

TAROT *of the*
Golden Wheel



by Mila Losenko

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Introduction

Tarot of the Golden Wheel was created on the basis of the Rider-Waite system; following classical interpretations of the cards, but considering them through the prism of Slavic culture and traditions. Dating back thousands of years, the spinning wheel has been a sacred symbol throughout Eastern Europe and Russia. In mythology the wheel symbolizes motion, infinity, never-ending cycles of life, and the four seasons. In folklore, the wheel is associated with the struggle between good and evil and it is a universal symbol of karmic justice. In Pagan beliefs, the golden wheel signifies the Sun that brings the spirit and essence of life, productivity, prosperity and contentment.

Tarot of the Golden Wheel presents a point of view about the nature of things and the place of man in this world. The most important issue is

the relationship between man and nature. Slavic folklore is rich in legends about wise, speaking animals, sacred groves, the life-giving power of the Sun and the mysterious night luminary, the Moon. Natural cycles, such as sowing grain, harvesting, the onset of winter cold, or the arrival of the first spring birds, are all important events accompanied by rituals developed over hundreds of years. The sequence of cards in the Major and Minor Arcana reflects such cycles and themes.

In creating this deck, the artist's vision of the tarot arcana was influenced by traditional Russian fairy tales. Without using specific characters, the author conveys the spirit of the Slavic tale where the hero passes a series of tests in order to finally find happiness. Very often the protagonist of the narrative is Ivan the Fool, a man who looks at the world differently than other people. He is naive,

bold, noble and full of energy. On the road, he meets guides from another world (the so-called “Faraway Kingdom”), good helpers, powerful enemies, and talking beasts. At the end of the journey the main treasure is love as well as transformation of the soul.

The symbolism of the tarot deck is closely related to the four elements: Water (Cups), Air (Swords), Fire (Wands), and Earth (Pentacles / Wheels). In this deck the pentacles are represented by golden wheels. The symbolism of color is also important in Tarot of the Golden Wheel. A favorite color in Slavic tradition is red, the color symbolizing the warmth of the Sun and life. Red represents beauty, joy and fire. Green symbolizes prosperity. Blue is the color of alienation, but it also signifies aspiration to high thoughts. It could also indicate connections with other worlds. Gold is also one

of the most important colors in Slavic culture. Gold is the light of a new dawn, the spring fields of dandelions, the color of ripe corn and the hair of a beautiful girl.

In Tarot of the Golden Wheel, the figures are adorned in traditional folk costumes. To the Slavs clothing and accessories are important elements of their culture. Clothing not only protects against cold and natural elements, it also serves as a guard against evil forces. Likewise, belts, earrings, necklaces, bracelets, and headbands (*ochelja*) are ornaments protecting the owner from the evil eye. Much attention is given to the Slav's love of embroidery and decorative use of natural symbols such as flowers, solar symbols (such as the wheel) and animal motifs. All of these details have been incorporated into the art of Tarot of the Golden Wheel.

The card descriptions in this guidebook also draw on traditional Slavic legend and folklore. Major Arcana cards represent the journey of the hero, who must pass through tests of water and fire. In his trials, the hero must demonstrate restraint, ingenuity, courage, and other tests that show him to be honest and devoid of vanity. The Minor Arcana cards play out a range of situations that a person encounters in everyday life. The tarot cards offer advice and guidance for all these life experiences.

I sincerely hope that the images and interpretations in Tarot of the Golden Wheel will shine a light of understanding for the reader and will provide insight to those who seek answers.

— Мила Лосенко



Major Arcana



O. The Fool

IMPULSE

As Mother Earth awakens from a long winter sleep flowers and grass begin to grow towards the warm sun. The whole world is covered with a spring green carpet from edge to edge. A young, fresh wind rushes over the vast meadows and you race with him, not understanding the road. You are a child of nature, a young and pure creation of the sacred spring. You are inspiration, strength and naivety, fury and fearlessness. Your life is a blank slate. You spread your wings, try your strength, and you're ready to fly like a bird. Your leap is the beginning of the path into the unknown: no plans, no thinking, no doubt — only forward motion! "Fool!" exclaims one, "Hero" others will call you, but the strength of your soul will not leave anyone indifferent. Your path begins here.

Upright:

New life cycle, journey, activity, great potential, creative chaos, non-conformism, irresponsibility, naivety in business matters

Reverse:

Imprudence, dangerous situations, mad deeds, extravagance, infantilism, carelessness, adventures

I. The Magician

WILL AND MIND

Your gaze has turned to the heavenly abyss, the light of the stars is reflected in your eyes. The universe looks at you attentively and its boundless strength pulsates in your veins. You are a magician and it's time for you to act. Your skillful hands deftly hold any tool. With its green shoots, the wand in your hand is a symbol of your creativity. The sword is your will and the triumph of the mind; you are holding everything under

your control. The full cup before you is a sign of vital energy. The Golden Wheel over your proud head illuminates your path, allowing you to walk without fear or doubt. You are the creator and master of your own destiny, but do not waste your power. Be wise in your actions, for they can echo across a great distance.

