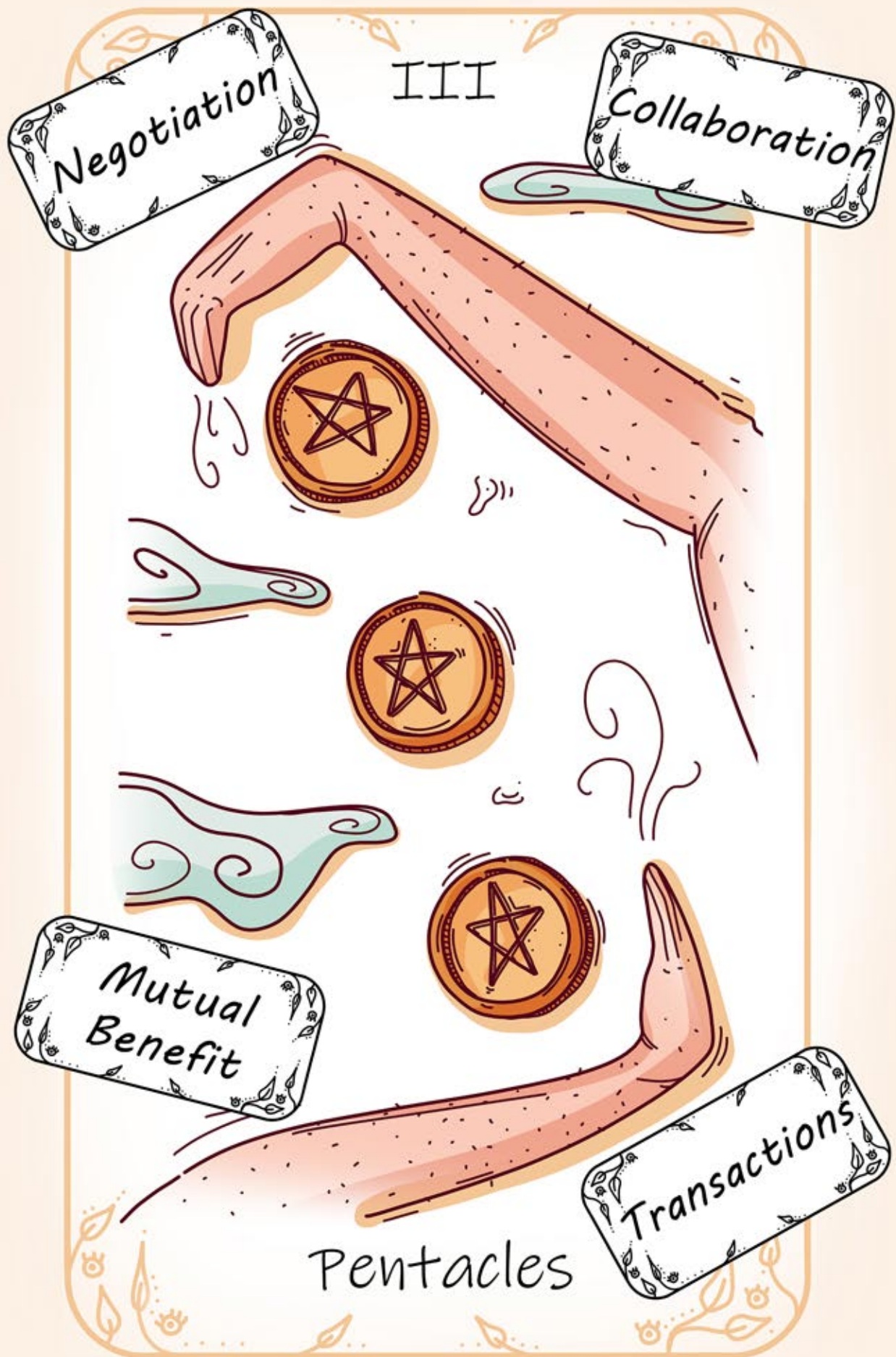


Multitasking

Divided Focus



Pentacles



IV

Competition

Status



Influence

Rivalry

Pentacles

Frugality

Isolation



Misplaced
Priorities

Worry

Pentacles

Sharing

VI

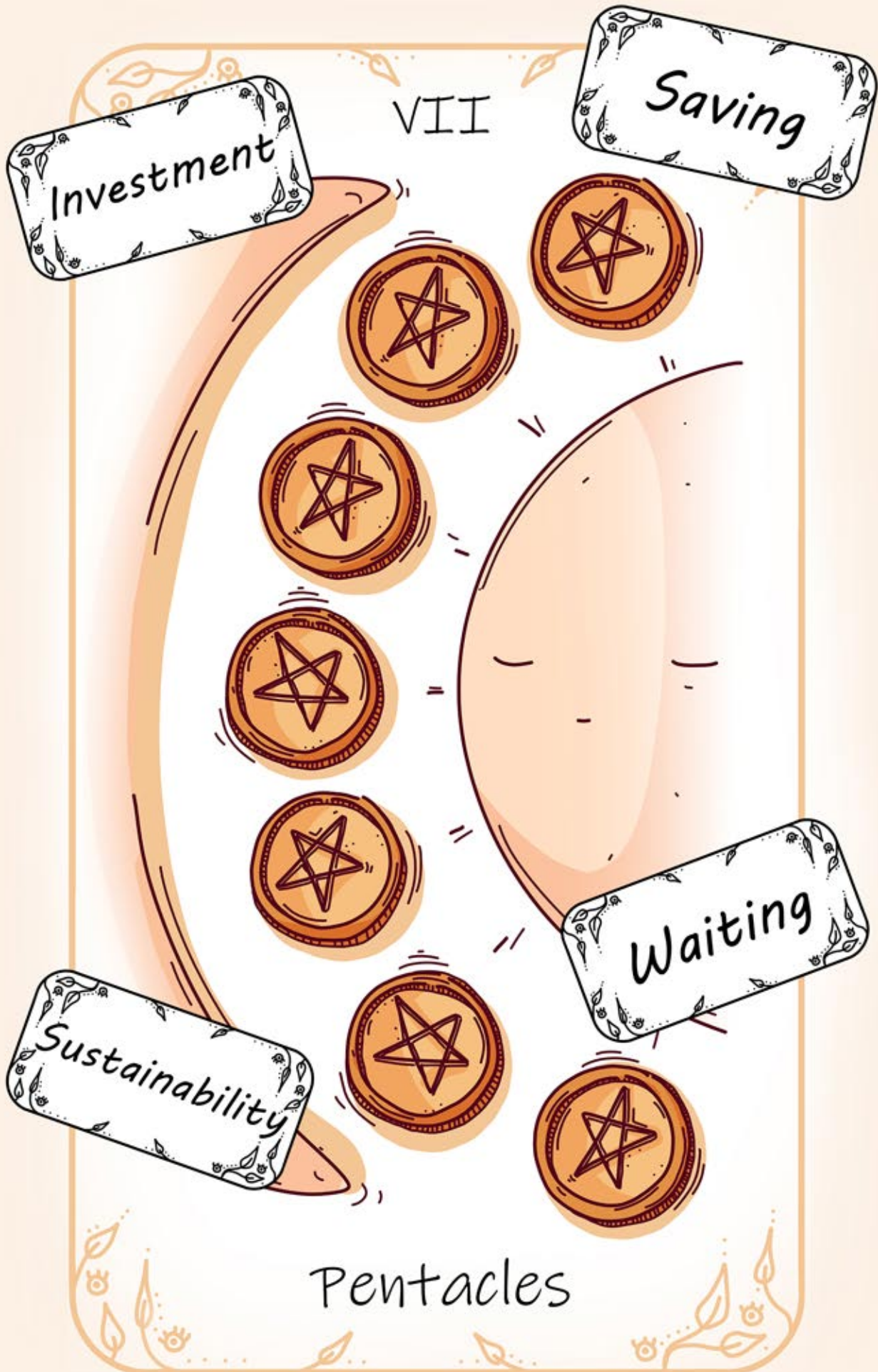
Generosity



Philanthropy

Community

Pentacles



VII

Saving

Investment

Waiting

Sustainability

Pentacles

Practice

VIII

Skills



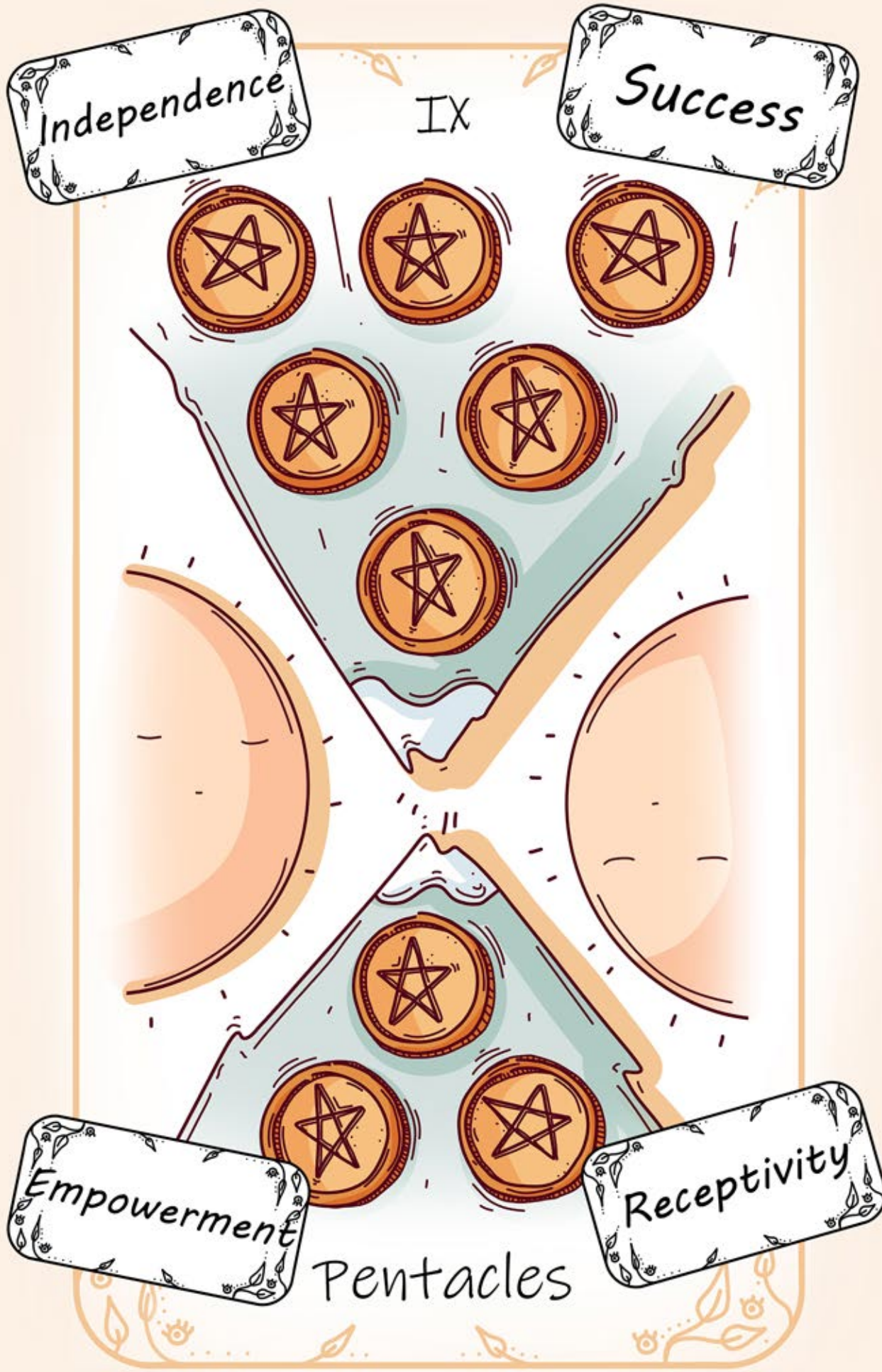
Keeping Score



Pentacles



Accounting



IX

Independence

Success

Empowerment

Receptivity

Pentacles



Prosperity

Security

Achievement

Affluence

Pentacles

Page

Receptivity

Generosity



Gentle
Focus

New
Opportunity

Pentacles





Queen

Support

Nurturing

Encouragement

Growth

Pentacles



A decorative border in light blue ink frames the page. It features stylized leaves and small circular motifs with dots, arranged in a repeating pattern at the corners and along the edges of a rounded rectangle.

