

Tree Keepers Oracle

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Introduction

Long ago, before trees were used for their pulp and fiber to hold our stories in bound form, they were story protectors of a different kind. As legend and druids can tell you, there are places on the planet where the veil between worlds is thin, and the trees were guardians of these sacred spaces. During that age, if one was lucky, one might encounter a door in the trunk of a tree, known as a duirwaigh, a portal between worlds where magic bleeds through from one dimension to another.

Magic wasn't considered spellcraft or supernatural. What was called magic was simply the songs, art, dreams and inspirations of one world flowing into another. The trees kept records of these magics, and the Tree Keepers kept sacred watch

over the trees.

Over time, the Tree Keepers gained much wisdom. They couldn't help it. As magic seeped through the trees, it bled onto the ground on which the Tree Keepers stood and took up residency in their souls. Having been imprinted by the flow of stories, they were considered the librarians of the Otherworlds. Each Tree Keeper became a living oracle, embodying the four elements of their own world, plus the fifth element of the duirwaigh.

The duirwaigh, that portal where dreams move across dimensions, is an element akin to love. It is the all-encompassing wisdom that encourages every soul to remember that there are other perspectives beyond the one immediately available

on reality's surface. Sometimes a door is more than a door. Sometimes a tree is more

you are more than you know, able to access

than a tree. And sometimes



the more-ness shimmering on the other side of your circumstances. There is always more: more chances, more grace, more forgiveness, more perspectives, more magic than you have currently glimpsed. The Tree Keepers knew this truth and shared it with seekers lucky enough to encounter them.

I was one such seeker.

Though many of the trees have long since been cut down, their groves destroyed, the Tree Keepers' legacy remains alive in places where rivers run silver with myth and where fairy tales



are still spoken under the light of the moon. The contents of the oracle were entrusted to me from a Tree Keeper in Lapland, who guarded one of the ancient reindeer forest groves. One evening, under a billowing curtain of aurora borealis, while night settled like a sigh on the shoulders of a mountain, that Tree Keeper gifted me her legacy book, an image of a reindeer carved into its wooden cover.

The teachings in this deck are distilled from that tome.



How to Use this Deck

Trees eat sunlight through their leaves, and drink water through their roots. That is how to best absorb the messages in this deck.

First, hold a question or concern in your mind as you draw a card. Allow the card's symbols and message to enter, like sunlight, through your upper realm: the green leaves of thought. Consider what you know to be true about the surface of your current situation. Ponder what you know to be true about the symbols you see on the card. It's not always answers we need. We think we do, but we learn so much more just by asking the right questions. After you pull the card, ask yourself: Who am I in relation to this message? What do I need most right now? What would support look like should I be able to receive it?

Don't stop there.

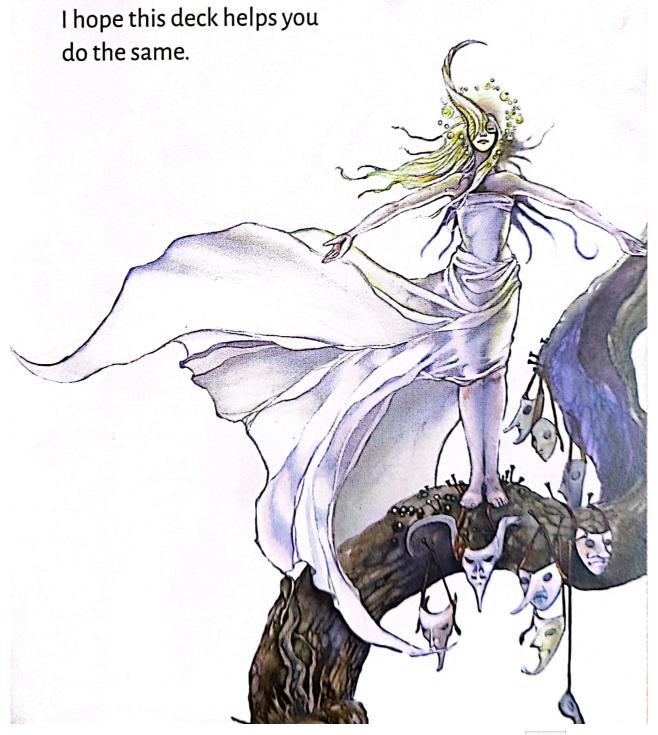
Let the meaning move down toward your heart. The sap of your deeper wisdom lives there. How does this card make you feel? Notice whether your heart feels open or closed. Is there resonance? Resistance?

Encourage the resonance and acknowledge any resistance. In my experience, both the things we love and those we despise tell us who we are in any given moment. Consider both. Trust any resistance as a message in and of itself. Welcome both dark and light, above and below, into your experience without judgement. This is the way of the Tree Keepers.

Next, let the colors, sensations, images and words sink down to the roots of your life tree, where the collective unconscious lives. You may find surprising memories, ideas or associations coming up from the deep. Trust them. This is not the realm of logic, but a deeper part of you connected to the entire forest of humanity and spirit.

Finally, let the meaning of the card travel through your entire being. Let it circulate like blood-sap. Consider any impressions and associations as you drive to work, create your meals, or take your bath. Allow your questions and answers to sit with you. like birds on the limb of your day. Be. With. Them. Then, encourage them to follow you down into the dark, nurturing earth of sleep.

The Tree Keepers never rush. Just like the trees themselves, they take their time to ingest nutrients and inspiration. They allow the slow magic of sunlight, rain and time to provide all they need to keep their roots anchored downward and their limbs expanding ever upward.





1 • Keeper of Self-Love

Many of us forget to include ourselves in acts of loving kindness. Human beings are hard-wired for both love and struggle. One of the best ways to practice resilience between the two is through self-compassion. This moment asks you to focus all the patience, support and love you keep giving everyone else onto yourself. Put your arms around your inner self with all the gentleness you can muster. Consider this: you are the only you in the entire universe. You deserve to experience love from the inside out, independent of what the world offers or takes away. Nothing can change your inherent value. It's golden. Treasure it with kind thoughts.

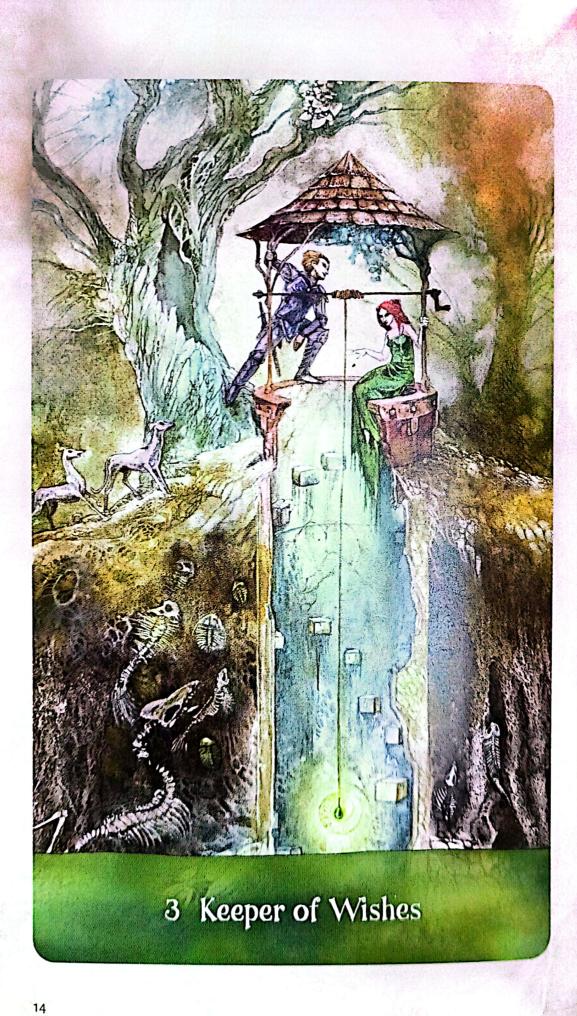




2 · Keeper of Abundance

The sun creates enough energy in a single day to run all the machines on the earth for a thousand years. Read that again. That's the universe you live in and you are as worthy a recipient of that energy as any tree, plant or animal. The tree of your soul is ever reaching down into the dark root system of mystery and up into the sun of abundance. True abundance isn't a plethora of things; it's a wealth of energy and resilience. It's the ability to get back up after a failure. The ability to believe in yourself when no one else seems to. The ability to shine again after the rain of trauma or crisis. And like the trees, to reach ever skyward.





3 · Keeper of Wishes

When you live with trees, you come to understand the importance of wishes, for every acorn contains the wish of a magnificent oak. So it is with all trees: they drop seed-wishes onto the ground in hopes that many will take root and grow into their full potential. Now is the time to let yourself wish. Plant those hopes and dreams into the fertile ground of your own creativity. Make them into an earth offering, like coins in a wishing well. Nurture them. Turn your "what ifs" into "why nots" as if failure were not an option.





4 ° Keeper of Comfort

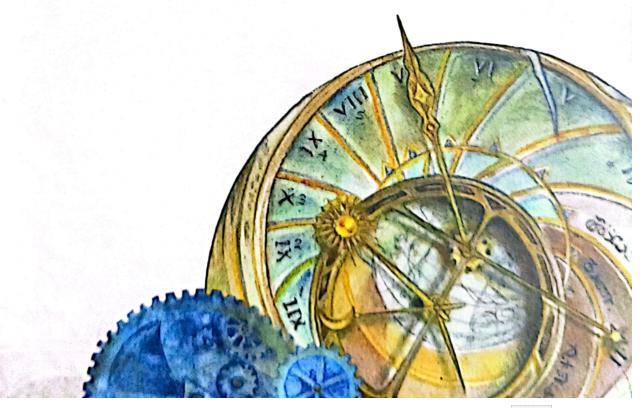
Seek the comfort of a shade tree. The companionship of an animal. The soothing of a favorite blanket, fragrance, flower, or book. This is a time for snuggling: snuggle up to the earth, to the kindness of nature, to the generosity of story. But snuggle, regardless. The Tree Keepers knew what our society has forgotten: the value of self-soothing. Many of our illnesses are caused by stress that could be alleviated with proper self-care and the comfort of a regulated nervous system. Be the one who remembers. Honor the old ways and be kind to yourself right now.