Upright:

Time to act, achieve goals, control of the situation, great results, mastering new skills, creativity, favorable outcomes

Reverse:

Tricks and scams, abuse of power, selfishness, lack of self-development, cunning, disharmony

II. The High Priestess

KEEPER OF THE KEY

Slow down, Wayfarer, the moon has already risen and only its faint light

illuminates your path. Do not rush into the dark forest, where mystical shadows and black silhouettes confuse you. Give yourself a break. Stop in front of the ghostly gates; there waiting for you is the Keeper of the Key. She is speechless but wise. In her hands is the treasured key from the gates, but she will give it only to the worthy. Be patient and attentive, and then you will hear the voice of your own soul offering your unconscious wisdom and intuition. You can find answers to your questions and solve the mystery by trusting yourself. To hear, sometimes you just need to be quiet. And then the darkness will recede, allowing you to find the right path.

Upright:

Mystery, hidden factors, deep connection, uncertain relations, empathy, insight, introversion, patience, intuition, meditation

Reverse:

Disclosure of mystery, prejudice,
intrigue, insensitivity, impatience,
arrogance, narrow-minded,
loneliness, manipulation

III. The Empress

MOTHER EARTH

Once again you see the light of the day. In the midday heat the aroma of honey grass wafts up to you. Golden stalks lean towards the ground, there will be a good harvest! In the shade of the trees you see a woman on her throne, her hair is black, like rich, fertile soil. She is dressed in red and gold, a wreath of wheat and red poppies crowning her head. The look of her eyes is attentive and gentle; sympathetically she offers you rest and food. Accept her care. You're safe and serene, so use this time to regain energy. Feel how the fruits give you strength to continue your path and affection heals your heart. As you

make your way on your path do not forget the one who always meets you with open arms; she is your mother and mother of all people.

Upright:

Patroness, development, kindness, implementation, security, coziness, joyful emotions, new ideas, creativity

Reverse:

Destructive personality, despotic character, stagnation, indecision, domestic problems, instability, creative decline, authoritarianism, coldness

IV. The Emperor

HEAVENLY FATHER

Your path has led you to a cold and inaccessible peak. You've spent a great deal of energy trying to conquer this mountain. Now you are at the summit, where the rocks touch the heavens and the eternal snow glistens. Here, you will meet the Master who keeps this

world safe from chaos and destruction. His royal calm and equanimity are transferred to you. You look to him like a child to his father, wanting to become as solid and unshakable, wise and impassive as he. Your mind is cleared of unwanted thoughts; there is only the will to act and the firmness of spirit. You know where your path leads you from here and what you will take with you from this mountain. Be persistent and confident, weigh your decisions, moderate your passion, elevate your spirit, become an example for others, as the Emperor has done for you.

Upright:

Leader, guardian, power, authority, control, dominance, rationalism, reliability, civilization, logic

Reverse:

Tyrant, coward, conflict, nominal power, despotism, cruelty, lack of ideas, waste of energy, immaturity

V. The Hierophant

SANCTUARY

You have come to seek knowledge in the ancient green grove, where the branches of centuries-old giant trees intertwine like a canopy overhead. In this temple of nature, people learn to distinguish evil from good. This is where they come to honor ancestors and gods, marry, and keep their traditions. Here they come with their joys and sorrows. You came here to find a mentor, and he went out to meet you. Listen to his words—this is the wisdom of centuries and countless generations who lived before you. He speaks with the voices of the old gods. You're a student, be patient and attentive to comprehend the science of living among the people, to be moral and compassionate, industrious and inspirational. Find your place in the world and improve yourself. Let your spirit be worthy of your mentor.

Upright:

Moral authority, priest, conservatism, traditionalism, professional advice, self-improvement, spiritual growth, trust, moral values, education

Reverse:

Eccentric, false prophet, dogmatism, fanaticism, neglecting obligations, stubbornness, limitations, bad advice

VI. The Lovers

PARTNERSHIP

The air is clear and clean with the radiant summer sky reflected in the cool water. In your soul blooms sincere and deep feelings and your heart sings a song of true love. This is the greatest gift of the gods, joy without bitterness and euphoria giving you wings. But be careful, Wayfarer: right now you are standing at the crossroads of your life. Should you avoid temptations and go on a familiar road? Or give in to yearnings, new

sensations, and unexplored pleasures? Reason or feelings, reliability and stability, or enticing uncertainty? Whatever you choose, remember—you are free in your choices and you are responsible for your decisions. In choosing, simply be honest with yourself, be wise, be strong and remember that love is the greatest gift.

Upright:

Important choice, test, partnership, new relationships, love, attraction, charisma, engagement, success, development

Reverse:

Wrong choice, unreasonable decision, disagreements, infidelity, end of affection, marital problems, separation, irresponsibility, fear of commitment

VII. The Chariot

VICTORY

A wonderful spectacle presents itself before your eyes: through the radiant dawn clouds rushing across the sky, two horses, one black one white, like darkness and light. The horses carry a man in a golden chariot. The fiery cloak billows over him like the pillar of a bright flame, and a golden banner flutters above his head. Bright light fills the world as the dawn follows the chariot. You feel joy at the sight of the new victory of the morning over night, what a surge of strength and power it causes in the soul! Spread your shoulders and breathe in, filling your chest with energy. As darkness recedes and enemies fade, you are ready for any challenges. You, as the charioteer, tighten the reins of your destiny and lead it with a firm hand to victory.

