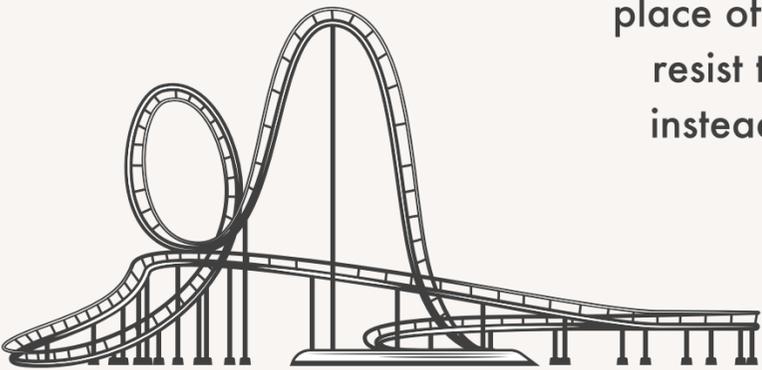


@misterwitchboy

notes (and songs) from the major arcana

in his essay, "the querent," alexander chee calls the 22 major arcana cards the gods of the tarot, each bearing a vital lesson to learn. these cards are the major plot points, the morals of the stories that you may not learn the first time around. think of these notes as prompts for when these gods show up in your next reading. what next chapter of your life are they inviting you to consider?

0 the fool



once upon a time, there was a beginning. it was a place where the line between thrill and fear was so thin. it was a place of questions, possibilities, recklessness, and bravery. resist the urge to flip to the end. what would it feel like if instead you just fell? (tank and the bangas performance)

astrology - uranus / element - air
song- "rollercoasters" by tank and the bangas
(especially THIS live version)

there's an inherent trickster quality to magic. there's a disbelief, a wonder, a "how did they do that?" there's a tendency to blame illusion, or the supernatural. but what if the secret magicians never tell is it's none of those things. what if the secret is they're just like you?

astrology - mercury / element - air
song- "all i need" by jacob collier, mahalia + ty doll \$ign

II the high priestess



in place of the words, "deja vu," my mom says, "i had a dream like this!" it's like she's remembering a story she told herself. "oh right, i planned this. i am where i'm meant to be." that same quiet wisdom is in you. if you still yourself and listen, you may remember your dreams too.

astrology - moon / element - water
song- "i am light" by india.arie

repeat after me. not for anyone or anything will i abandon myself. not for any mentor, parent, partner or friend...not for any goal, ideal, system, or construct...i will tend and care for me if it is the last thing i do. what needs tending for you?

astrology - venus / element - earth
song- "building a ladder" by hiatus kaiyote

III the empress



IV the emperor



remember in grade school when so many things were out-of-bounds and off-limits? it was a buzzkill sometimes, but in hindsight, that structure was nice. we had borders to our playground kingdoms. what is out of your bounds now? what is off limits to you?

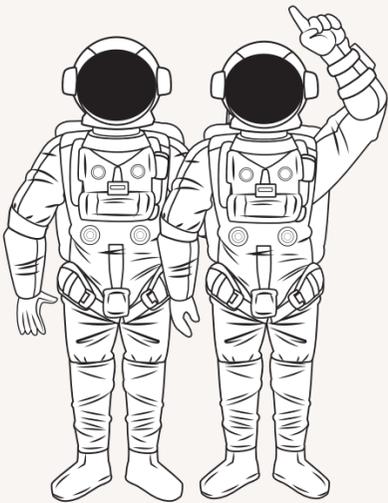
astrology - aries / element - fire
song- "CROWN" by CHIKA

"old school, new school, we need each other. old school, it's new school's time. it's not the same when you came up. but new school, you don't know everything."

-a quote from singer, Ledisi, during THIS live performance of her song, "alright."

astrology - taurus / element - earth
song- "alright" by ledisi

VI the lovers



hot take: f*ck your future self. they aren't as perfect as you think, or as unattainable. it's about who you choose to be on the journey, not who you end up being at the destination. hype up your current self because you know what? you deserve it.

astrology - cancer / element - water
song- "golden" by jill scott

VIII strength



"i have learned that i have got to fight for me... cause i'm good." - "good" by aaron banes (yes, i did just quote a song of mine. yes, you can listen to it on spotify or any streaming platform. yes, i did write this note during leo season and i'm still leaning into it.)