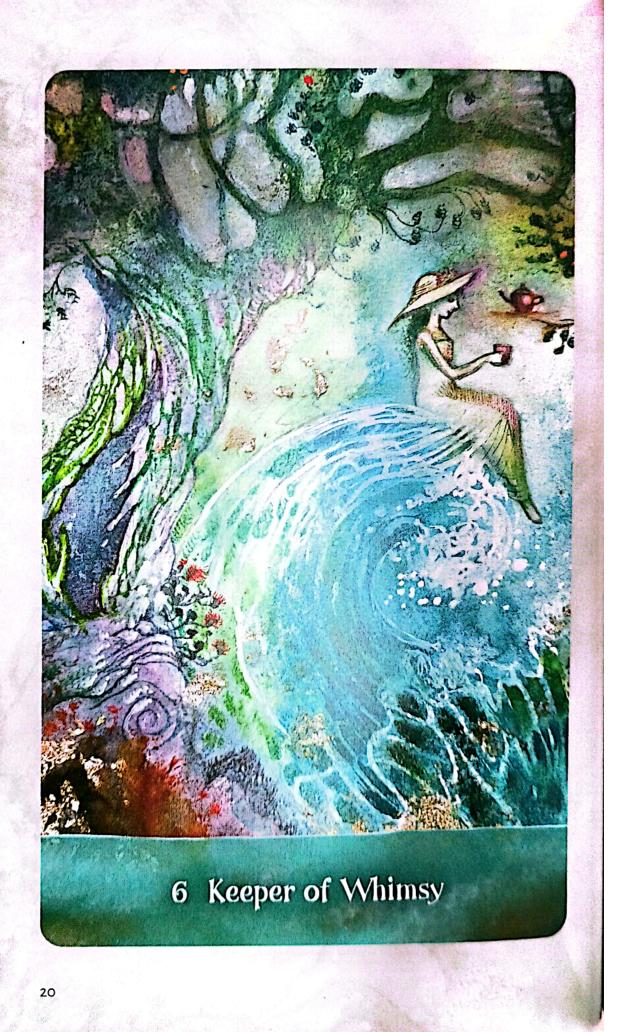




5 · Keeper of Time

Trees clock time differently than humans. We could learn much from them. The passing of the seasons, their own growth (both internal and external), the births and deaths of the forest. There's less constricted doing and more expansive being. And while your current situation may not allow you to move at the pace of the forest, it can use more meaning in its moments. Infuse your days with a sense of purpose – not the thing they told you that you were here to do – but the purpose of presence. Soulful presence is its own reward and invites you to step into the power of now, where all your meaning takes place.





6 • Keeper of Whimsy

Whimsy is a muscle. We in the modern world have forgotten this, but the Tree Keepers remember. When employed by your imagination, whimsy yields strength. It's harder for the world of stress to reach you with its constant barrage of "should" and "shouldn't" when you're indulging whimsy. Share a cup of tea with your favorite tree. Have a conversation with the moon. Ride a wave of imagination in your own backyard. You'll find yourself more resilient to the demands of the day and more open to its possibilities.

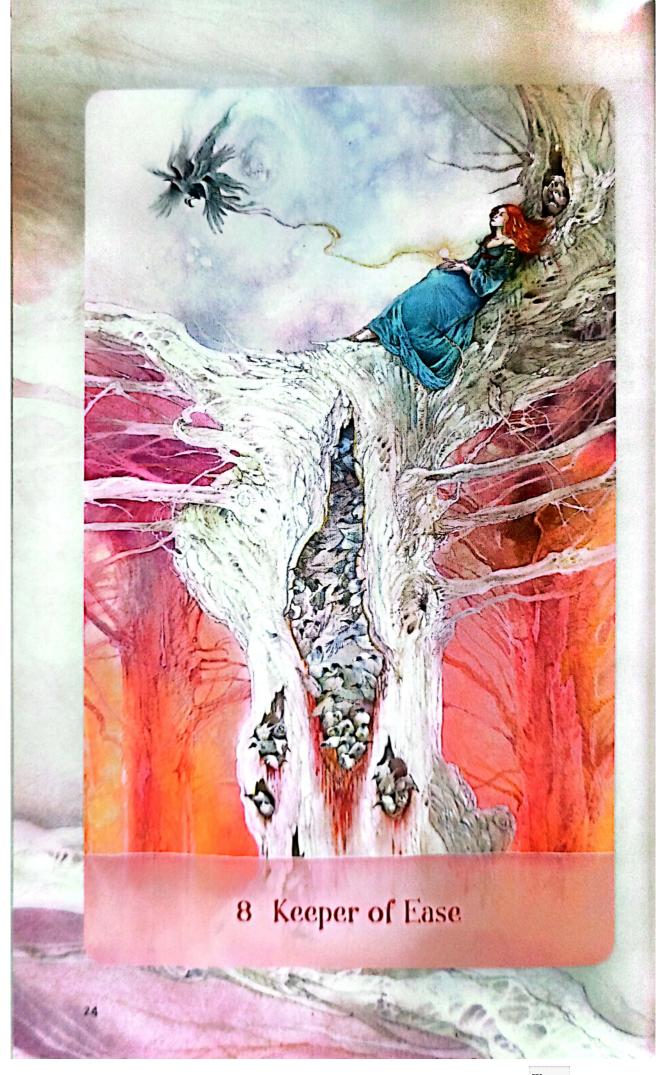




7 · Keeper of Balance

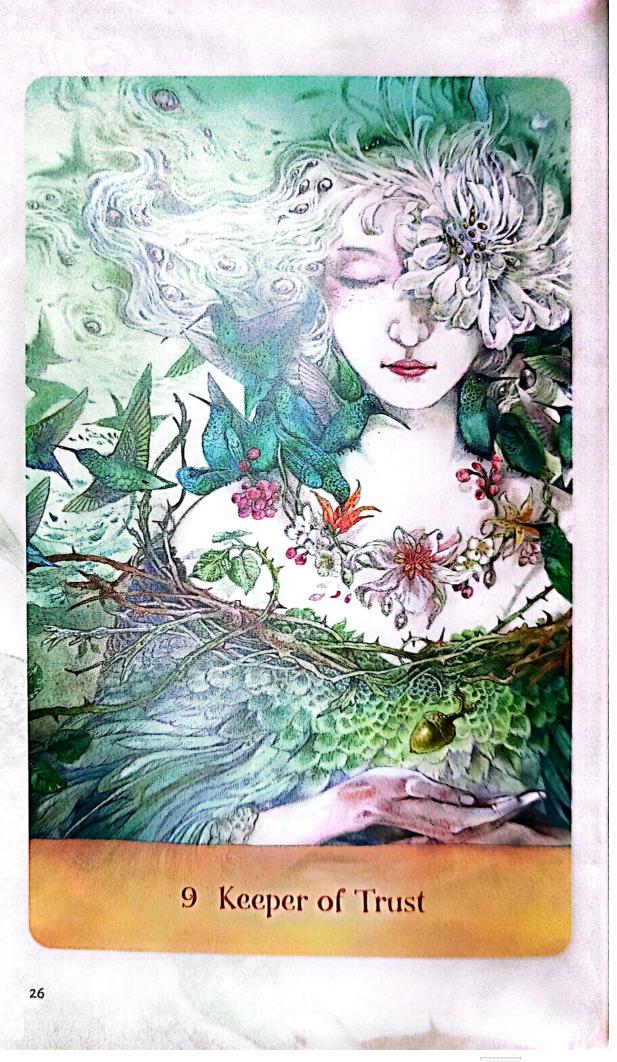
Nature thrives in balance. The Tree Keepers honored this truth and emulated it in their own lives. Are you feeling off balance right now? Tempted to think in terms of "too much" and "not enough?" Now is the time to restore the vitality of your own life tree with balance. Where are you spending your time and energy right now? What do you need? The means of restoring your balance aren't as important as recognizing and voicing your own need. You are the keeper of your life tree. Be willing to honestly assess where you feel blocked, lopsided, hurt or needy. Be vulnerable enough to admit it to yourself, then take action on behalf of your own precious self.





8 • Keeper of Ease

We weren't raised to work with the ebb and flow of energies. We were raised to determine a course of action, have a goal, and stick to it. The message has been, "If it's challenging, uphill, exhausting or overwhelming, keep going. Suffer the hardship because it makes the reward so much sweeter." This has led us to go against our own divine nature, punishing ourselves with struggles that feel uphill and suffocating. But the way of Source is to work with the flow. Now is the time to turn off the "should" in your mind. Turn your energies downhill. Let go of the idea that your dream or decision requires you to toil. Yes, you are in for hard work and commitment, but no, you don't get extra points for suffering. Let others have that battle. You? It's your time to relax. Call on your invisible allies. Let Source and its flow be your partner in this achievement.



9 · Keeper of Trust

All that you are to become is already inside you. Just as an acorn has a blueprint for the oak tree, you have a design inside for what your soul tree wants to become. Your mind is the least dependable purveyor of direction. By all means use it, but not as your ride-or-die in times of creativity or crisis. That's what your soul is for. It contains the connection to your highest Source and most authentic self. Trust it. Trust yourself. Trust the process.

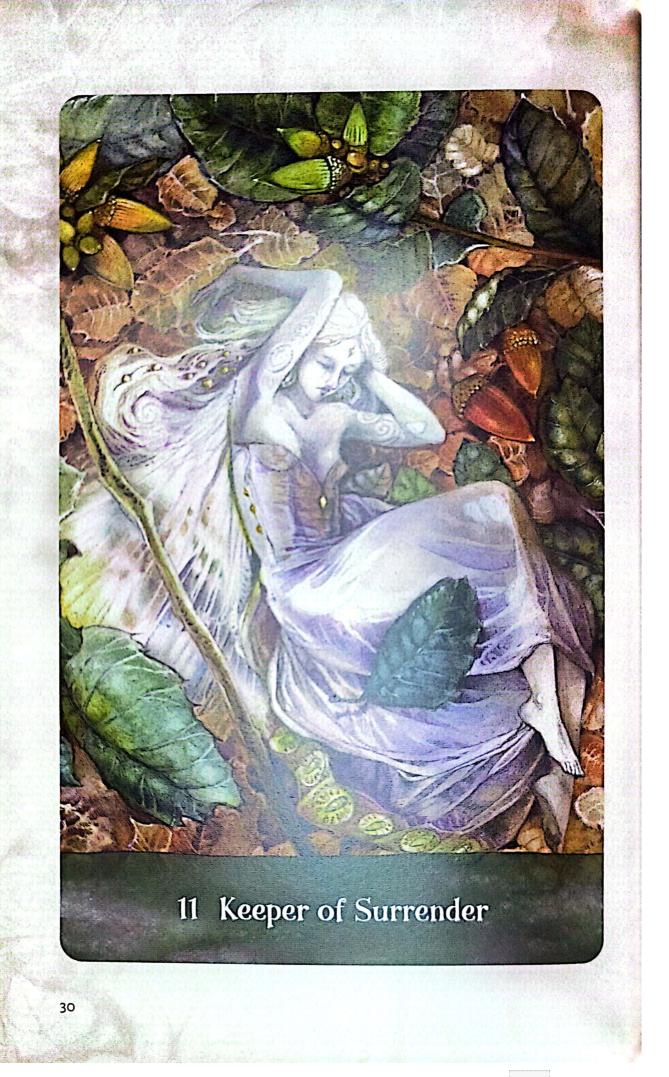




10 · Keeper of Shift

Tree Keepers knew that nature shakes it up.
Storms clean. Winds resuscitate. But they also knew you can be your own storm. Monotony.
Boredom. Inertia. These are anathema to your experience. Do something different. Take a different route. Think a different thought. Listen to a new station, on your digital mix or in your own head. Shake up the energy. Be your own storm.
Your butterfly effect can be dazzling.