Upright:

Activity, optimism, joy from profit, increase, accomplishments, euphoria, courage, success at any cost, travel, relocation

Reverse:

Loss of self-control, reassessment of forces, stagnation, failed plans, conspiracies, quarrels, waiting, delays, trouble on the way

VIII. Strength

SPIRITUAL POWER

The sounds of nature: the trembling of foliage, rustling in the grass, the singing of birds, the whiff of a fresh mountain breeze, everything stirs your soul, filling it with a new power. The forest opens before you and you see its master—a mighty bear. Your flesh is weak, but the spirit is strong and you overcome fear of a powerful and dangerous enemy. Your wisdom, intuition and power of persuasion

help you cope with serious obstacles. This card symbolizes the triumph of your spiritual power over primal animal instincts. The beast is defeated, but not broken; you acted gently and turned it into your ally and friend. This card says that you are perfecting yourself by achieving harmony of the soul and flesh, mind and heart, instincts and morality. You tamed the beast.

Upright:

Courage and bravery, active action, diplomacy, power of persuasion, self-confidence, energy, wisdom and patience

Reverse:

Self-doubt, cowardice, complaisance, insolence and vanity, intimidation, immoral acts

IX. The Hermit

SOLITUDE

The gloomy and stony terrain under the cloudy sky meets you. Prickly vines creep among the gray stones and the cold north wind howls in the canyons. Why is this person looking for shelter in this wild and desolate place? Looking around you start to understand that there are no temptations here, no noise, none of the distractions of ordinary life. In this quiet place you begin to hear your thoughts and find out who you really are. Turn your gaze into yourself, look at yourself, without embellishment and other false impressions. Ask yourself — “Who am I?” “For what do I live?” “Where do I go?” The light of truth, like a lonely firefly in the dark, flares up brighter. You are lonely, but on this journey to your true nature you do not need fellow travelers.

Upright:

Self-knowledge, spirituality, closure, loneliness, deceleration, rejection of ego, insight, restraint of emotions, training, travel

Reverse:

Perfectionism, negativity, secrets, misanthropy, inactivity, expulsion, suspicion, arrogance, loss, fear of illness or isolation

X. Wheel of Fortune

ETERNAL MOVEMENT

Happiness and misfortune are the two sides of human life. Who knows what will befall each man. Will he be rich or poor, healthy or sick, beloved or reviled? Fate may generously give one person a garden full of golden apples, while another person has only thistles and stone under her feet. But luck is fickle and capricious. Wealth can melt away like snow in the spring sun. In the field overgrown with

weeds a garden could bloom forth.
The lessons of this card are: everything passes. Joy and sorrow are not eternal. The sun disappears beneath the horizon today; tomorrow it will be reborn with the new dawn. Life is eternal movement from darkness to light.

Upright:

Progress, luck, fortune, success, cycles, winning, courage, cheerfulness, new opportunities, natural, relocation

Reverse:

Regress, deadlock, unavoidable obstacles, annoying failures, delays, recurring problems, disappointment, disruption of plans

XI. Justice

TRIAL

Blessed is the man who did not rebel against the truth, did not sin and did not betray. He does not know painful remorse, he is not afraid of exposure,

he lives in peace with himself. He will not be shaken by someone else's penetrating gaze and he will not be afraid of righteous judgment. Listen to the voice of your conscience. Do you keep dark and shameful secrets? Will you withstand the trial? Stand before Justice. Here is a shining sword in the hands of a judge—a sign of law, strict and just. She punishes criminals and protects the weak. The hot iron ore is a test of God's judgment. If you are noble and pure the sword will not touch you, and the iron will not burn your hands. If you forgot about honor, loyalty and mercy, then you will pay your debt in full. This card reminds us that the world must remain in equilibrium.

Upright:

Honesty, integrity, respect, personal responsibility, law, expert opinion, karma, mutual honesty, logic

Reverse:

Illegal actions, ignoring laws and rules, false accusations, shame, bias, intolerance, prejudice, accusation, sentencing, broken promises

XII. The Hanged Man

ABYSS

Beware! Suddenly you fall into a noose and a blind, ruthless force throws your body into the watery abyss. Splash and like a stone, you sink to the bottom. The water is cold and desperate madness seizes your heart. You are helpless in a tangle of captivity and chaos, everything turned upside down. You're caught, broken, lost, defeated and cast down to the depths. A light fades in your eyes and you cannot hear sounds in your underwater prison. You freeze, you humble yourself, you are ready to accept this death. You're ready to surrender. But in the depths of your soul there lives the hope of liberation. As a

prisoner dreams of escaping, you also dream of a swallow of sweet air that you breathe out on the surface. If you can tear the bonds, this trial will be a lesson in the love of life.

Upright:

Crisis, slowdown, life lesson, difficult situation, profound experience, sacrifice, spiritual growth, reflections, unexpected changes, experience

Reverse:

Futility, inefficiency of efforts, victim of public opinion, anguish, materialism, financial problems, spiritual immaturity, conformism, egocentrism

XIII. Death

RENEWAL

Everything comes to an end in its own time. Even the ancient stars will someday die. All things inevitably decay, but everything in nature is

subject to the constant cycle of dying and rebirth. From beneath fallen autumn leaves in the spring burst forth new fragrant flowers. The time of withering is sad, but without it there would be no vibrant blooms and sweet fruits. We must experience partings and losses in order to appreciate the gifts of fate. He who did not suffer, does not know how to be truly happy. This card is a symbol of the inevitable renewal and invincible power of nature. The lesson of this card is that something ends and something else begins.