Cups

Ace

Creativity

Empathy



Deep
Emotion

Fulfillment

CUPS

II

Partnership

Connection



Close Friends

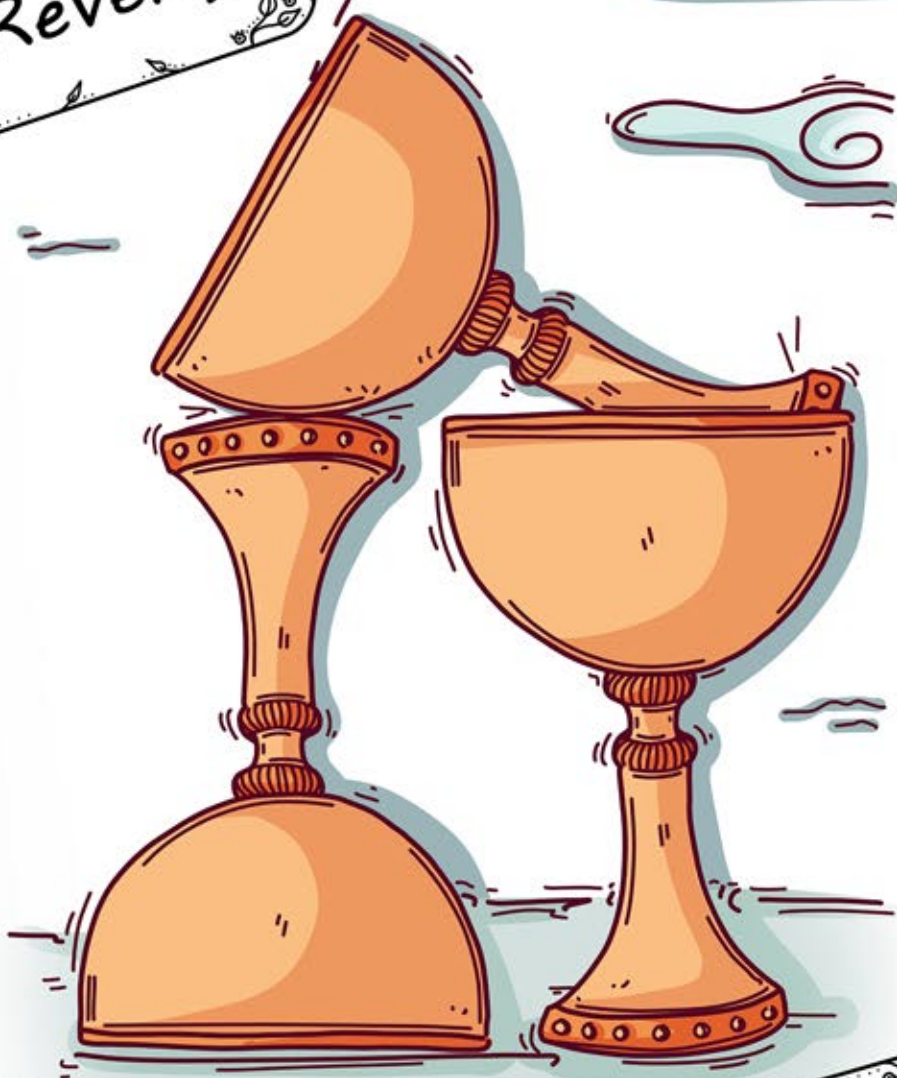
Fellowship

CUPS

III

Relaxation

Revelry



Contentedness

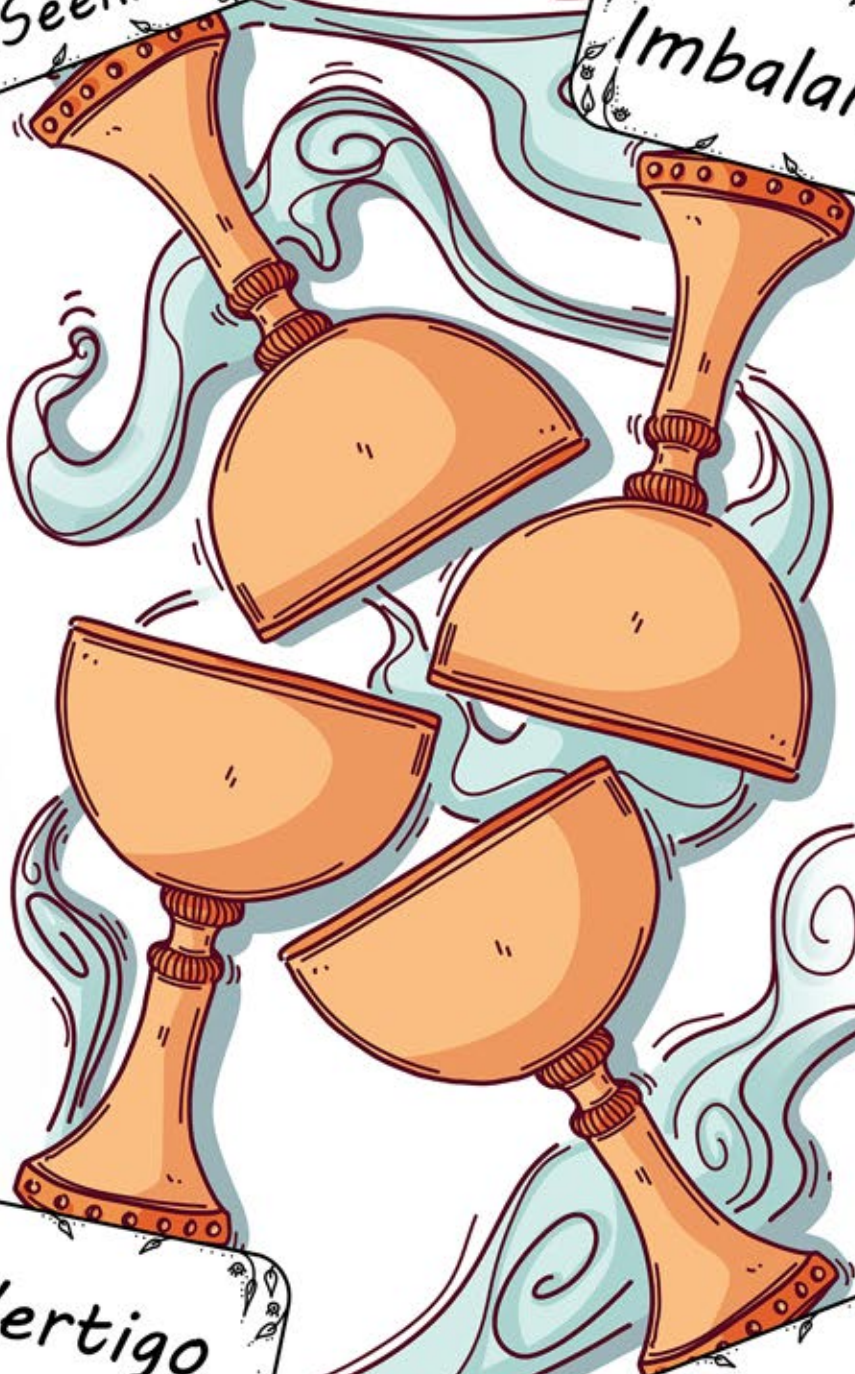
Cheer

CUPS

IV

Pleasure Seeking

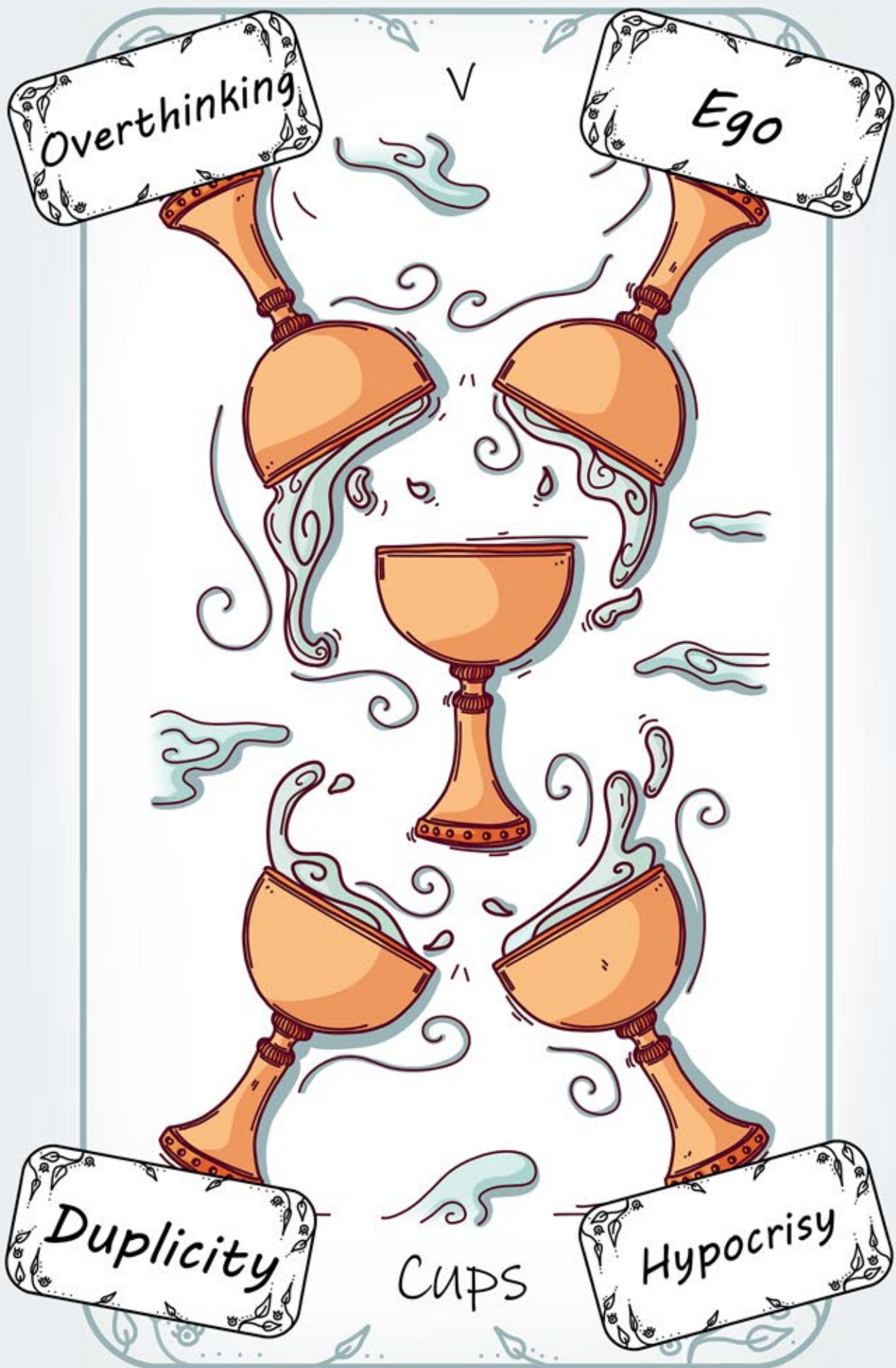
Imbalance



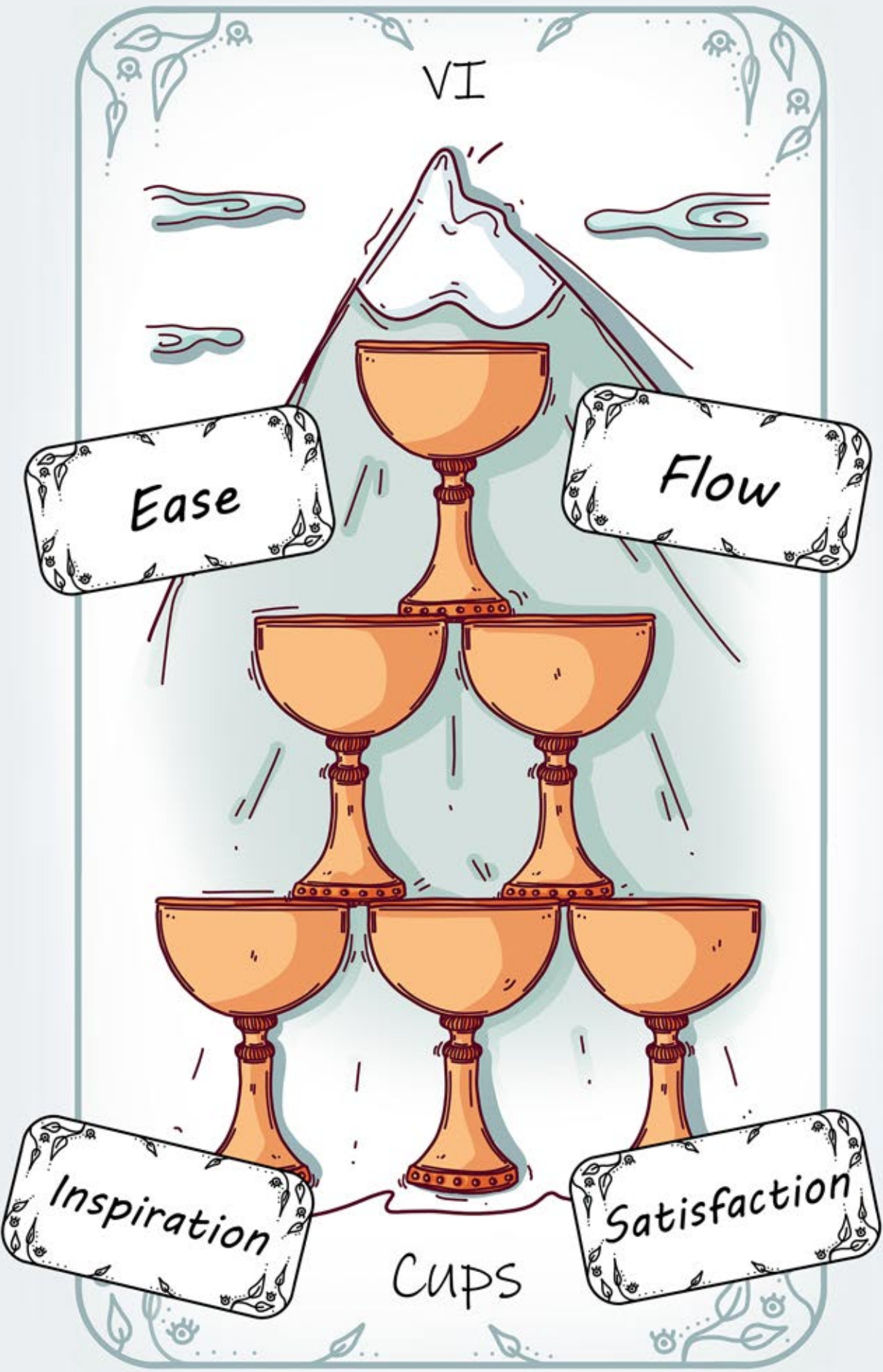