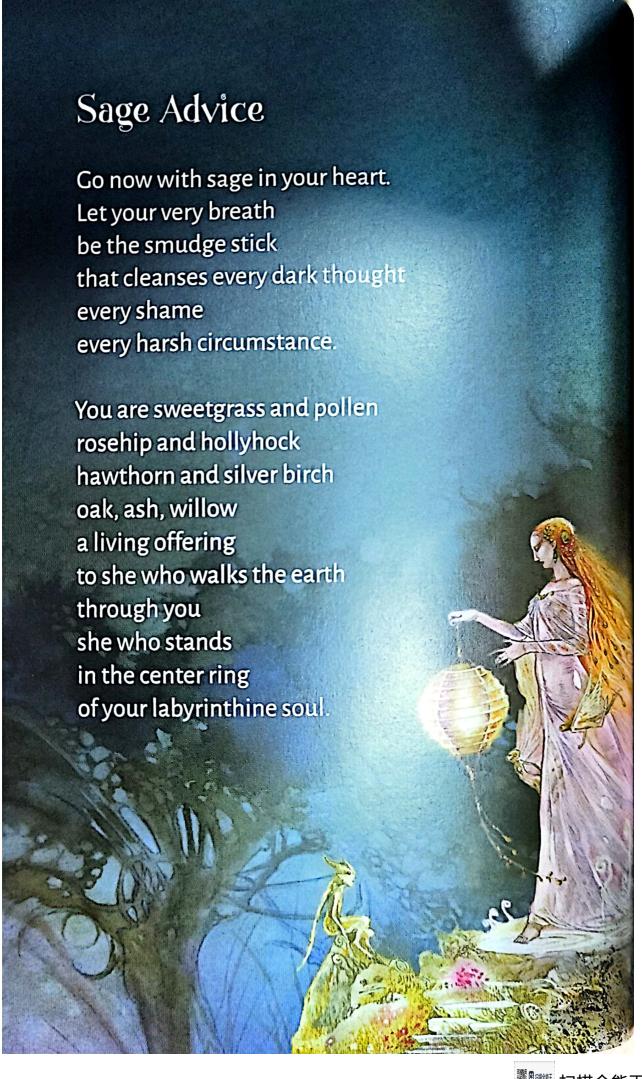


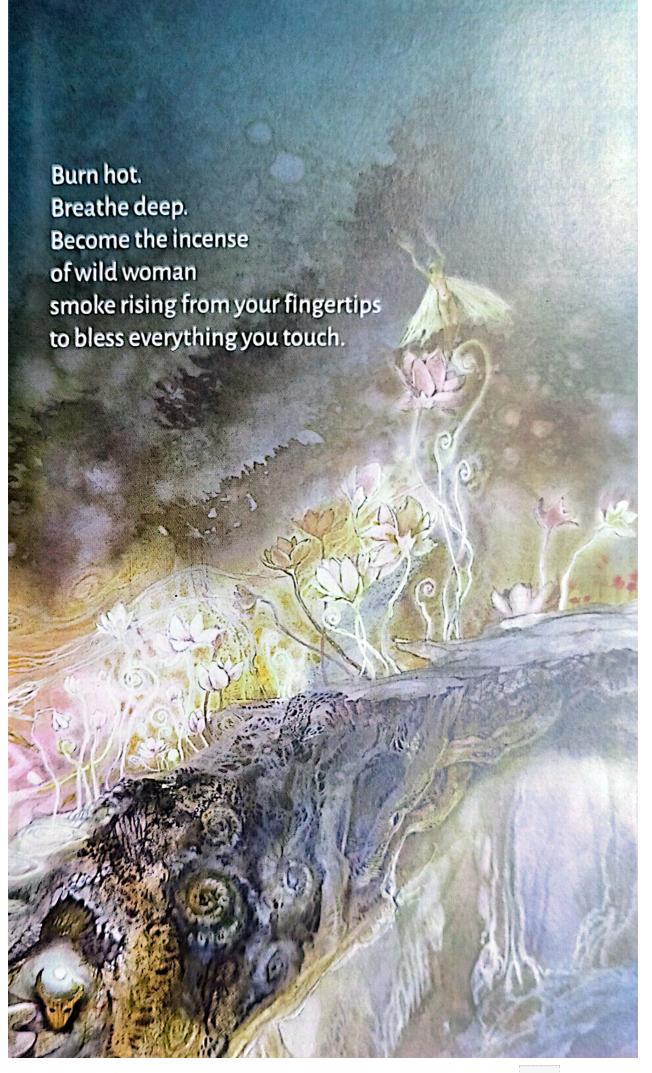


11 · Keeper of Surrender

During autumn, trees show us how beautiful it is to let go. The cessation of chlorophyll causes the trees to burst into true color as they release their leaves. Surrender isn't defeat. It's the sacred pause that allows us to use all our senses to receive a new vision. Cease all striving. Stop the endless cycles of productivity. Abolish your white-knuckle resiliency. Lay your spine along the Earth's solid ground and feel the support waiting for you there. Align your spine along the length of your favorite tree and feel the solidity of bark, the warmth of sap, and the hum of tree song. There are times when effort only creates futility and extends suffering. This is one of them. Something new wants to communicate with you and is awaiting your presence in this moment.





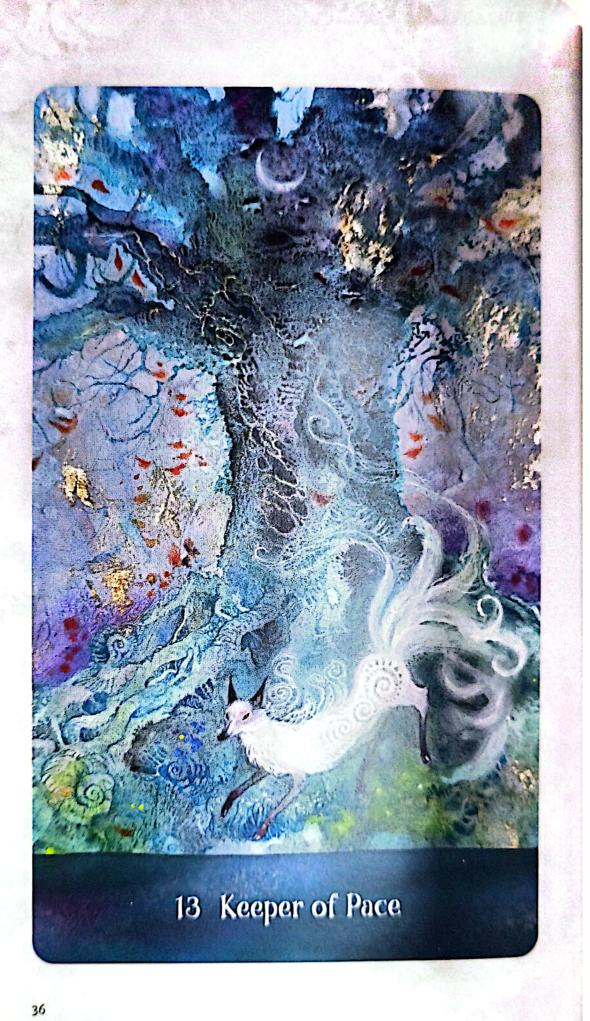




12 · Keeper of Inclusion

You deserve every beautiful and lovely thing. You also deserve to know yourself as a beautiful and lovely thing. In order to achieve this awareness, harmonize with the song of your soul. This means you must be willing to take all the pain, suffering, worries, hopes, dreams and joy of your life, and of the moment, and synthesize them with compassion. Reverence. Forgiveness. Don't abandon any part of yourself or your experience. Embrace the tears and laughter. Allow yourself to soften towards all you have judged wrong or bad. Invite all the ugly parts and painful memories into your soul's song. And then sing! Remember, the birds who adorn the trees don't sing because they're talented or gifted. They sing because they have a song.





13 • Keeper of Pace

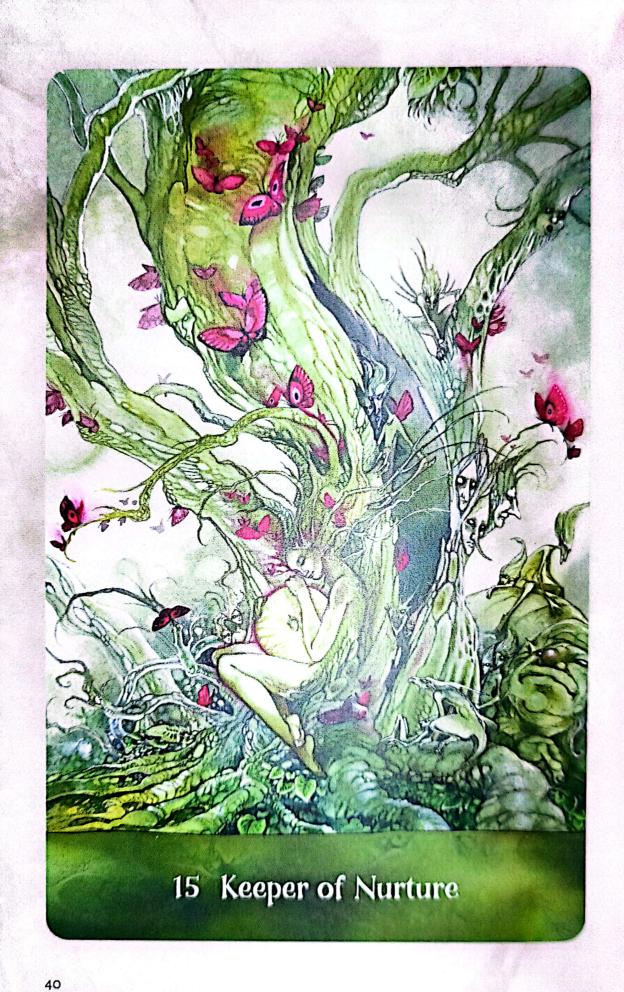
Is it time to speed up? Or time to slow down? This can only be answered by your internal guidance system. Trees have their own rhythms, as do the seasons, the bees, the Tree Keepers and you. Pay attention to the speed of your present situation. Is it time to pull back or do you need to be taking more action? Tension, stress and overwhelm will tell you when it's time to slow down. Inertia, anxiety and fear are often indicators that some kind of change is needed to shift the pace. Listen to your own internal rhythm and act on the messages it conveys.