astrology - leo / element - fire
song- "good" by aaron banes

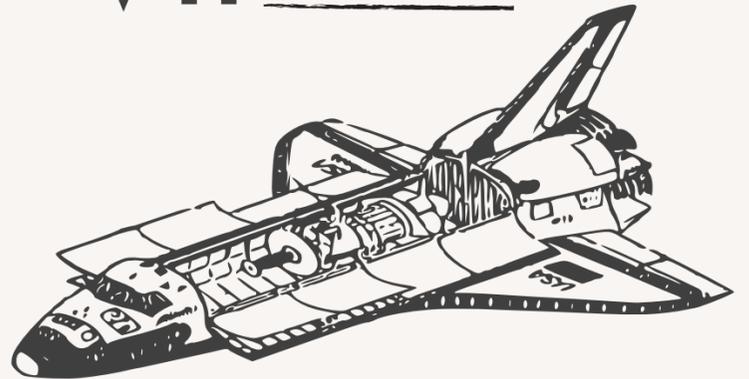
V the hierophant



be conscious that you are always in relationship. when possible, be purposeful with who and what you allow that privilege. when possible, allow for freedom, forgiveness, accountability, and growth. be aware that you are in relationship with other, not ownership.

astrology - gemini / element - air
song- "unconditional love" by esperanza spalding

VII the chariot



IX the hermit



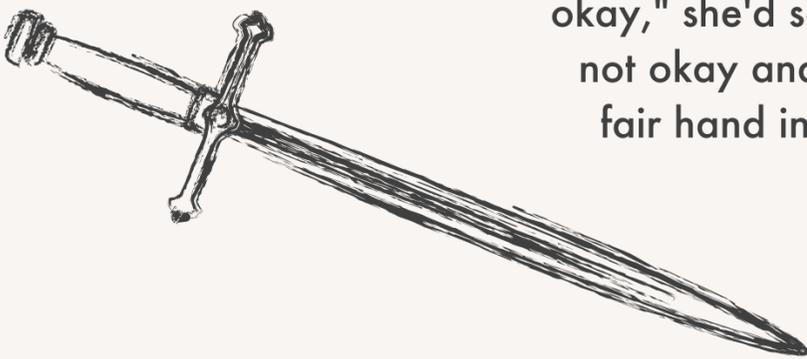
i would be most content to find my way. i do not mean just a way, but my way. there are many routes and lanes to where i am going. there are many places i would like to go along the way. but there is only one way that is mine and i'm going to find it on my own. go on. find yours.

astrology - virgo / element - earth
song- "halftime" by amy winehouse

perspective can be healing. it can be nice to feel small. when you shrink, so does the stress. remembering you can take up space is also nice. we all like to feel like we are each our own universe, beautifully complex. which combination of those medicines do you need today?

astrology - jupiter / element - fire
song- "have mercy" by eryn allen kane

XI justice



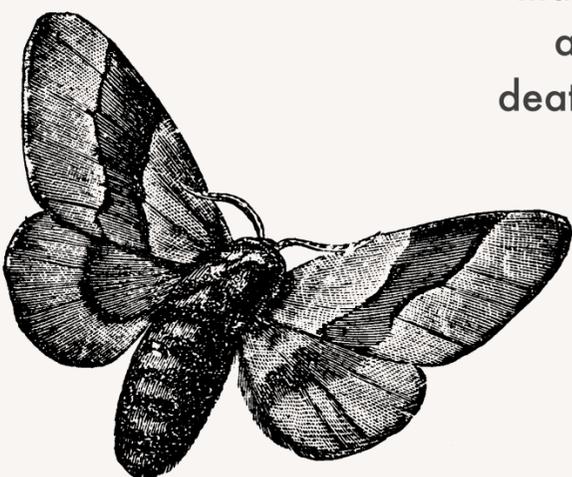
when my first grade teacher made us apologize to someone, she had a certain way of doing it. if the other kid replied, "it's okay," she'd say, "no. it's not okay. don't say that. tell them it's not okay and to not do it again." who has been that firm, but fair hand in your life? what might they do in your situation?

astrology - libra / element - air
song- "why don't you" by cleo sol

there is something thrilling about hanging from a swing. you can relax and be carried up, suspended and held. we don't get to be carried as grown-ups that often anymore. the closest we might get is floating in water. it's nice to not have to hold yourself up and just let go.

astrology - neptune / element - water
song- "diwata" by (((O)))