Vertigo

Intoxication

CUPS



VI



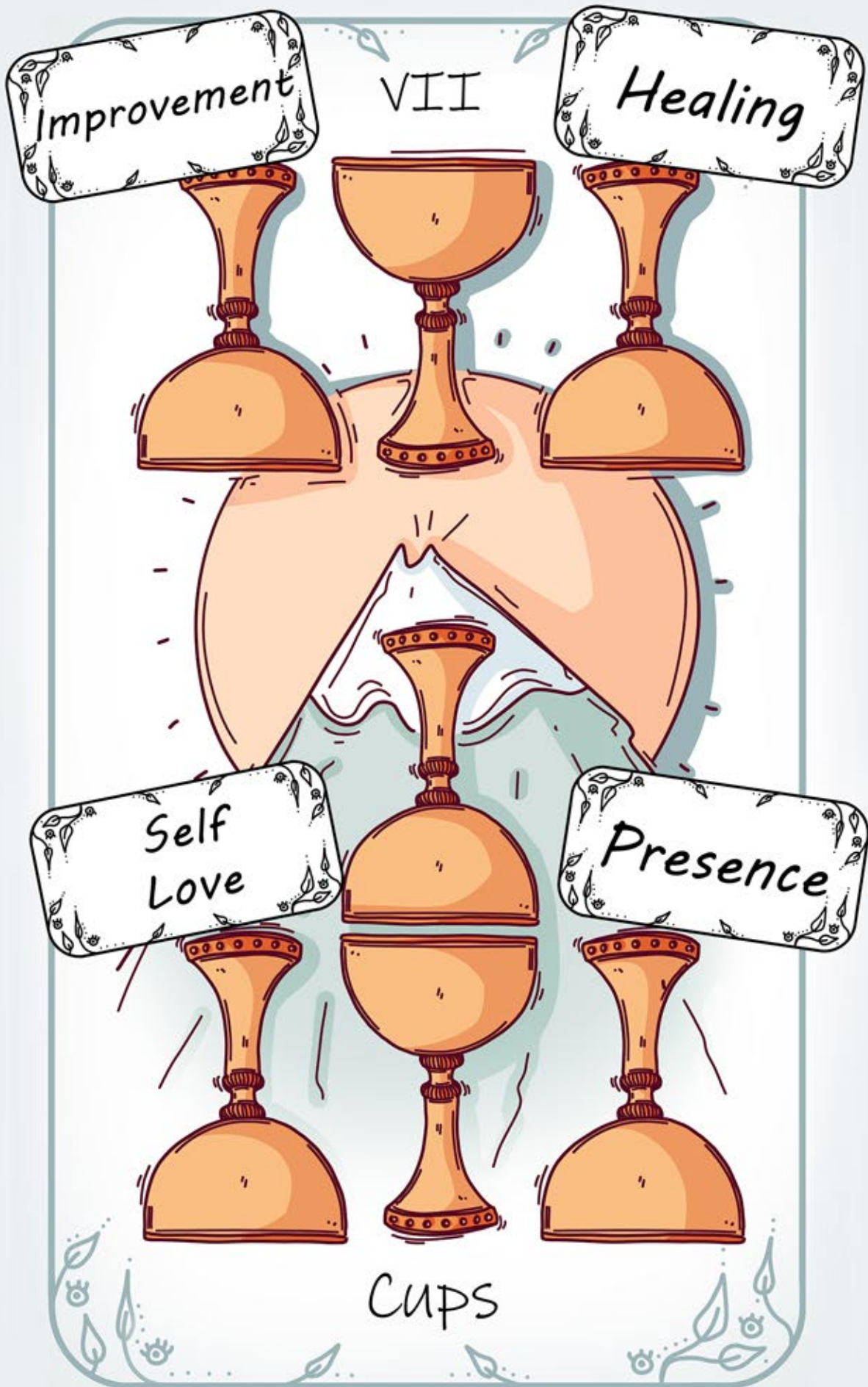
Ease

Flow

Inspiration

Satisfaction

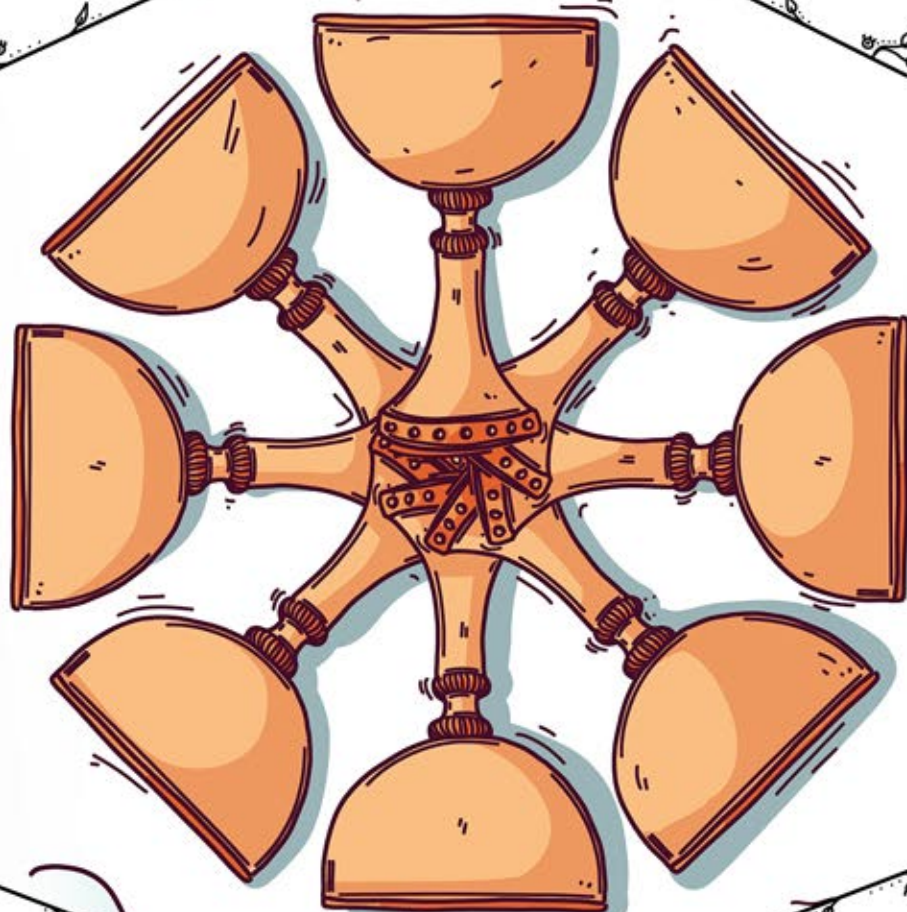
CUPS



VIII

Escapism

Fear



Vulnerability

Defensiveness

CUPS

IX

Anxiety

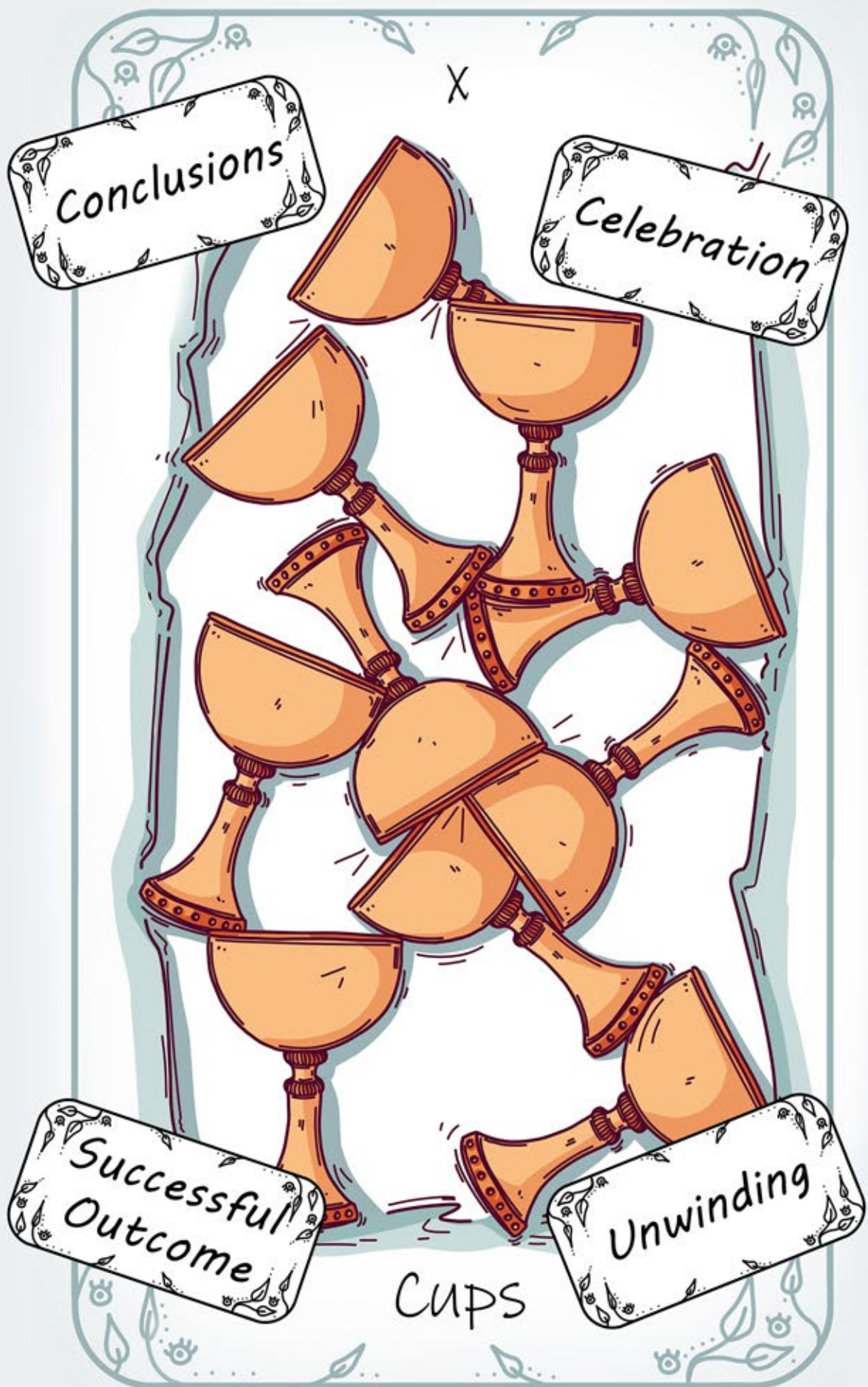
Excitement



Uncertainty

The Unknown

CUPS





Page

Kindness