14 • Keeper of Solitude

There will be time for togetherness, but not now. This is a time for solitude. The spiral of your soul tree and its root system need your attention. It has songs to sing and dreams to sigh straight into your heart. But you can only hear their messages in the intentional quiet of solitude. Take this time to break away from the clan. Withdraw from the clamoring world outside and the one in your own mind. Nestle down with intentionality. Sometimes it takes willing aloneness to discover your belonging. The belonging to your soul tree. To the present circumstance and its challenges. To yourself.



15 · Keeper of Nurture

Every Tree Keeper knows there are times to blossom, to share your flowers and fruit with the world. Then there are times to withdraw energies, in order to protect and nurture. This is one of those times. That creative project you're incubating? That new idea, relationship or vision you're harboring? Protect it like a rare seed that needs to be held tenderly in order to grow into a sapling. If you are attempting to rebirth your life, rising into the flowering of a new version of yourself, be especially gentle. It's time to trust yourself to be the incubator. Be extremely cautious with whom you share right now. This is a delicate matter and only those worthy of being respectful should

share your space.



16 • Keeper of Play

Just like a tree's limbs can support a swing of joy, your arms can hold a great deal of play. Too often our own limbs are weighted down by responsibility, demand, guilt or shame. It's time to construct a swing of joy in your heart. Remember your inner three-year-old who stood on her head or hung from the monkey bars just for the joy of the tactile experience? This wasn't mere folly. The Tree Keepers knew that play opens pathways to problem-solving and creative genius. It's not just enjoyable for the inner child. It's also essential for the outer adult. Fill your arms with the lightness of play and possibilities will take flight. Doors will appear where there were only walls.





17 · Keeper of Journeys

While each Tree Keeper was bonded with their own individual tree or grove, they knew there were times when they had to leave. Fresh ideas, new insights and embodied wisdom often come from the experience of travel. This moment is ripe for adventure. Whether it's an outward journey or inward exploration, you are being called to explore. Depart the routine. Allow the sacred interruption of your daily life. The true treasure of travel is not the journey itself, but the way it changes your perspective and empowers your experience.

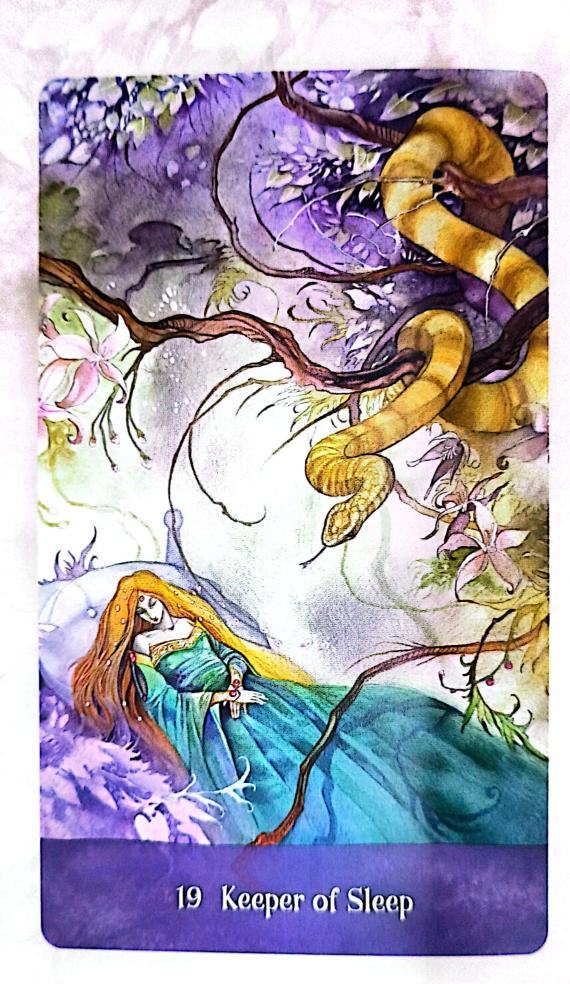




18 • Keeper of Stars

Stars carry hope-light. Do you have the energy to continue to wish? The Tree Keepers have a favorite saying, "Always keep a star in your heart." It's because hope-light keeps you young. It connects you to the heart of the child, where all magic resides. But in our disappointments and disillusions we get wounded, weary, despondent. We stop carrying (or even looking for) the hope-light because we no longer believe in the power of stars. Find the courage in your heart to believe again. This moment is asking you to put aside the weariness of disbelief. Revive the wonder in your heart. Go out on a limb to hope again. You're worth it.





19 · Keeper of Sleep

Not many people know this, but trees sleep and dream. They also nap. It's one of the ways they are able to produce flower, fruit, seed and shade. Their vitality is restored in the dreamtime, as is yours. Sleep is essential to your daily repair, and triply important during times of trauma, stress and illness. Your body not only heals during delta wave deep sleep, but fresh insights and inspirations are available to you during this sacred time. Perhaps this moment does not need your doing, producing, tending. This moment is offering you the opportunity to shed the skin of your tired thoughts, beliefs and habits through the transformative power of sleep.





20 · Keeper of Alchemy

Trees are among nature's alchemists. They turn root, dirt and seed into leafy green shade, and sunlight into sap and honey. This is your job, right now, as an alchemist. You are the one with transformation's power at your fingertips. Unexpressed pain turns into suffering. Unexpressed joy becomes stagnation. But emotions that are grieved, mourned, celebrated or shared, given their creative voice, become art. The medicine is found inside the wound, but not unless it becomes expressed. Take the raw materials of your experience and turn them into song, dance or art. Weave a story with the threads of your hope and despair.





21 • Keeper of Fairy Tales

Before there were humans, there were stories.
The trees told them to each other in a language the moon taught them. Their favorite stories were fairy tales, and they've been inspiring humans to write and tell them since the first human walked into a forest. But fairy tales are special. Like the rings inside a tree, they hold secrets to the past and premonitions of the future. A book isn't simple paper and glue; it's a portal. And a fairy tale? It's like a magic carpet ride through the gates of myth. Indulge them. Study them. Live them. For if you seek a fairy tale with all your heart, someday you'll become one.

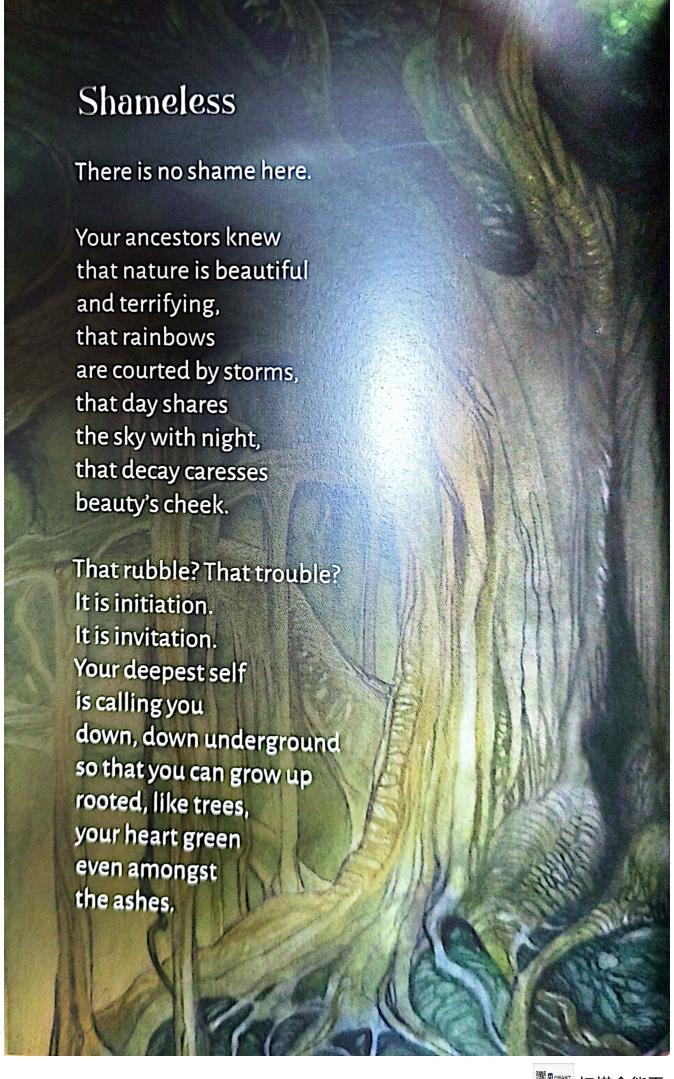


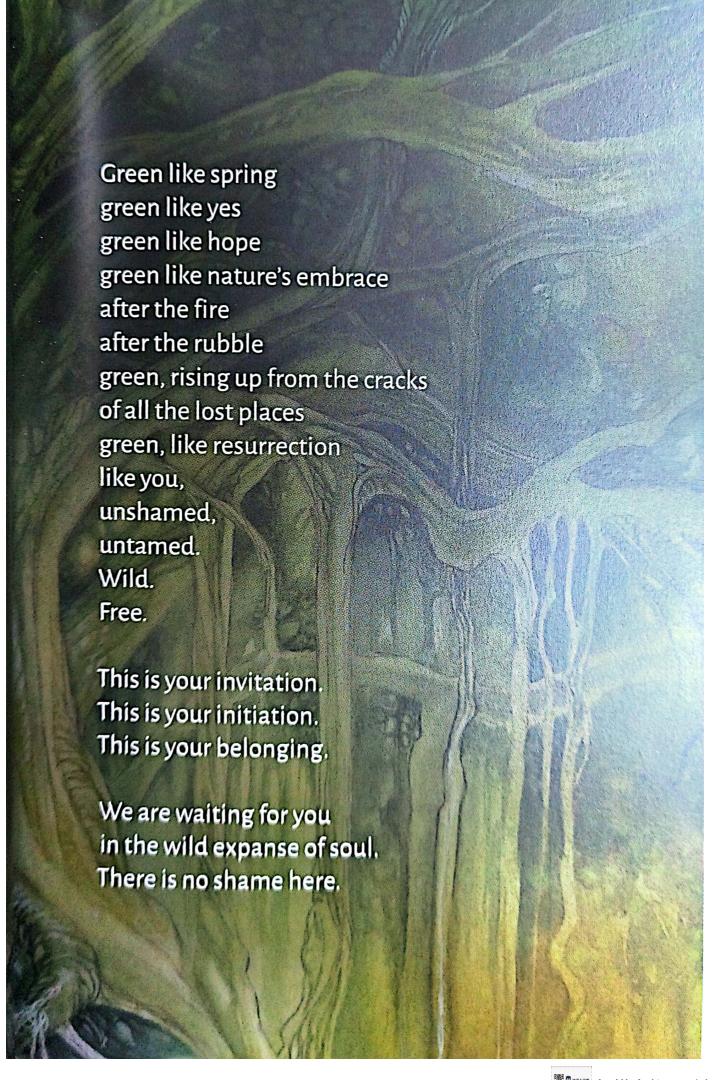


22 · Keeper of Intuition

Slow down. Listen. You are the keeper of intuition. She lives inside you at the core of your life tree. This is a moment to realize you already know what to do. Your intuition is speaking to you. Do not seek advice outside of yourself at this time. Just go with that gut feeling. The next move will reveal itself after you take the first step. Don't waste an ounce of your energy on doubt or second-guessing. Your intuition knows her stuff. Trust her. Don't deny that still small voice inside the core of you. Your thriving life is her top priority.