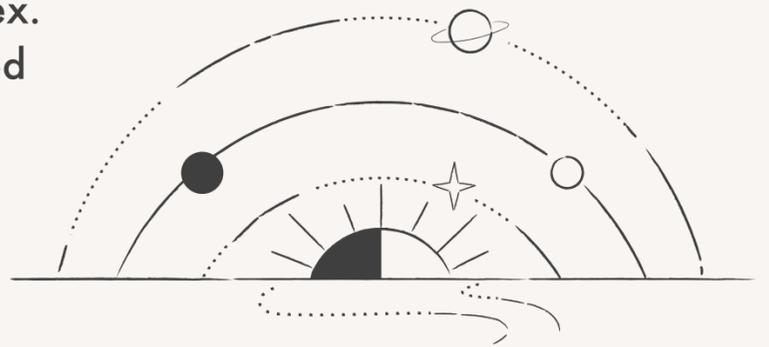
XIII death



dying is seeing something through til the end. each meal you make, each story you tell, each moment of touch will end and begin again. i wish you many small, but refreshing deaths. i wish you few considerable, but cathartic deaths. please experience all of life until it's end.

astrology - scorpio / element - water
song- "plastic" by moises sumney

X the wheel of fortune



XII the hanged



XIV temperance



when you first come to the city, you don't want to appear green, so you try to convince others that you were always there. slowly you learn that you are big enough to be who your home made you and what the city is making you. you are big enough to be both and everything in between.

astrology - sagittarius / element - fire
song- "paris night/new york mornings"
by corinne bailey rae

in stories, there is always a moment where the robot realizes they are under control, where the beast breaks free, where monster turns on master. in reality, giving up control is cathartic, therapeutic, a turn on even. just ensure you are still in control, even when you're out of it.

astrology - capricorn / element - earth
song- "no room for doubt"
by lianne la havas and willy mason

XVI the tower



the point is not to find the silver lining. silver linings are cosmetic. the point is to find the crack in the foundation and inject liquid silver. the point is to expose the wound and endure the pain that comes with cleaning it. battle cries are proven to make blows stronger. what do you need to scream?

astrology - mars / element - fire
song- "it's over, bobby" by charlotte dos santos

when you have been stuck in a cage for so long, your wings are not used to spreading wide and taking up space. your eyes are not used to the clarity and the vividness of the outside. you may have thought the cage was your armor, but it was your crutch. try your wings.

astrology - aquarius / element - air
song- "try your wings" by amel larrieux

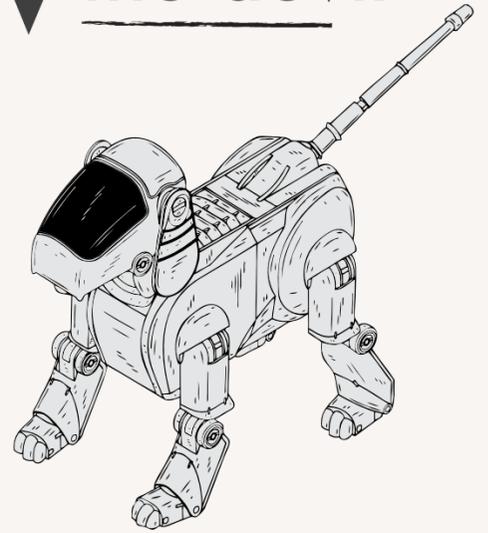
XVIII the moon



there is no rule that you should not look directly at the moon. we are invited to gaze on it in all its phases and recall the parts of us that change like that too. often we chalk those parts up to the crazy, the shameful, the scary. what if instead of pushing those parts away, we watched them with wonder like the moon?

astrology - pisces / element - water
song- "harvest time" by charlotte dos santos

XV the devil



XVII the star



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XIX the sun



in preschool, i was convinced that gnomes controlled the street lights. they lived inside them, changing the lights depending on the traffic. it's silly now, but it was the only explanation at the time. i believed it like i believed the sun would rise in the morning. some things are just that clear, clear as the light of day.

astrology - sun / element - fire
song- "diddy bop" by noname, cam o'bi and raury

ultimatums must be handled with care. reckless use may cause unintended consequences, regret, and explosions. not everything can be treated with ultimatums. however, when used correctly, results will be dramatic, but worth it. pick up the phone today.

astrology - pluto / element - fire
song- "number" by sienna aczon

XXI the world



you are not trying. you are not getting there. you are not on your way. you're not a work in progress. things and tasks and jobs can be those things, but you cannot. you aren't even all the smaller parts that make up you. you, as you are reading this, are a full, complete, whole person.

astrology - saturn / element - earth
song- "take me higher" by fertile ground

now that you've read what the gods say through me, listen for what they say through you. write your own notes. find your own songs.

speaking of, here is a playlist with all the songs for your tarot studying pleasure.

and if you'd like to tell more stories together, here are my offerings where we can do just that. til next time...

from me and my cards,
aaron

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