Compassion

Acceptance

Ease

CUPS

Cheer

Knight

Enthusiasm

Companionship

Trust

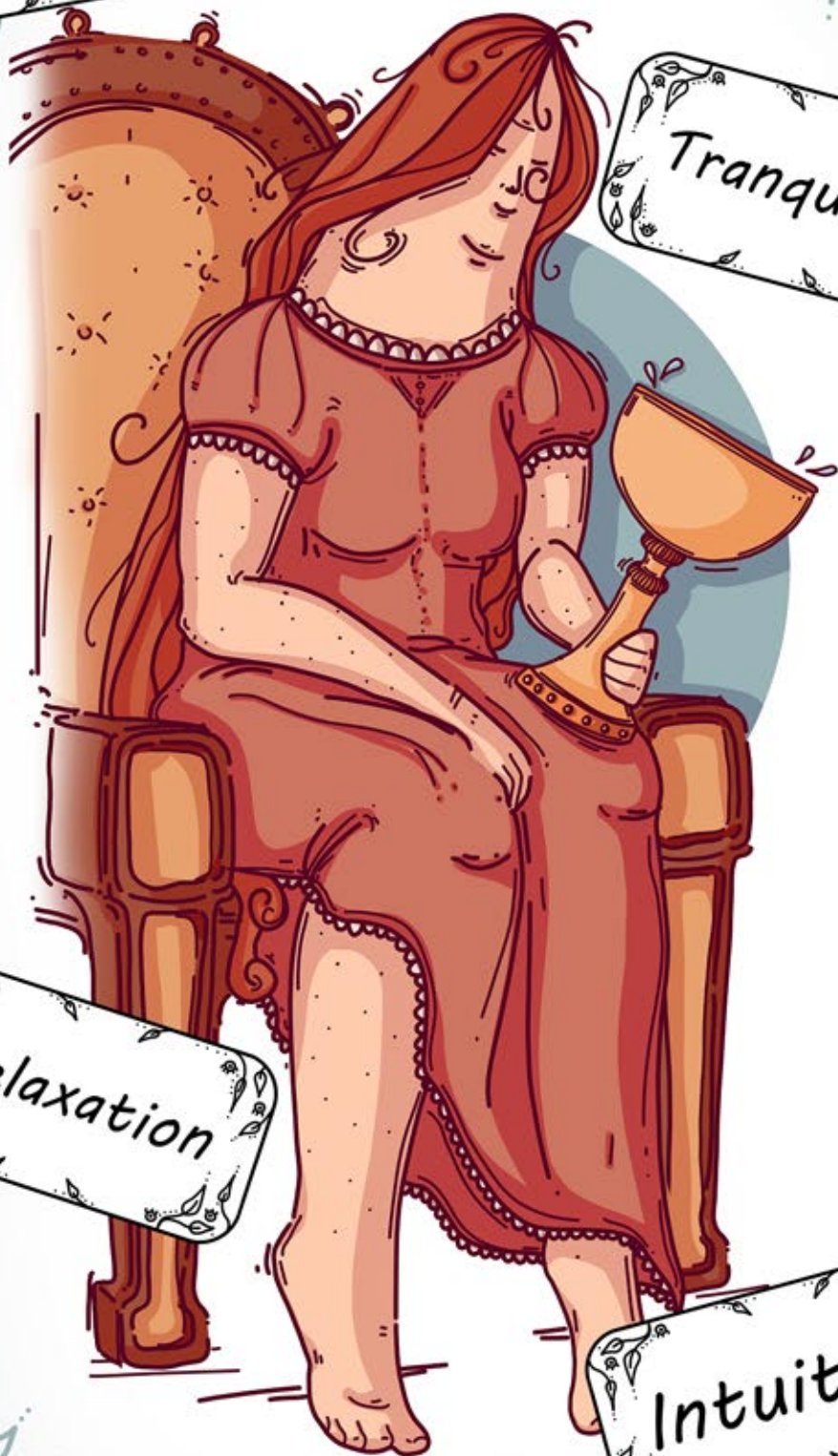
CUPS



Stability

Queen

Tranquility



Relaxation

Intuition

CUPS



King

Boredom

Dissatisfaction

Yearning

Hiding Feelings

CUPS

A red decorative border with floral motifs, including leaves and small circular designs, framing the page.