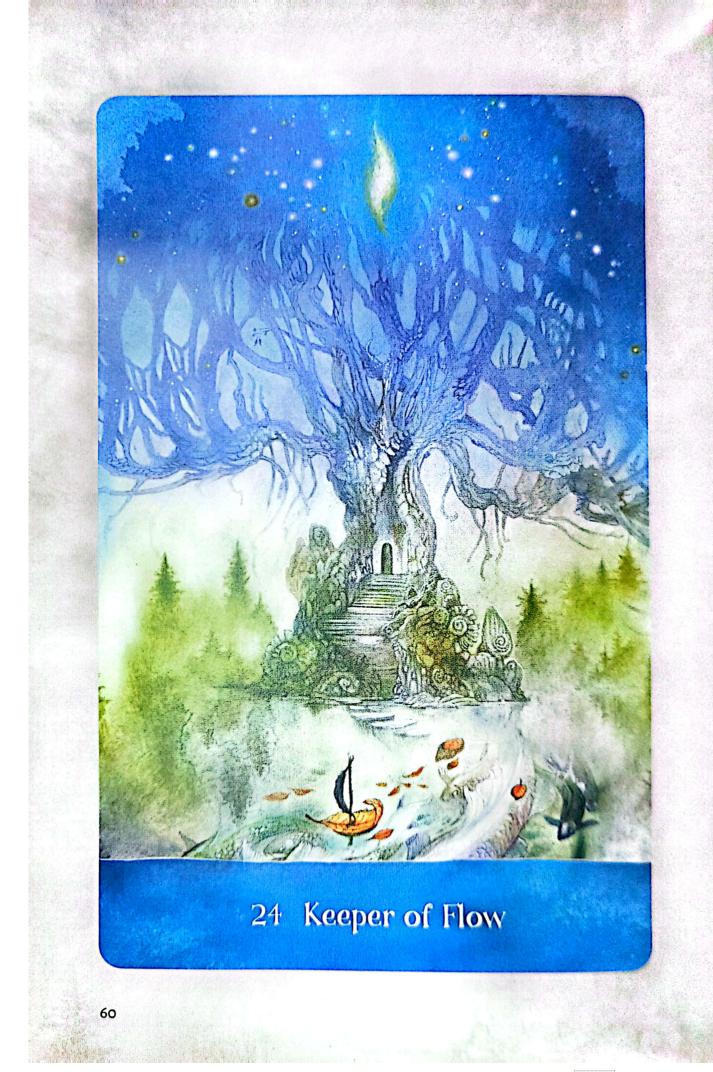






23 · Keeper of Truth

No matter what you're facing right now and how it tempts you to look away, one thing is certain: your anxiety is lying to you. The thoughts and beliefs that come from our early unworthiness programming are false stories. The crippling fear that you're not enough, that it'll never happen for you, that you are less than deserving of every good thing? All lies. It's time to unmask those falsities and seek proof of your inherent value and great worthiness. Not by listening to the old stories, but by telling new ones. Follow the Tree Keepers' example and have a conversation with the moon. Listen to her encourage you to shine. Endeavor to hear the voice that speaks the truest and most beautiful tale of you, even when facing uncertainty or doubt.



24 · Keeper of Flow

All day every day the heart of your life tree performs one function: it regulates flow. It speaks one language: open/close. When we allow our heart to navigate our life, it's much easier to determine if a person, place, or opportunity is aligned with our highest good or not. First, ask yourself: does this situation align with flow? Does it feel upstream or downstream? And second: does this situation open me up and make me feel more possible and more alive or does it make me feel small, cramped or less than? These are the only two directions the heart knows: more of what opens us up, less of what closes us down. With the pull of this card, you're being asked to listen to its simple directives in order to set a course for your own true north.

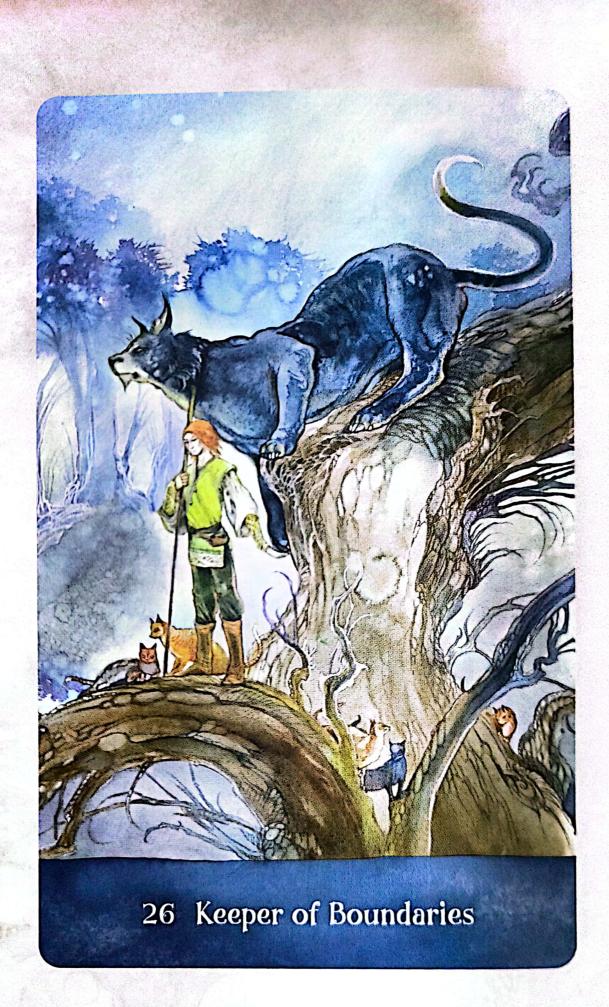




25 · Keeper of the Subconscious

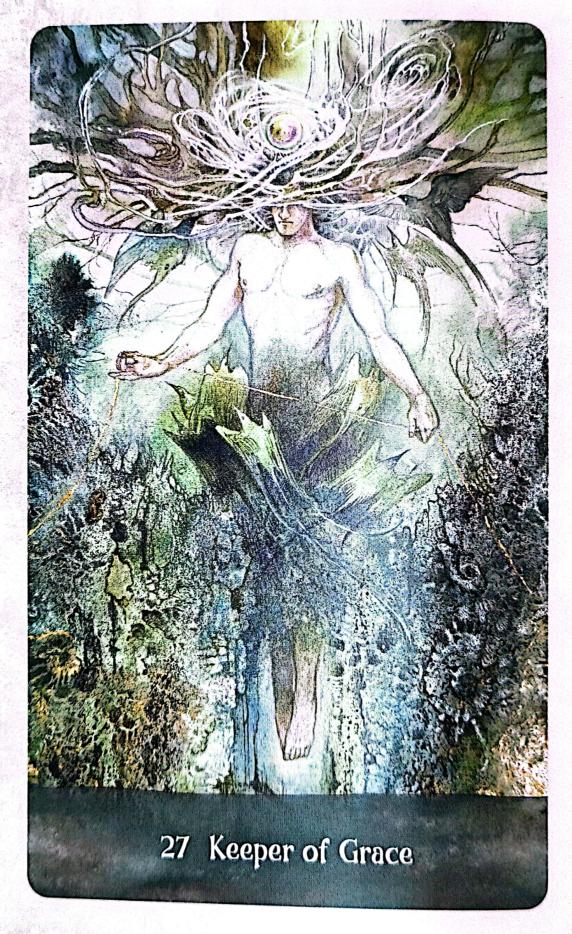
Trauma is real. Your experience with intense emotions and reactions right now may very well be triggered by something on life's surface that has deep roots in the tree of your subconscious. Science calculates that about 10% of our lives is run by our conscious thought, while 90% is run by the subconscious. If you find yourself with persistent triggers that make you feel not enough, too much, overwhelmed, afraid or chronically separated from your own sense of love and belonging, the question isn't, "What's wrong with me?" The right question is, "What happened to me?" Your subconscious has many of the answers to situations that plague and mystify you. Quest down into that sacred space to explore the truths waiting there.





26 · Keeper of Boundaries

Standing your ground is essential right now. The Tree Keepers knew that "no" is a necessary magic word. Use it often to free the bound, liberate the oppressed, and honor the sacred within yourself. Do not be swayed by achievement, approval or the secondary satisfactions of pleasing others. Think of your truth as a seeker inside of you that deserves fierce protection. Once you have admitted the truth inside of you, it's time to embody it by speaking it, and allow it to be protected by the ferocity of self-kindness. "To thine own self be true," said the bard. Learning to hold our ground and protect our precious resources makes all our relationships more authentic, even if some of them die off in the process. The secret irony hiding inside your willingness to say "no" is that it allows your "yes" to be more resolute and ecstatic.



27 · Keeper of Grace

While a capitalistic system that profits from you feeling "less than" would have you believe that true strength comes by force, the Tree Keepers would have you understand that prowess and power come from balance—the interplay between an active will and a surrender to what is. When we refuse to take things personally and see ourselves as part of the living organism of nature, we can accept what is, while also engaging our creativity to shape our personal reality. Between those opposite energies lives the golden thread of grace and the fierce, the tender heart of surrender.





28 • Keeper of Anger

Anger is a sacred fire denied to many of us. We're encouraged to be compliant and agreeable, even when it's not in our best interest. Fire is fuel for change. Too little fire and we risk becoming listless or depressed. Too much and we risk our peace of mind being consumed by wrath, or worse, bitterness. The invitation in this moment is to find the creative power in your anger. What change can you invite? What injustice can you transform into justice through letting anger have its voice? When you allow sacred fire to have its space, you help the phoenix usher what is no longer vital into the ashes in order to be reborn on the wings of new life.