Upright:

Renewal, rebirth, end of activities, inevitability, liberation, redirected energy, revival, significant changes in life

Reverse:

Stagnation, oppression, resistance to change, destructive attitudes, fear of change, disruption of plans

XIV. Temperance

HARMONY

The path to this remote grove is known only to the initiated. Rarely has the foot of a human stepped here. In the shade of ancient trees, among powerful roots, two magic springs flowed. One spring runs with dead water; it lulls and reconciles with death, preparing the soul for dying. This water is bitter, but precious; it gives peace to a decrepit or wounded body. Another source rings and sings; it is a living water. A sip from this source offers the strength of youth, joy and healing. The wise old man would take a silver pitcher of dead water, and in the golden pitcher take the water of life. He knows that by combining them he is able to create a miracle; opposites coming together create harmony. The whole is born from the fragmented, and behind the shadow there always follows a light.

Upright:

End and beginning, unity, patience, diplomacy, compromise, trust, tranquility, mutual sympathy, new connections

Reverse:

Wrong approach, unbalanced, emotional instability, unacceptable behavior, disappointment, severe reactions, disagreement, excesses, immorality

XV. The Devil

CAPTIVITY

According to an old Slavic legend, on the night of the marriage of the Water and the Sun the one who finds the magic flower of the fern will be granted full knowledge of everything in the world. He will be able to see the treasures underground, to read the thoughts of other people, and will gain power over evil spirits. But this magical flower is guarded by an evil

force and the one who tries to abduct it from the forest awaits a terrible trial. Enraged spirits will drive him mad and will send horrible visions that can kill if the brave man turns around to look at them. This card tells us that our souls are killed by consuming passions, burning desires, pride, and a self-destructive desire to achieve at all costs. They are like evil spirits that haunt us. Ambition and vanity, base instincts, the desire to become better than others are entangled as if by a network of your mind, which overshadows your vision and leads to destruction. In order to free yourself from this trap, listen to the voice of reason and you will be saved from the captivity of your passions.

Upright:

Materiality, limitation, cruelty, vanity, personal demons, primitive desires, greed, negative thinking, lust, sensual passion, perversion

Reverse:

Internal strength, liberation,
the daunting of fear, getting rid
of illusions, ambition, rejecting
dependence, overcoming temptations

XVI. The Tower

CONFLAGRATION

The flame of fire illuminates the sky. Redder than a poppy flower is the light of a burning tower. The screams of people, the crackling of the collapsing tower walls, the cawing of crows, all merge into one general rumble. The element of fire rages and devours everything in its path—this is the primal destructive power of chaos. Where there had been a high tower, tomorrow there will just be a heap of ashes. The man is pitiful before the forces of nature, how insignificant he is before the inexorable fate that destroys what seemed unshakable. Powerless horror and panic are felt from this card. Nothing

can be turned back; everything has already happened. All that remains are the ashes. Should you build a new tower here or seek a new fate in another place? Whatever you decide, you know that the time has come for severe changes.

Upright:

Complete destruction, catastrophe, destruction of illusions, dramatic changes, shock, chaos, fatal errors, theft, separation, dismissal, family quarrels, divorce, dangerous conditions

Reverse:

Deception, oppression, recovery, resistance to change, obstacles, consequences of mistakes, absence of empathy, age crisis, frustrations

XVII. The Star

DAWN

After the darkness of night recedes, the dawn sun fills the world with warm colors and revives all of nature. Flowers bloom in the sunlight and birds sing their songs, filling the world with joy and vitality. Dawn represents the rise of the spiritual and physical strength, clarity of mind, and readiness for new challenges and creative energy. The Star card shows man's connection with the celestial sphere. The star shape is not tied to the land, it is oriented towards the sky, to the celestial twin stars. This beautiful scene symbolizes the unity of the forces of nature, particularly a powerful connection with the sky.

Upright:

High hopes and bright prospects, lifting force, sense of purpose, insight, inspiration, special talent, intuition

Reverse:

Destruction of hope, pessimism, apathy, health problems (physical or spiritual), self-doubt, lost opportunity, emotional instability

XVIII. The Moon

TWILIGHT

The queen of the night, the mystical beauty of the heavens, shares her ghostly silver beams with the world. Illuminated by the moonlight, the earth is transformed, becoming beautiful, mysterious and unfamiliar. Mirages woven with shadows can confuse and frighten. Moonlit trails are deceptive and can lead you astray. In the darkness there is an unknown danger and it's better to tread slowly and cautiously. Now is not the time for bold action. Your anxiety is growing, and that's when you hear a prolonged howl. This sad and persistent wolf song seems to rise up to the sky. Your soul responds like

an echo repeating this frightening yet enticing sound. You seem to have met with your dark essences; your desires and fears. They are your reflections, your shadows that hid from the bright light.