Swords

Ace

Wit

Ideas

Clarity

Lucidity

Swords

II

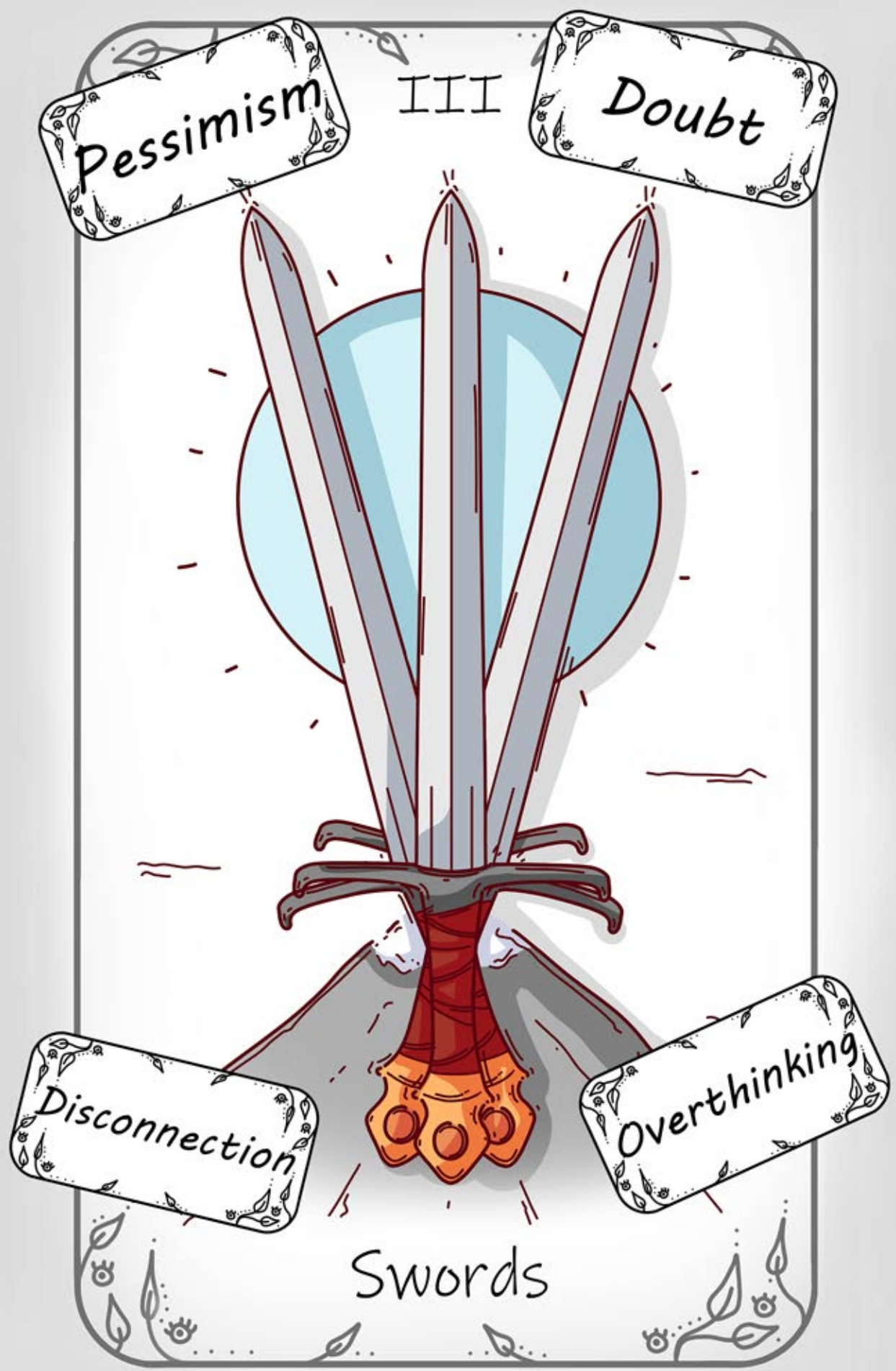
Conflict

Debate

Indecision

Opposing Forces

Swords



Pessimism

III

Doubt

Disconnection

Overthinking

Swords

IV

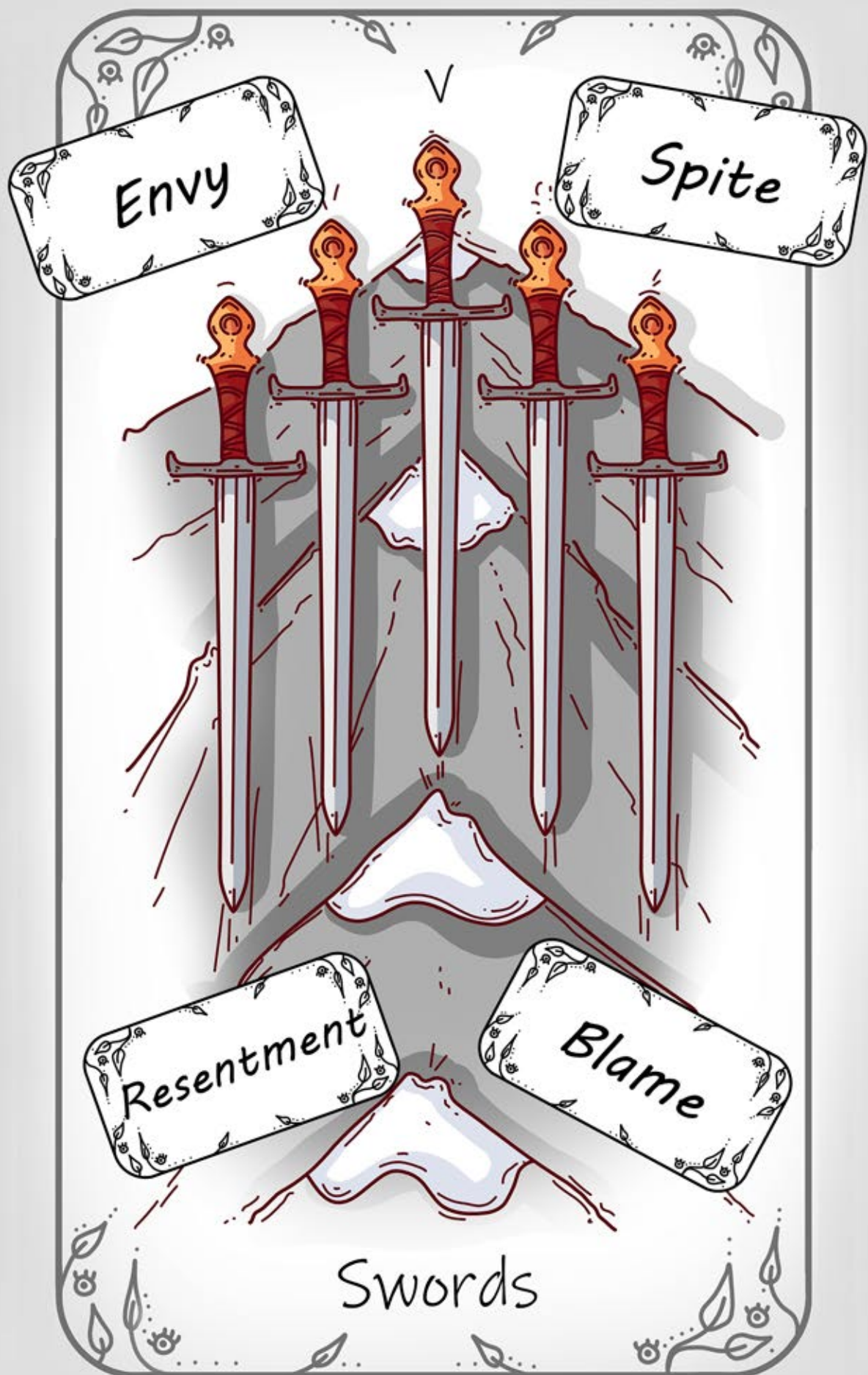
Rest

Regeneration

Truce

Release

Swords



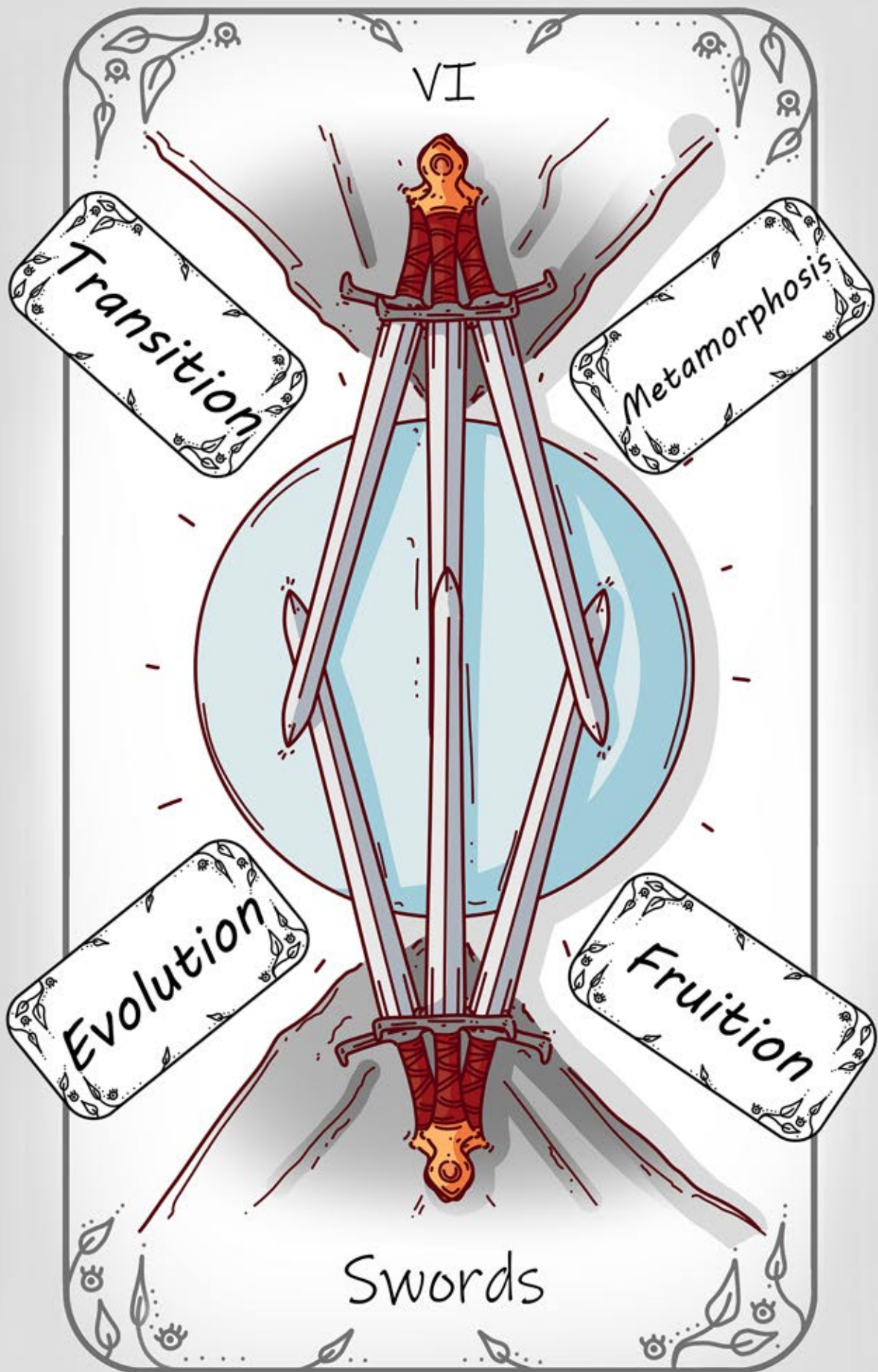
Envy

Spite

Resentment

Blame

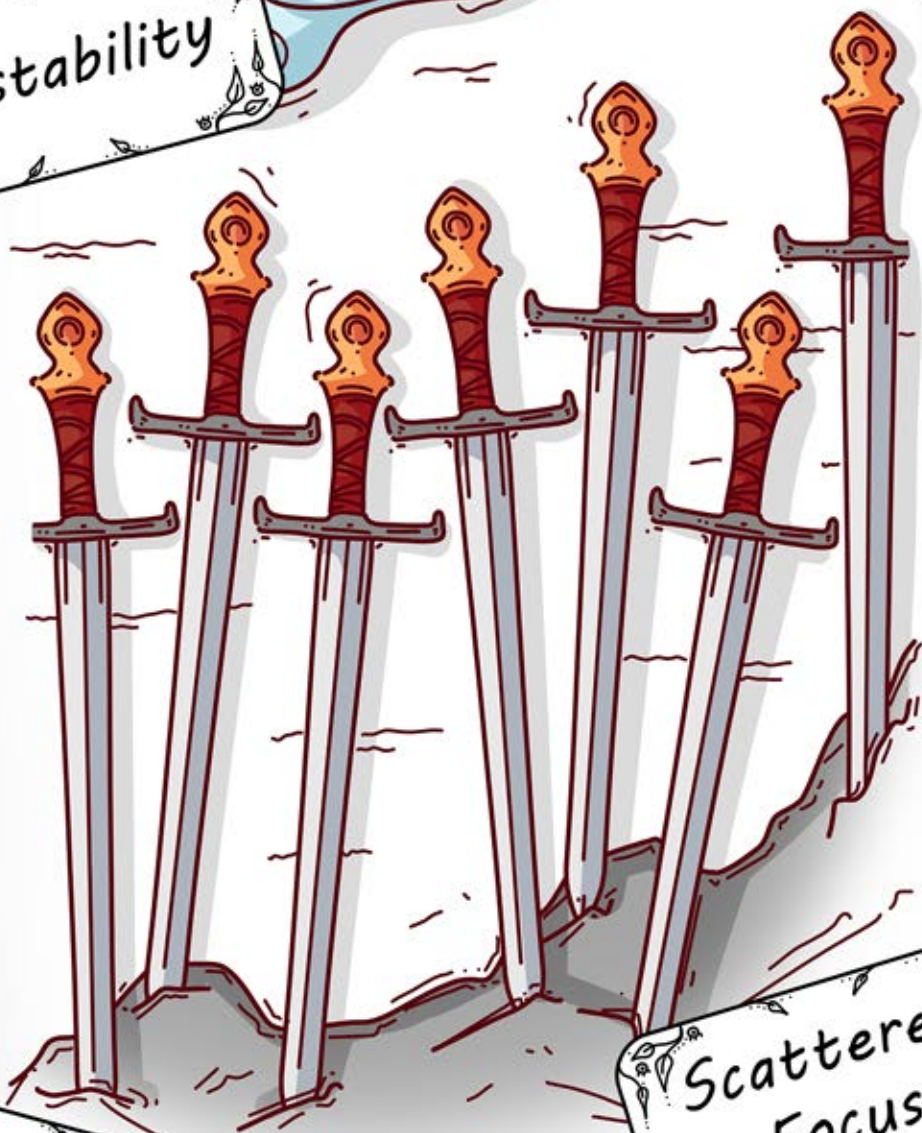
Swords



VII

Wavering

Instability