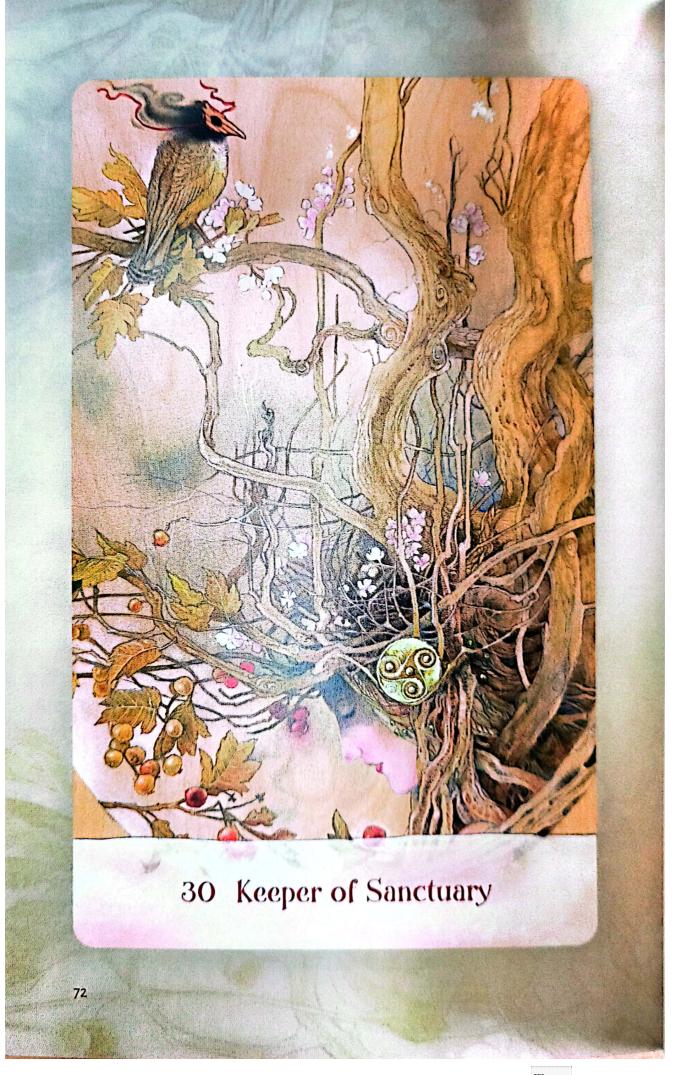




29 · Keeper of Endings

The forest is a place of endings and beginnings, and no one honors the process of ending quite like the Tree Keepers. They carefully watch for the signs of illness, decay or death, tending what can be mended; letting go of what has served its purpose in the great weave of nature's tapestry. The Japanese word akeru means "to pierce, to begin, to end." Over and over, we are reminded that endings contain beginnings inside them, and the piercing of grief creates a sacred opening in our psyche, where new life may pass through. We need to mourn our endings and give the heart the space to process loss. But be careful not to tread too closely to despair, for while ending carries new life inside it, despair keeps us from seeing it clearly.

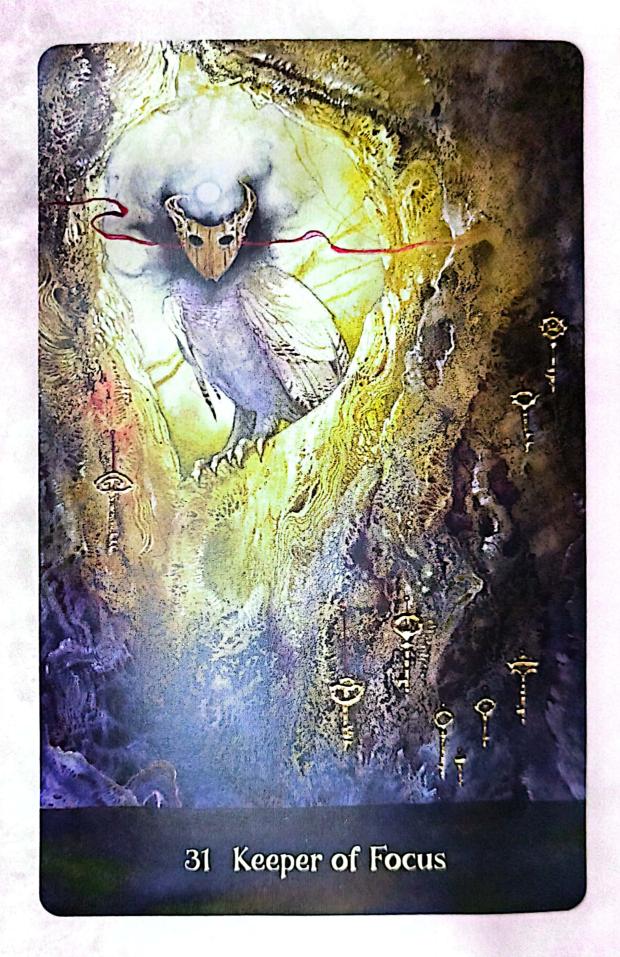




30 · Keeper of Sanctuary

Thoughts happen. Like birds on a tree limb, they arrive unbidden and often unpremeditated. The thoughts we pay attention to have the power to shape the world of our personal experience. Are you paying attention to the ones that fill you with expansion, hope and possibility? Or, the ones that make you feel diminished, small and powerless? You cannot always control your circumstances but you can certainly influence what and how you think about them, and what you give your attention to. You live most of your life inside your mind. Make sure it's a beautiful place to live. Will it be sanctuary or hovel? The choice is yours.





31 • Keeper of Focus

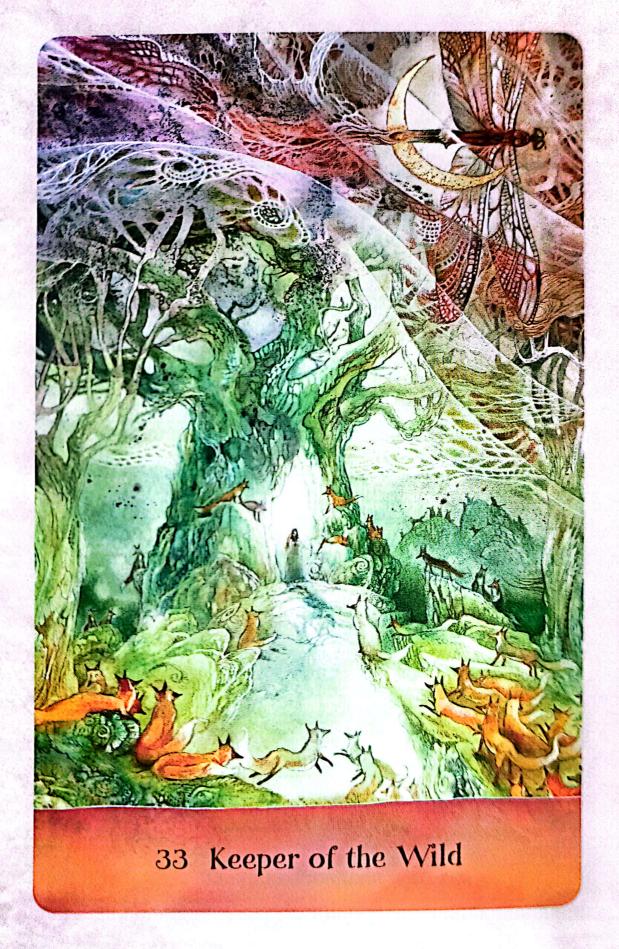
Your focus is a power source, amplifying and expanding what it perceives. Focusing on your limitations and what you don't like is akin to wearing a mask while trying to make your way through a dark forest. It limits your perspective. Choosing to look at what you treasure, what you love, and what you hope for - holding to that vision despite what reality tells you is possible - is akin to taking off the mask. The horizon opens. Now is the time to remove the mask and use this very simple power to direct the energy and flow of your experience. Use the power of your focus to argue for your possibilities rather than your limitations and you'll discover the golden keys that unlock your dreams, ushering them into reality. What you think about grows.





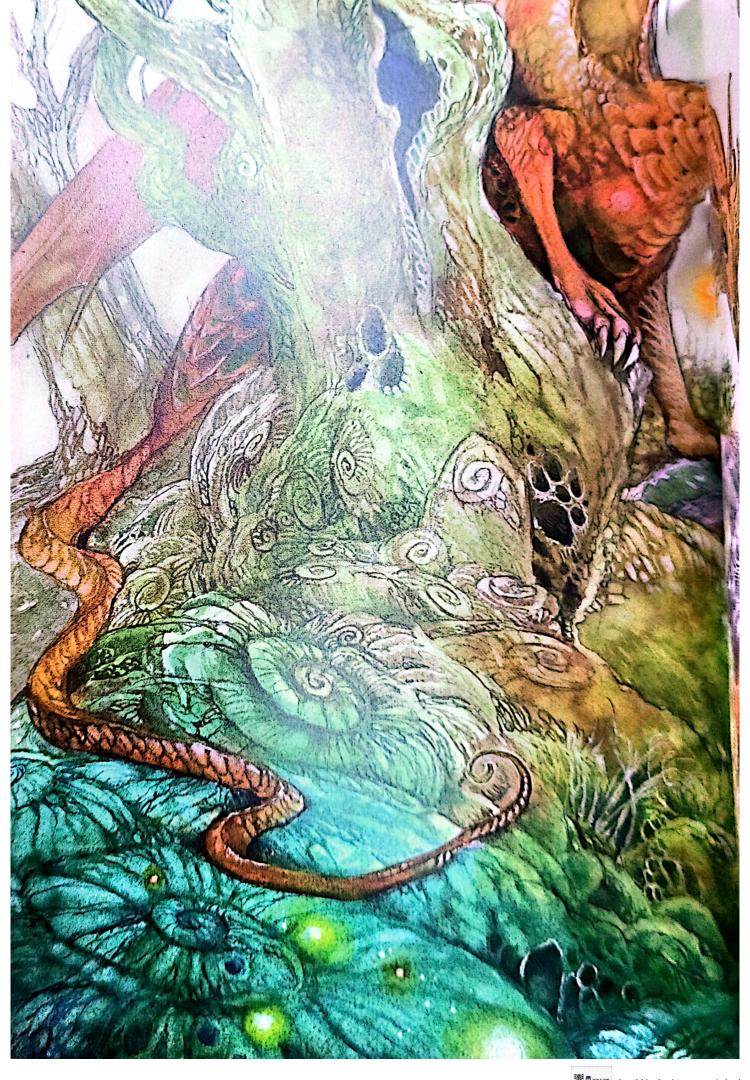
32 • Keeper of Creativity

The colors inside of you must be expressed. To restrain your creativity is to shut off the flow of Source, as we are made in its creative image. Whether you paint, dance, sing, sculpt, stitch, weave, write, tell or shape, every creation expands the universe in joy. It's not just healthy to release what lives inside of you. The process is necessary and holy for the soul of the world. It allows all of us to know ourselves deeper and brighter, as we witness your example. Now is the time to create with wild abandon. Don't say you aren't creative. Don't say there is no time. Prioritize your creative expression, even (and especially) if what you're creating serves no purpose other than the flow. That is enough. You are enough. Create now.