Upright:

Uncertainty about the future, water travel, deception, inconsistency, intuition, imagination, extrasensory perception, entertainment, escape, insincerity

Reverse:

Clarity of thinking, revealed secrets, hidden fears, anxiety, confusion, emotional instability, secret enemies, ulterior motives, misunderstanding

XIX. The Sun

HAPPINESS

This young, cheerful god of joy, warmth and life-giving light brings a long-awaited flowering of nature and

feelings. The bad is left behind, the difficulties along the way are overcome and you get a well-deserved rest. Nothing else will overshadow your life. Health and success accompany you, fate smiles affectionately. The sun is the golden gift of youth, bringing happiness, optimism and energy. Under the warm rays of the sun the most beautiful flowers bloom to please the eye, the sweetest fruits ripen and satiate, giving new strength. This is the golden hour of life, shining like a magnificent afternoon. Enjoy life as a child, feeling the fullness of life, every pulse, every moment.

Upright:

Bright light, joy, happiness, success, achievements, prosperity, vital energy, health, kindness, generosity, openness, harmony, reconciliation

Reverse:

Little joy, foggy future, minor

troubles, partial success, egocentrism, problems with education, misguided viewpoint, difficult relationships or marriage

XX. Judgment

TRANSFORMATION

A wonderful white swan floating on the waves suddenly flaps his wings and turns into a beautiful woman stepping out onto a deserted beach. Who is she? The captive of the old curse, trapped by evil charms until this hour? Or did she choose the identity of a majestic bird by her own will? You do not know, but you feel that a miraculous rebirth has happened before your eyes, a phenomenal transformation from one form to another. Do you also crave change and a new life? A different image, a different way beckons you. What secret talents and opportunities are hidden inside of you? The thirst for rebirth and renewal, the disclosure of

one's abilities, the awakening of the mind and feelings, that's what this card reveals to you. You have long walked to your goal through thorns and now your spirit is ready for transformation.

Upright:

Metamorphosis, regeneration, personality crisis, important choice, inspiration, understanding, rejuvenation of the body, pleasant events, redemption of sins, vitality, burst of energy

Reverse:

Unwanted changes, refusal to make decisions, failure and losses, malaise, indecision, stagnation, routine, self-pity, loneliness

XXI. The World

CLARITY

You have reached the end of the path and you have reached its beginning.

You're not the same as you were before. Look again at the cradle in which everything is born and disappears. You have ascended to the summit of the world, where light and shadow, good and evil unite. All elements, all fates merge into the ring of the eternal cycle where one is impossible without the other. Here is the Tree of Life, illuminated by the radiant Sun of Life and the silvery Moon. Now you see the whole picture and comprehend the essence of all phenomena. This is the point of ultimate clarity. You drank from the source of wisdom, you were freed from illusions and accepted your true nature. Now you can understand your true place in the universe. You accept the universe. The universe accepts you. You join the true harmony of existence.

Upright:

Execution of desires, triumph, personal freedom, true vocation,

harmony in relationships, clarity of consciousness, spirituality, joys of life, travel, happiness and tranquility

Reverse:

Frustration of plans, unemployment, unchanging circumstances, unreliability, led astray, overwork, deferred trips or plans, loss of meaning in life



Minor Arcana



Ace of Wheels

PROSPERITY

Ace of Wheels signifies material stability, success in business and prosperity. This card favors financial enterprises, large purchases, acquisition of real estate, accumulation of wealth. It promises excellent chances for success, and also hints at the love of luxury.

Upright: luck, profit, pleasure

Reverse: greed, spiritless, selfishness

Two of Wheels

AGILITY

This card indicates a state of unstable equilibrium. It is necessary to draw on resourcefulness and adapt to constantly changing conditions. A commotion associated with work or study. Feverish activity and constant movement.

Upright: flexibility, balancing, advantages

Reverse: contradictions, instability

Three of Wheels

CREATIVITY

Creative and consistent process.

The desire to improve one's skills, to realize ideas, to gain new knowledge. Willingness to work hard to achieve a goal. Love for the chosen profession, conscientious work bringing effective results.

Upright: creation, skill, concentration

Reverse: laziness, inexperience, lack of professionalism

Four of Wheels

POSSESSION

This card expresses the obsession and desire to protect one's position. It points to the alarming mental state of the owner who fears for his property. Loyalty to habits, conservative views, the desire to establish boundaries

and observe the established order. Financial stability, but at the same time the possibility of excessive greed and selfishness.

Upright: ownership, protection, control

Reverse: squander, avarice, financial difficulties

Five of Wheels

MISERY

Hard times. This card indicates a depressed state of mind and a sense of vulnerability. Circumstances are unfavorable, the mood is gloomy and pessimistic. Period of financial difficulties, unemployment, illness or loneliness. Lack of resources.

Upright: crisis, poverty, alarm

Reverse: stagnation, disappointment, worries

Six of Wheels

GENEROSITY

This card signifies gifts or a well-deserved reward, the joy of fulfilling expectations and solving old problems. The card portends promising projects, timely assistance and necessary resources. It symbolizes generosity, kindness, the ability to act in mutual interests, as well as the desire to help and care.