Scattered Focus

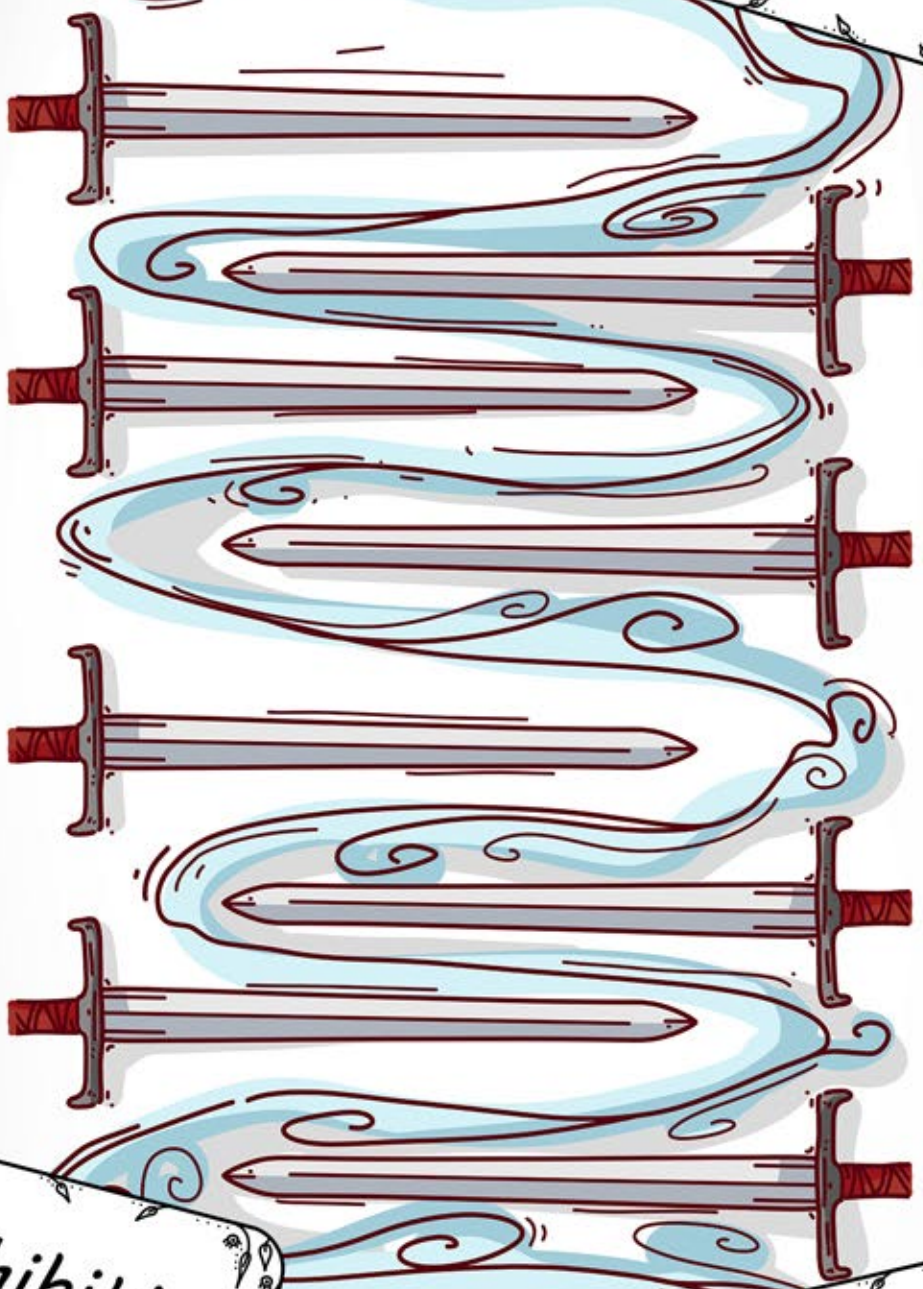
Fruitless Labor

Swords

False
Belief

VIII

Fear



Inhibition

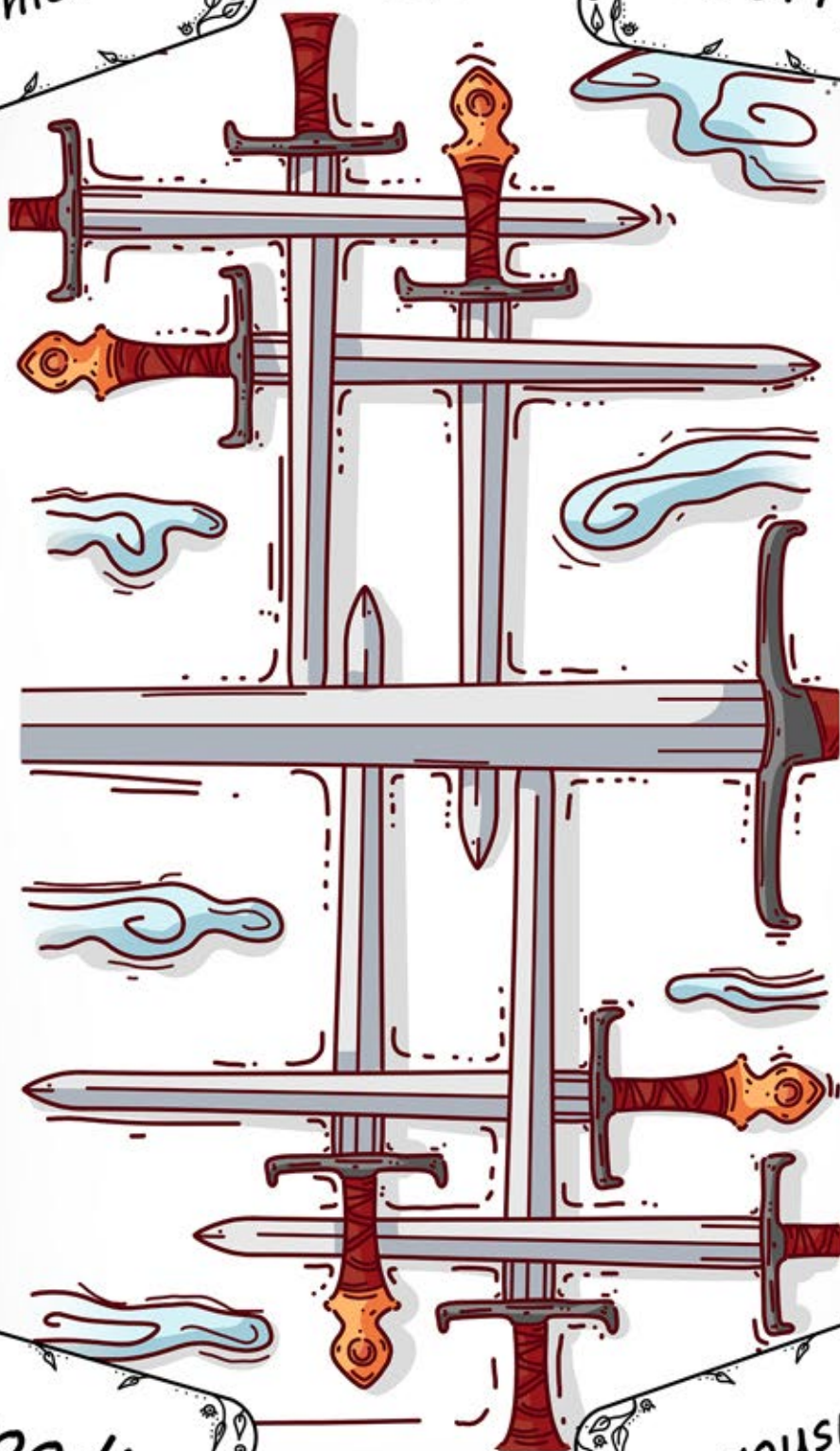
Swords

Playing
Victim

Faithlessness

IX

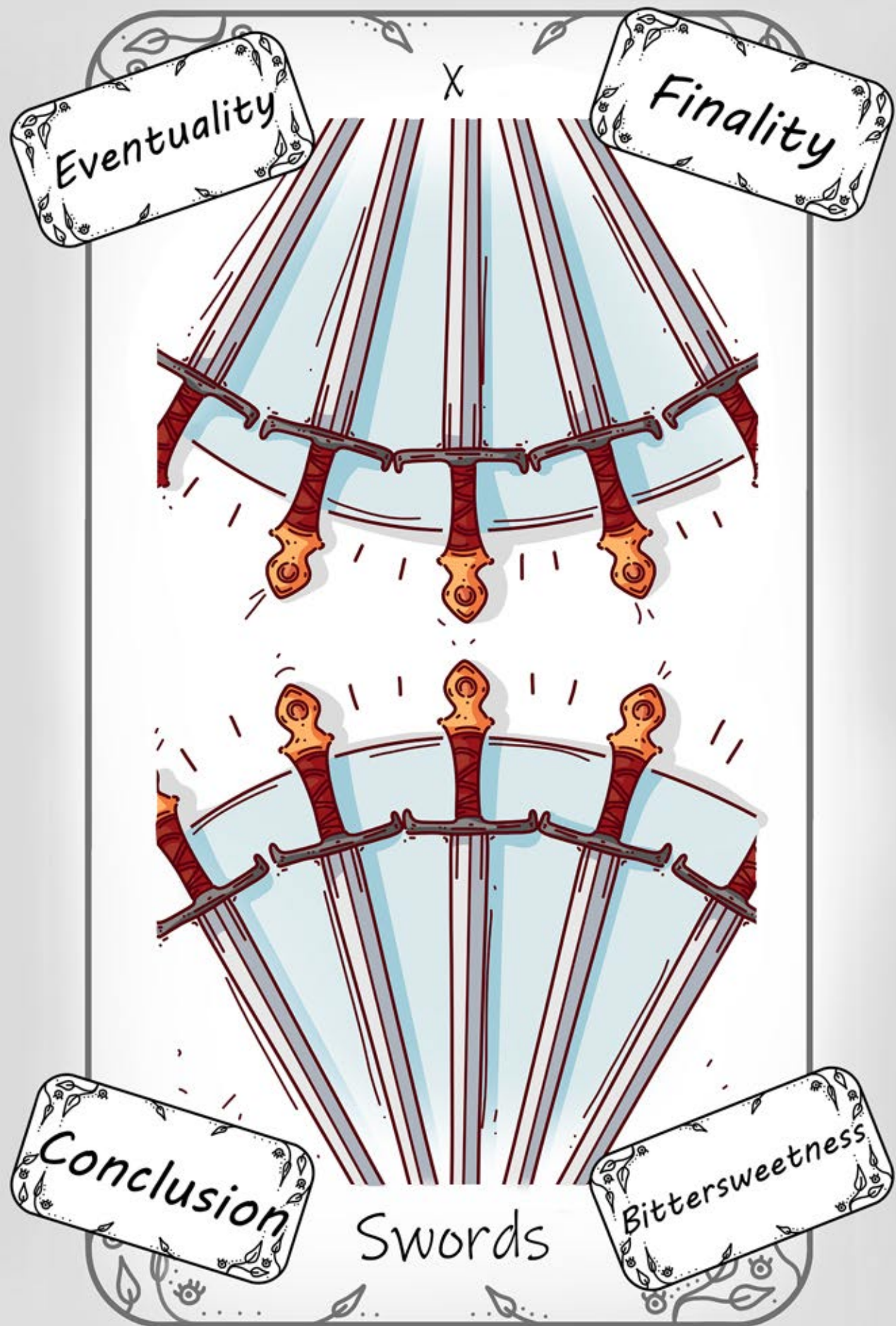
Worry

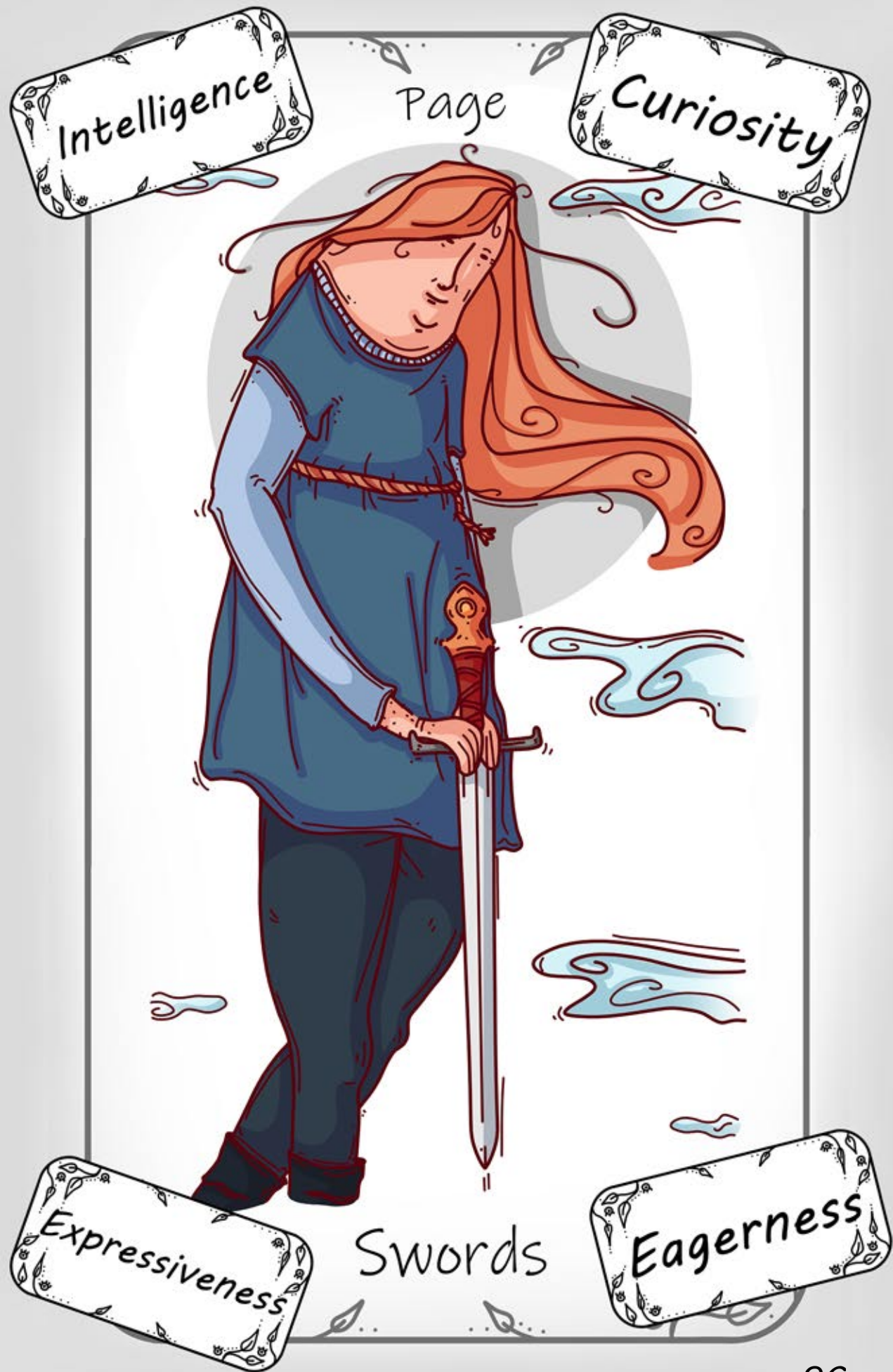


Brooding

Swords

Nervousness





Intelligence

Page

Curiosity

Swords

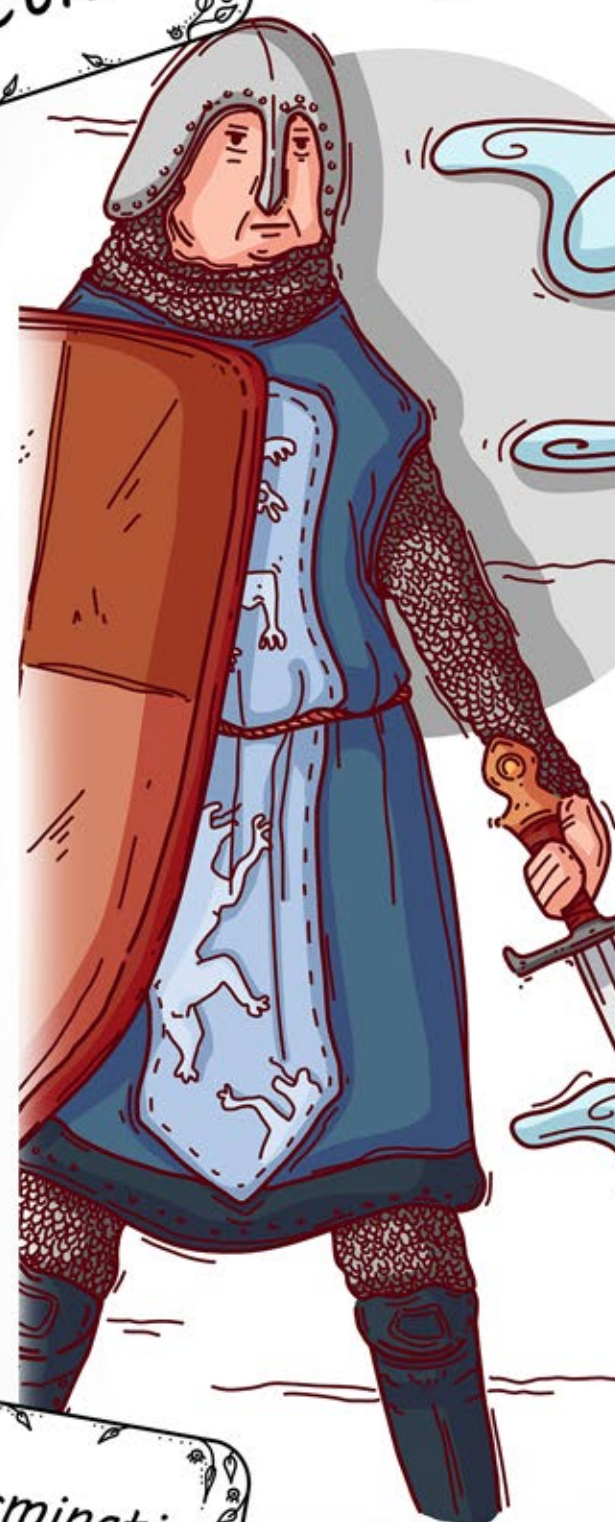
Expressiveness

Eagerness

Action

Knight