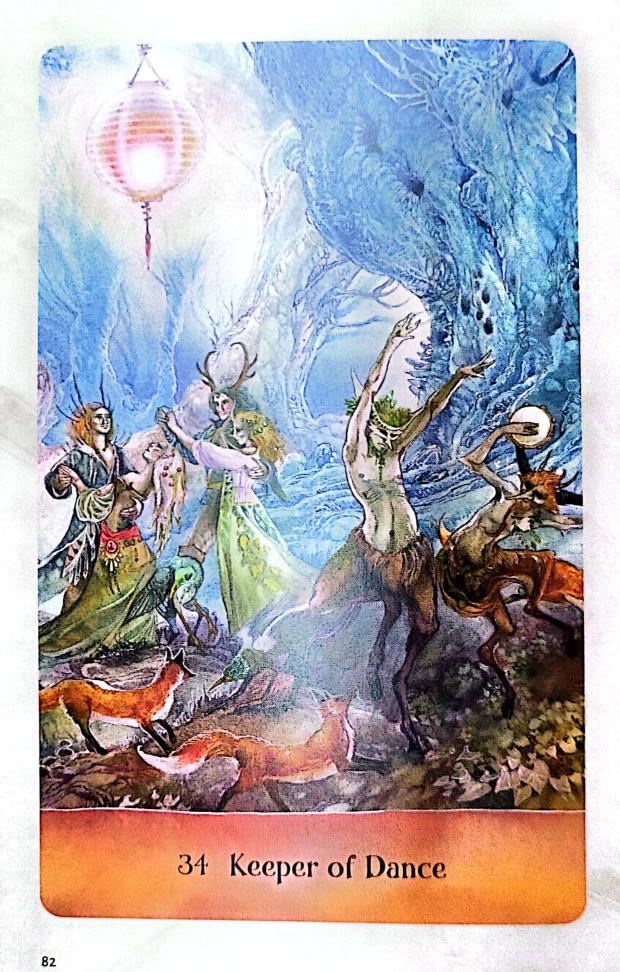


33 · Keeper of the Wild

The wild isn't just a place out there; it's also a place in here. You are related to elk and deer, butterfly and hummingbird, bison, gazelle and tiger. The mountains live in your bones, the rivers in your veins, wildflowers grow along the chambers of your heart. You weren't born to pay bills and die, distracting yourself with the secondary satisfactions of house and car and happy hour. The time has come to unplug from your current matrix. Your mind is a savannah teaming with running wildebeests. Your heart is an ocean full of mighty whales and splendid dolphins. Your soul is a forest full of stories the moon whispers late at night. Indulge your own nature and rewild your life.

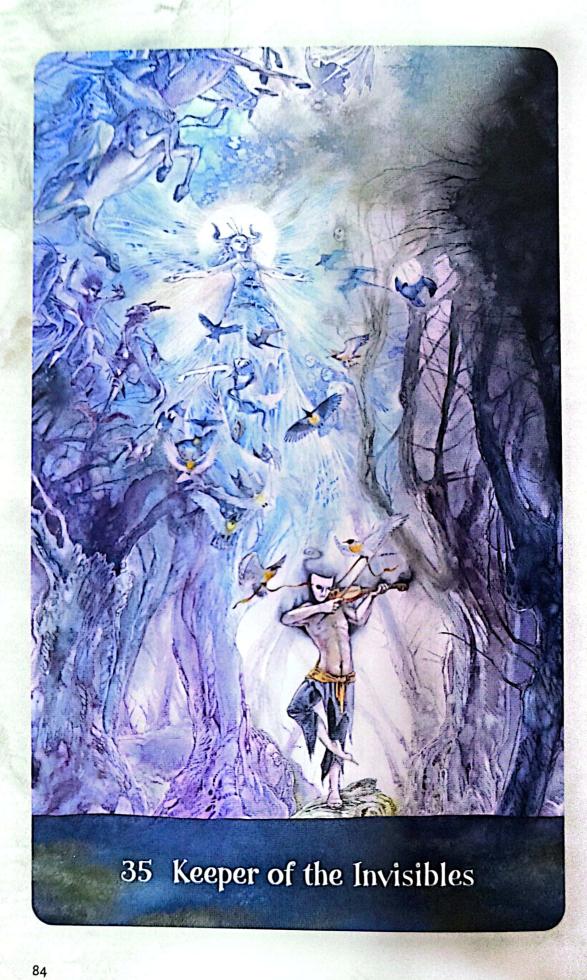






34 • Keeper of Dance

Now is the time to dance. Not because this moment is easy or celebratory, but because your divine nature insists that you revel in who you are. And who you are is more glorious, more stunning and more powerful than you can even imagine. So dance when you feel bountiful. Dance when you feel scarce. Dance for the truth that you are more than this circumstance, this situation. Dance your grief, your joy, your power. As Rumi said, "Dancing is not just getting up painlessly, like a leaf blown on the wind; dancing is when you tear your heart out and rise out of your body to hang suspended between the worlds." Your soul is the green that continually resurrects, despite all circumstance. Dance for that truth.



35 ° Keeper of the Invisibles

Whether you believe in mythic creatures, guardian angels or spirit guides, you do have forces moving on your behalf. They guard and guide your soul journey. If you are aware of them, now is the time to contact them. Inquire. Investigate. Ask for their help. If you don't yet know who they are, suspend your disbelief. Call and conjure them in the quiet spaces. Compel them to come to your aid by confessing your belief in them. Unseen forces thrive on belief and expand in your presence. Whether in relaxation, prayer, meditation, dream work or active imagination, invite the invisibles to engage with you.





36 • Keeper of Beginnings

This is the awakening of a new beginning, now that the old forms have passed on. The Tree Keepers were always friends of the butterfly and treasured her as a sign of new life. Right now it's time to let your new wings guide you, which means you must be willing to fall and fly, as a fledgling beginner. Commit. Dare. Begin the journey that's calling to you right now. As Goethe said, "The moment one definitely commits oneself, then Providence moves too. All sorts of things occur to help one that would never otherwise have occurred. Whatever you can do, or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius, power, and magic in it!" Unleash the power of new beginnings and fly.





37 · Keeper of Sharing

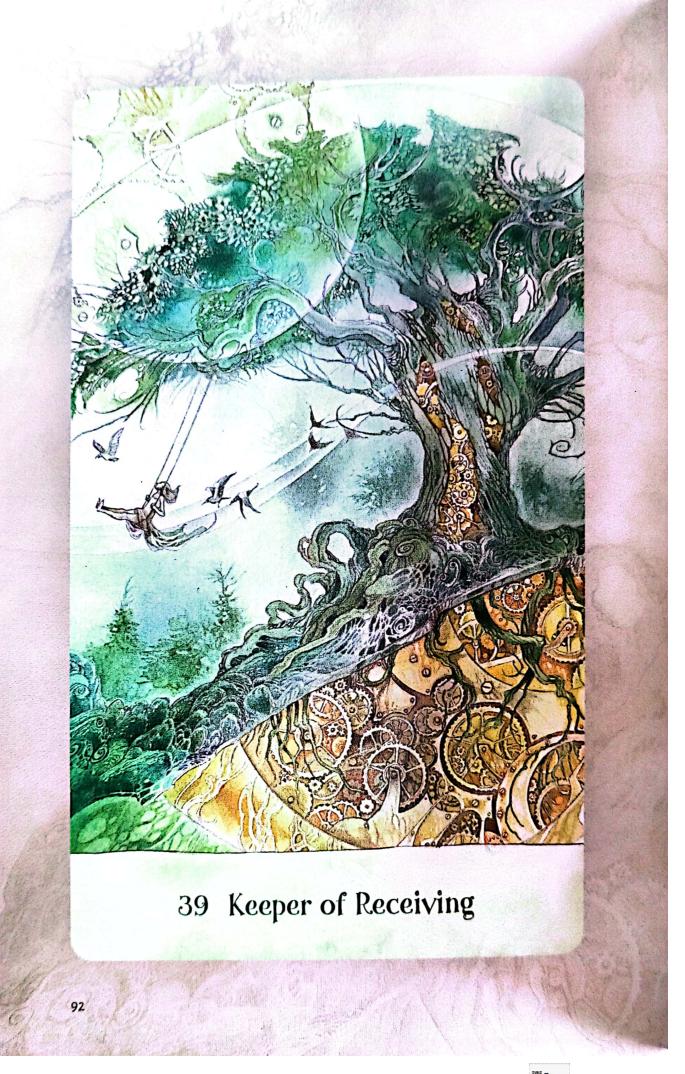
It's time to share your creations, your blessings, talents and skills. You've cultivated them long enough. Now they lay in your lap like harvested bounty. Whatever situation you are facing now, trust what you have cultivated. This is not a time to hide your light under modesty or question the value of your contribution. Share. Reveal. Offer. Someone out there is waiting for you to be their muse. Their lighthouse of possibility. When you share your particular genius, you join in the necessary reciprocity of creation.