Upright: abundance, wealth, harvest

Reverse: injustice, theft, thankless

Seven of Wheels

PATIENCE

A small reward for hard work. Possible unsuccessful investment of resources. Under certain circumstances, efforts will yield results. This card calls for patience and tempered expectations. Long-term projects cannot be rushed. The process

proceeds slowly. Everything has its time.

Upright: waiting, uncertainty, slow growth

Reverse: loss, vain efforts, impatience

Eight of Wheels

CRAFT

The work requires concentration and immersion in the process. Also, discipline and inspiration, love of work and emotional involvement. You will need stamina and patience, even when the task becomes repetitive. This card indicates such qualities as judiciousness, practicality, accuracy, and conscientiousness.

Upright: employment, skills, work

Reverse: deception, bad job, fatigue

Nine of Wheels

GRATIFICATION

This card is about the pleasures of a successful and peaceful life. Peace, comfort, and security. The joy of one's own achievements and the ability to competently utilize resources. Self-sufficiency and self-reliance. Ability to maintain order in affairs, attentive attitude to health and appearance.

Upright: self-sufficiency, success, remuneration

Reverse: loss, betrayal, threat

Ten of Wheels

TRADITIONS

This card relates to business success and good family relations. The desire to do right by family, home and personal affairs. Attachment to traditions. Home coziness. Lasting foundation and excellent reputation. Comfort zone.

Upright: high status, advantageous marriage, home

Reverse: damage, risk, unreliability

Page of Wheels

CHANCE

The card favors the resolution of everyday practical issues. There are opportunities to improve the situation and to start something new. It indicates consultations or other forms of support. It is possible to acquire new useful knowledge. The beginning of a new business, and important developments.

Upright: news, enthusiasm, good offer

Reverse: bad news, caprice, negligence

Knight of Wheels

RELIABILITY

The Knight indicates calm self-confidence, the ability to bring the business to a positive end. He clearly set goals, and works slowly with thoughtfulness and attention to conditions. Stable psychological state. Positive results. Ability to establish contacts with partners. Reliability in the relationship.

Upright: perseverance, logic, conscientiousness

Reverse: apathy, complacency, negligence

Queen of Wheels

PRACTICALITY

A favorable card promising a permanent job, a reliable source of income, peace in the family, and positive economic matters. It symbolizes well-established order in the home,

common sense in decision-making, and the pursuit of material values. Also, the desire to provide assistance and support. Ability to plan and rely on oneself.

Upright: organization, responsibility, common sense

Reverse: indecision, exasperation, irresponsibility

King of Wheels

REALISM

The King represents an experienced and successful entrepreneur, a specialist with a great life experience. Strong leadership qualities, ability to control and manage the process. A talent for managing money and multiplying income. A rational guide and a realistic view of things.

Upright: governance, authority, competence

Reverse: greed, prejudice

Ace of Wands

INSPIRATION

A symbol of courage, determination, willingness to take risks. Thirst for action and positive change.

Unexpected events, sudden twists of fate, fundamentally new activities.

Go beyond the ordinary, new horizons, change the way of thinking.

Vivid impressions and emotions.

Upright: energy, chance, enthusiasm

Reverse: invisibility, self-assessment, destruction

Two of Wands

COLLISION

Spontaneous release of energy. Desire to act by all means. Striving to compete, participate in discussions and disputes, win back their positions. Resolute and uncompromising

actions without a deliberate plan.
Unbridled passions, clash of interests.

Upright: reckless, contradictions,
spontaneity

Reverse: aggression, demonstration
of power, conflicts

Three of Wands

JOURNEY

Time for making decisions and
implementing plans. A burst of
strength and inspiration. Interest in
traveling and changing the situation.
Striving for personal growth, expansion
of the circle of communication,
new acquaintances and partners.
Community of like-minded people.
Success in business enterprises.

Upright: optimism, courage,
prospects

Reverse: uncertainty, duality,
instability

Four of Wands

CELEBRATION

This is a card of harmony and ideal order in the home, with an atmosphere of gracious hospitality. Enjoying the results of work, joyful meetings and events. Feeling of triumph. A good opportunity for reconciliation and the end of conflict situations. Vacation and relaxation in pleasant company.

Upright: holiday, harmony, peace

Reverse: loss of calm, unfulfilled dreams, unfinished business

Five of Wands

CONTEST

A test of will, skills and knowledge in competition with others. Card of friendly rivalry and struggle for success. The desire to win rewards and authority. Courage and cheerful spirit, willingness to test your

strength. Professional training, exercises, development of abilities, physical activity.

Upright: training, ambitions, competition

Reverse: intrigue, quarreling, loss

Six of Wands

HERO

This card symbolizes well-deserved success. Serious achievements, victory in the struggle, reward for hard work. Self-confidence, courage, unbending will, heroism. Recognition and admiration of others. Respect and authority.

Upright: triumph, award, victory

Reverse: failure, arrogance, betrayal

Seven of Wands

DEFENSE

The card urges you to defend your

interests and your independent point of view. Strongly withstand attacks and unfair criticism. Do not doubt yourself and firmly defend yourself. It is necessary to overcome weakness and fear to commit a brave act.