Skill



Willpower

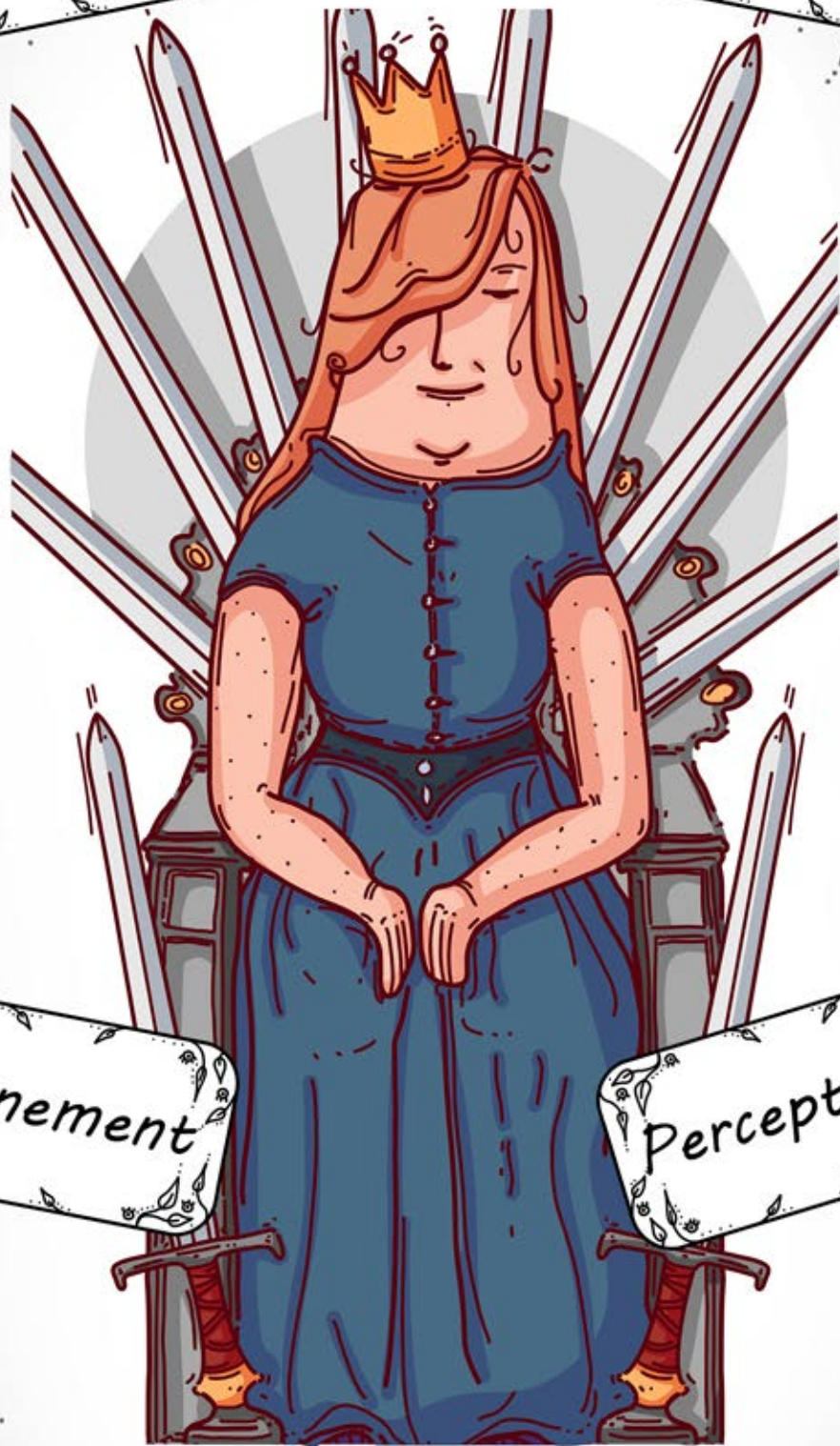
Determination

Swords

Cunning

Queen

Strategy



Refinement

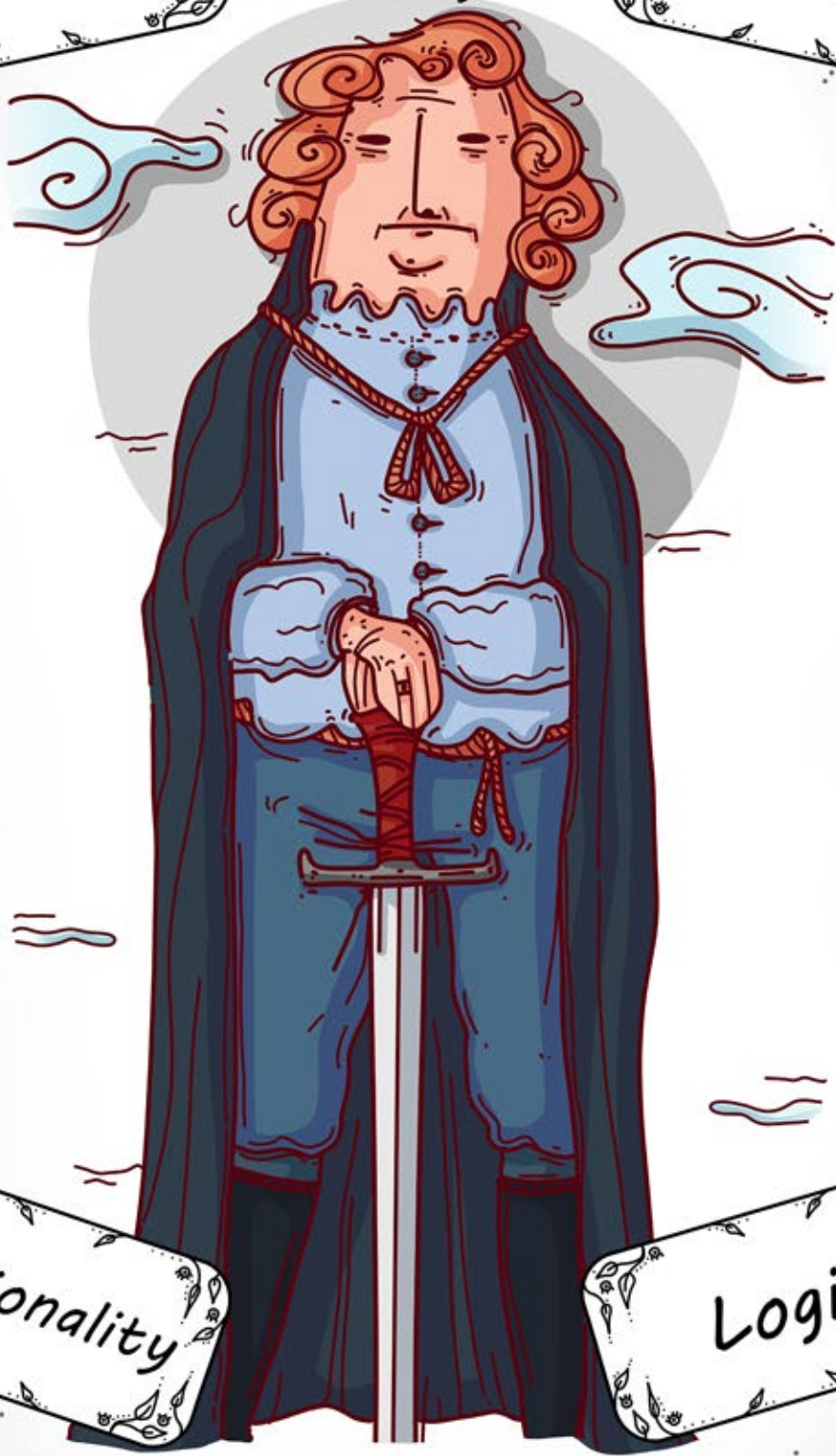
Perceptivity

Swords

Authority

King

Clarity




Rationality

Logic

Swords



The End

A decorative border in a light orange color frames the page. It features stylized leaves and small flower-like motifs at the corners and along the edges. The text is centered within this frame.

*No
Really*

A decorative border in a light orange color frames the page. It features stylized leaves and small flowers at the corners and along the edges. The text "It's Over" is centered in a black, handwritten-style font.

It's
Over

A decorative border in a light purple color frames the page. It features stylized floral motifs, including leaves and small circular flowers, positioned at the corners and along the edges of the page.

*Nothing
to see
here*