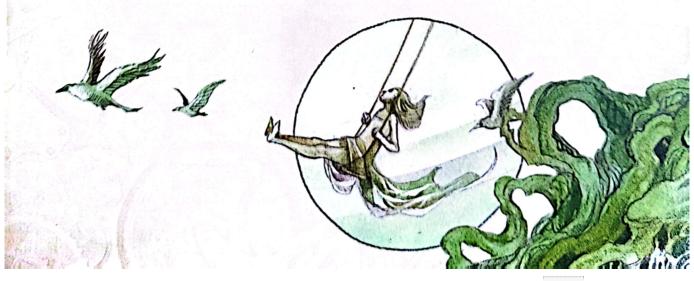
38 • Keeper of the Game

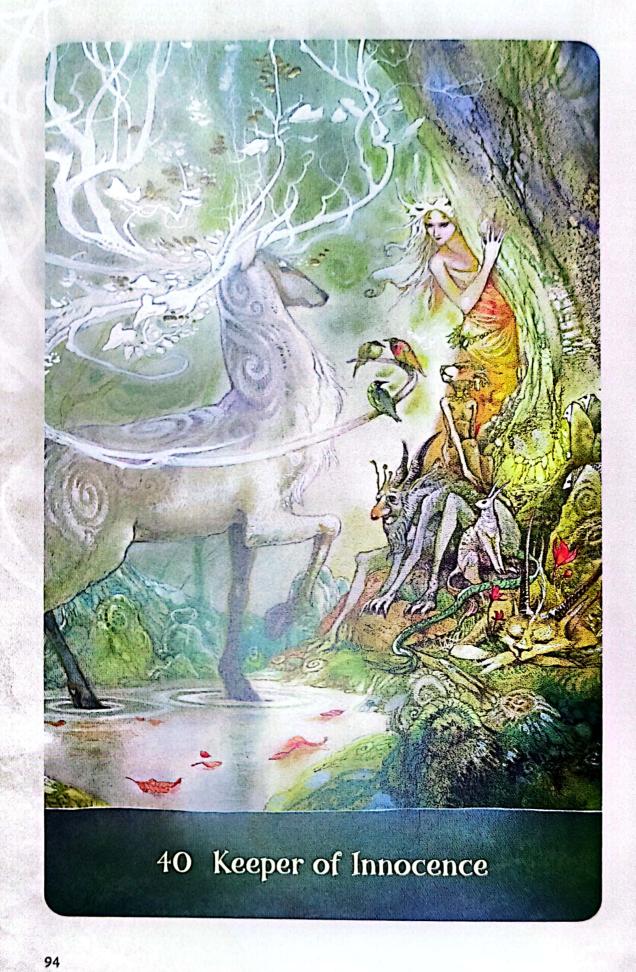
So many of us sweep our discomforts under the rug where they'll be less threatening, less likely to disrupt our state of comfort. But playing the game of life requires you to know when to confront as well as retreat. This moment challenges you to stand in your power and confront what seems overwhelming, intimidating or downright scary. Crisis is the companion of opportunity, so look beyond the surface for the opportunity calling you out of your comfort zone. As Rilke said, "Perhaps all the dragons in our lives are princesses who are only waiting to see us act, just once, with beauty and courage. Perhaps everything that frightens us is, in its deepest essence, something helpless that wants our love."



39 · Keeper of Receiving

The key to feeling grounded is to dig deep in your soul's soil to know your worth. Let the blessings come to you by cultivating receptivity rather than solving, care-giving, rescuing or fixing. Forest life depends on reciprocity. The Tree Keepers held this tenant sacred. Receiving is a large part of that process. A tree doesn't seek out squirrels or birds to shelter. It doesn't uproot itself to follow every weary traveler, offering shade. Nor does it conjure sun or rain to grow itself. It simply is, allowing reciprocity to occur. Do the work to discover your inherent worthiness. Root down deep into it. This will give you the confidence to know what passes by you is not for you. If the door doesn't open, it's not your door. What is for you will come to you, simply by the power of your vibration. It is the rule of the forest, and the root of all sovereignty.





40 · Keeper of Innocence

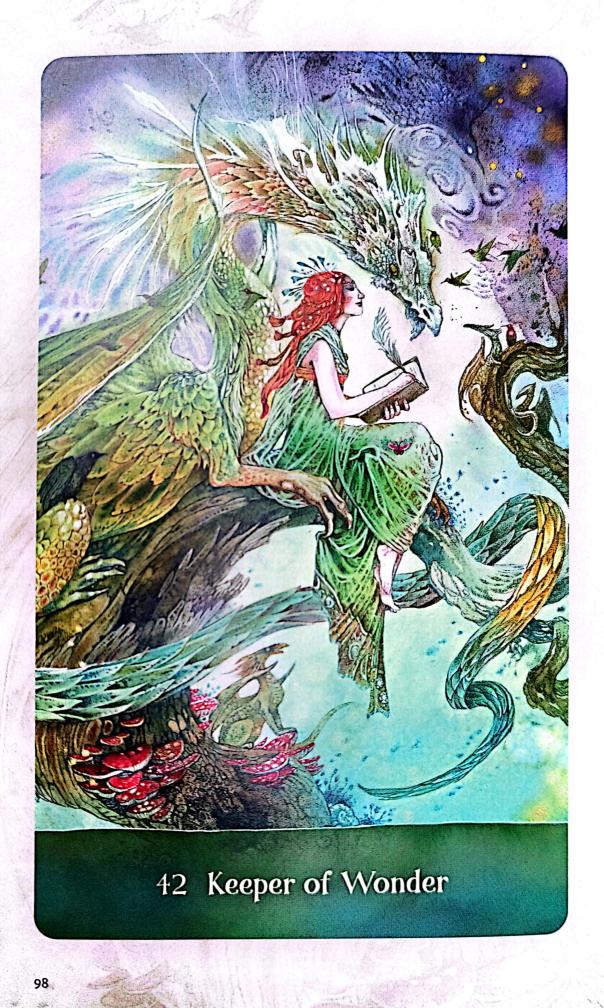
Many of us were spoon-fed the concept of original sin, but have never heard the story of original innocence. It goes like this: you were born from purity, a luminous soul created from a morsel of the Divine, housed in a human body. You always have this innocence at your core, no matter what-or who-happens to you. All you have to do to experience it again is fall back into the wings of your own soul and let them carry you. There is no mistake, no error, no sin or wrong that cannot be submerged into Source and remembered back to its original pure and magical state. Love dissolves all things unlike itself, so choose the loving eyes of a new parent and gaze at your own life with captivation and wonder. Now is the time to connect with the innocent, whole, breathtaking soul you were born with.



41 • Keeper of Forgiveness

The rains of regret will come. As will the high winds of remorse and the storms of resentment. Forgiveness can provide safe harbor. Forgiving another doesn't mean you need to accept their presence in your life or agree with their behaviors. It does mean that you recognize carrying resentment is like poisoning your own well. That also applies to the relationship between you and you. Forgive yourself. It doesn't matter how big or little the error, or how conscious or unconscious you were at the time of falter. When you forgive, you carry a golden umbrella, protecting you from the lashing storm of bitter thought.





42 • Keeper of Wonder

The Tree Keepers viewed enchantment as a necessary element. They pursued it. Like sunlight. Rain. Now is the time to make a list of all that enchants you. Pursue wonder like a necessity. Document it. Put practical concerns to one side and allow yourself to marvel. Hang with the humming birds. Talk with the bees. The wide world is a never-ending story full of surprises and splendors. Observe the many tiny miracles around you. You cannot live robustly by logic alone. Take some time to open your heart wide to receive blessings both tiny and great. Then list them, noting all the ways you are surprised or astonished. As a famous storyteller once said, "...those who don't believe in magic will never find it."



43 • Keeper of Transformation

Compassion and accountability are two wings belonging to the same butterfly. To transform your inner life, you must engage both. Likewise, you are able to transform your relationships and outward experiences into their highest potential when you seek the balance of compassion and accountability. You are being asked in this moment to see your situation impartially. Where do you need to be accountable, or hold someone else accountable? Where and how do you get to engage compassion? For yourself, for others, or for a situation that needs grace and mending?





44 Keeper of Follow-Through

44 • Keeper of Follow-Through

It's time to follow through. No amount of dreaming, intending or progress-making can bring a goal to its fulfillment. You must honor your promises by following through with action every step to the end. Are you mired in details? Are you experiencing inertia because you've abandoned the hard work? This isn't a moment about lack of intention or imagination. You've made it through those long hallways of creativity. These last steps are all about the push. There's a lot of sweat equity required to get a new life safely delivered into the world. Honor your commitments, especially those you have made to yourself. Review them. Edit them if they no longer feel compelling to you. Keep the ones that feel radiant. Follow through all the way to the end. That first squeal of new life will be worth all the push. 103

About the Artist

Stephanie Law's images trace the boundary between dream and reality. She delves into the pictorial language of allegory, explores mythology in new contexts, chases tiny worlds of wonder from an insect's viewpoint, and highlights the beauty of growth and decay found in nature. Growing up in California, Stephanie has been surrounded by the wealth of natural inspiration all around her. The twisting boughs of live oaks from the hills near her home insinuate themselves into her paintings. The chaos of nature's wild growth, and conversely the beauty of decay, echo in the textures and fractal patterns of her work. Early on, her career moved through the illustration and gaming world, but in recent decades she has focused more on her own body of work, gallery shows and publications.

Find her on Instagram @spmlaw and on Patreon www.Patreon.com/StephanieLaw

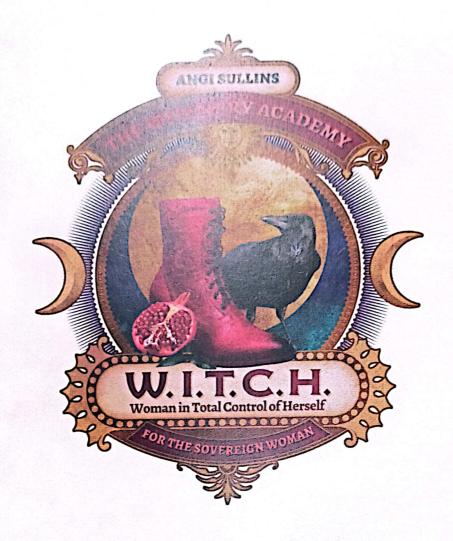
About the Author

Angi Sullins is a wild woman in service of the rising woman. In books and workshops, in her one-on-one mentorship, and on her Muse Juice Tours traveling around the world, she takes women on journeys of self-discovery to unchain their lives and re-wild their heart.

She likes striped stockings, top hats, poetic wordsmithing, nights at the circus and puppy breath. But mostly she likes seeing you live your dreams. She lives in Wonderland with husband Silas Toball and their rescue animal menagerie headed by a dog named Car Wash.

Visit her at www.angisullins.com or www.Patreon.com/AngiSullins
On social media as @angisullins





A Note from the Author

The Tree Keepers may have shifted into the Invisible Realms, but more of their teaching is still available. Like relief is offered by trees to those who seek shade, so it is with those of us who seek the wisdom of limb, leaf and root. This is the promise of the Tree Keepers: those who seek will surely find.

This is why I've started The Wonder Hunters online. We're a tribe of seekers, active on www.Facebook.com/AngiTV and also on www.Patreon.com/AngiSullins. We share inspirational posts, podcasts and other creative content. Workshops, retreats, books and inspirational world tours known as Muse Juice Tours are available to all seekers.

You can find out more on www.AngiSullins.com. Whether we're trading wonder stories, creating art, or making memories while wonder hunting around the globe in the name of adventure and shenanigans, one truth binds us together.

We belong. You do too. I hope you'll join us.

Angi

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Sometimes a door is more than a door.

Sometimes a tree is more than a tree.

And sometimes you are more than you know, able to access the more-ness shimmering on the other side of your circumstances. There is always more:

more chances, more grace, more forgiveness, more perspectives, more magic than you have currently glimpsed.

The Tree Keepers knew this truth.

Now you will, too.