Upright: battle, valor, confidence

Reverse: indecision, cowardice, avoidance of problems

Eight of Wands

SPEED

In the near future there will be changes. Decisions must be made now. Fast movements, surprises, unexpected news. Changes in position, moving, traveling, changing jobs, synchronizing processes. Inspiration and ebullient activity, a sense of lightness and mobility.

Upright: inspiration, rapidity, accomplishment

Reverse: delay, waste of energy, criticism

Nine of Wands

OVERCOMING

Feeling of impending danger. Mobilization of forces for defense. Perseverance in the face of the enemy. Positioned for protection. Test of endurance. High requirements for self, total self-control, stress resistance, ability to overcome fatigue and cope with the tasks.

Upright: durability, self-discipline, severity

Reverse: futile struggle, debilitation, injuries

Ten of Wands

HEAVY BURDEN

Endurance in a difficult situation. The ability to successfully multi-task. A complex, uncontrollable situation.

Heavy load, pressure of circumstances, excessive demands. A lot of projects, workaholism. Constant tension and test of strength.

Upright: hyper-responsiveness, overload, bother

Reverse: emotional burnout, inconveniences

Page of Wands

TALENT

Creativity of the individual, openness and connectedness. The desire to be the center of attention, a demonstrative type of character. Striving for leadership, enthusiasm, provocative, courageous. Energy of youth, inspiring events, passionate relationships. Friendly environment.

Upright: the beginning of the way, debut, extrovert

Reverse: boasting, rivalry, narcissism

Knight of Wands

DECISION

Tendency to reckless actions and hyperbole. Impatience in everything. The thirst for constant activity, self-assertion, rapid changes. Passionate and excitable. Powerful energy of personality, charisma, personal magnetism.

Upright: impatience, potential, impulsiveness

Reverse: rush, recklessness, over-excitement

Queen of Wands

PASSION

The Queen exhibits love of nature, care and generosity. She has vigor, openness to new acquaintances and connections, goodwill. Striving for independence and career growth. Success, good learning ability, readiness to develop. Charm, the ability to

interest people and gain trust.

Upright: active, initiative, positive thinking

Reverse: despotism, jealousy, vanity

King of Wands

CHARISMA

The King exhibits a high level of responsibility for actions, competence, good advice, paternal attitude. He has wit, optimism and entrepreneurial spirit. Propensity to negotiate, mediate. Excellent oratorical skills, honesty, professionalism. Reliability and loyalty in a relationship.

Upright: pride, maturity, charm

Reverse: prejudices, temper, falsity

Ace of Cups

GIFT

This is a card of prosperity, replenishment, flourishing. A festive, cheerful

and light mood. A soulmate, intimacy, a strong alliance. A happy marriage or the beginning of true love. Fulfillment of cherished desires, favorable circumstances, serenity. Sufficient resources.

Upright: abundance, happiness, sincerity

Reverse: manipulations, inconstancy, independence

Two of Cups

UNION

This card indicates favorable conditions for cooperation, openness, sincere desire for friendship and love. Mutual respect, understanding, assistance and support. Emotional balance, ability to find compromises. Common interests, shared tenderness and affection. Strong feelings of attraction.

Upright: love, friendship, hospitality

Reverse: illusions, distance, lust

Three of Cups

HARVEST FESTIVAL

This card expresses carefree joy and gratitude. A friendly meeting, a family holiday, a pleasant event. Receiving valuable positive experience, the joy of communicating with people, joint hobbies. Recovering from illness. Happy times.

Upright: joy, health, bounty

Reverse: extinction, addiction, sadness

Four of Cups

BOREDOM

This card portrays feelings of dissatisfaction, despondency, anger, loss of interest in the work. Spiritual crisis, internal suffering, a sense of alienation and the desire for solitude. Inability to see positive aspects of life, self-pity, unwillingness to exert efforts. Satiation and irritability.

Upright: hurt, yearning, closure

Reverse: indifference, fatalism, lost chance

Five of Cups

LOSS

The card deals with unpleasant changes, a frozen and uncertain state. Frustration and loss. Melancholic mood, focus on your own heartache. Rupture of relations, loss of trust, regret for actions. Failures in business or study. Remorse.

Upright: regret, bad luck, grief

Reverse: loneliness, experience, completion

Six of Cups

NOSTALGIA

This card suggests a nostalgic or dreamy state. Gentle family relationships, love of home, homeland, peace, old friends, childhood memories,

exchange of impressions. Attentive attitude to elderly relatives, upbringing of children. Sentimental feelings.

Upright: sweet memories, calm, reverie

Reverse: anxiety, stagnation, infantilism

Seven of Cups

ILLUSIONS

This card indicates confusion when making an important decision. Too much choice. Inability to concentrate on goals, absent-mindedness, excessive emotionality, impracticality. Sensitivity and escaping in one's imagination. Difficulties with planning, unrealistic expectations.

Upright: choices, uncertainty, emotions

Reverse: realism, disappointment, false promises

Eight of Cups

EXODUS

This card examines the rejection of what was too costly, the breaking of old ties. The search for new meaning, new attachments, goals. Sad farewell. Fear of uncertainty, feelings of despair and doubt about the future. Getting rid of unnecessary things, trying to update.

Upright: transitional period, parting, uncertainty

Reverse: communication, correction, end of a difficult period

Nine of Cups

HEDONISM

The card illustrates material success, fulfilled desires, physical pleasures. Love of delicious food and bodily pleasures. Joy of life, pleasure in rest and luxury. Good health, well-being,

luck. Excessive focus on the material side of life.

Upright: comfort, pleasure, sensuality

Reverse: gluttony, narcissism, superficiality

Ten of Cups

FAMILY HAPPINESS

This card relates to a prosperous life and spiritual unity. Security, mutual love and affection, peace and amicable communication. Strong alliances, reliable partners, working as a good team. The card symbolizes a harmonious relationship of true love and deep trust.

Upright: gratitude, unity, maternity

Reverse: incompatibility, family problems, disagreements

Page of Cups

ARTISTRY

This card suggests friendly participation, comfort and support. Compassion, a deep level of empathy, the ability to listen. Gentle, friendly affection. Sincere spiritual impulses, initiative, the ability to inspire. Softness of character, thoughtfulness, intuition and developed imagination.

Upright: support, intimacy, aesthetics

Reverse: flirtation, flightiness, isolation

Knight of Cups

IDEALISM

This card relays a propensity for diplomacy, ability to persuade and negotiate. Quiet and favorable atmosphere, equanimity, friendly communication and temperament. Artistic approach to work. Pleasant

sensations, an enthusiastic view of the world. Knightly behavior, high moral qualities, romanticism.

Upright: invitation, artistic, sympathy

Reverse: weak will, artifice, insincerity

Queen of Cups

INTUITION

Emotions play an important role, dreamy state, head in the clouds. Delicate feelings, wisdom, appeal to the subconscious, the ability to foresee the future. Good awareness, discernment, tact. Care and devotion. High level of susceptibility.

Upright: imagination, emotionality, perception

Reverse: fanaticism, frigidity, vindictiveness

King of Cups

CIVILIZATION

This card is about honesty and fairness, possession of information, calm and emotional maturity. Sanity, consistency, refinement, self-esteem. Education and culture. Respect for laws, responsibility, interest in science and the arts.

Upright: amiability, unselfishness, education

Reverse: nervousness, intrigues, self-delusion

Ace of Swords

INTELLECT

This is a time of ultimate clarity. Complex tasks will be solved, a way out of a difficult situation will be found. Clear plans, understanding of processes, ability to predict the situation. Expansion of horizons, the beginning of new projects, decisive

actions. The mind prevails over feelings in weighted decisions. Excellent self-control and endurance.

Upright: determination, discipline, logic

Reverse: wound, iniquity, anxiety

Two of Swords

ARMISTICE

This card is about an insoluble dilemma, a period of reflection and a difficult decision. This is a time of passive waiting. The deadlock situation makes a quick solution impossible. A respite and a temporary cessation of action. Tense thinking, concentration and withdrawal into oneself. An attempt to settle the conflict, search for a compromise or protect a fragile balance.

Upright: expectation, antagonism, inaction

Reverse: perfidy, duality, breaking the deadlock

Three of Swords

HEART WOUND

This card reveals the sad truth, disillusionment, and sudden insight. Pain from a broken heart. Emotional shocks, tears, frequent change of mood. Rupture of relations, misunderstanding, disharmony. Insults and hysteria, attempts at manipulation, mutual reproaches.

Upright: chagrin, distress, rejection

Reverse: sadness, recovery, confusion

Four of Swords

CALM

This card indicates a rest from the struggle. Calm, contemplative mood. Healing of wounds, forced rest. Interrupted work, recovery period, attempt to gain strength. Need a

break or a vacation, getting rid of a stressful situation, the body redirects resources.

Upright: meditation, break

Reverse: disease, imprisonment, exile

Five of Swords

MEANNESS

This period is associated with scandals, slander, intrigues and insults. Destructive thinking, misanthropy, loss of trust. Heartless acts, a blow in the back, a broken union. Loss of reputation, unprincipled, vindictive. Dishonesty in business relations.

Upright: disloyalty, hostility, sabotage

Reverse: dishonesty, disclosure, mistrust

Six of Swords

FAIR WIND

This card deals with favorable changes, wise leadership, mentoring, assistance in adapting to changed conditions. Unexplored areas, new ideas, job changes. The end of the unfavorable period, the relaxation of tension, a new experience. The coming of better times.

Upright: changes, journey, hope

Reverse: inertia, pessimism, refusal of assistance

Seven of Swords

THEFT

This card exposes dishonest, fraudulent acts. Hypocritical behavior and intrigue. Avoidance of responsibility, low deeds, gloating, meanness. Deceptive language, arrogance. Inventiveness and agility, the desire to protect oneself, an attempt to

escape from an unpleasant situation.

Upright: fraud, desertion, thievery

Reverse: reproach, directness,
awkwardness

Eight of Swords

TRAP

This card is a warning of a dangerous and negative situation. Unexpected incidents, hostile environment, lack of freedom, futile efforts. The energy is blocked. Impotence and paralysis. The atmosphere of criticism, condemnation. Stiffness, fears, confusion. Communication problems.

Upright: barrier, misfortune,
weakness

Reverse: alleviation, rescue,
adventure

Nine of Swords

NIGHTMARE

This card signals a feeling of constant anxiety, insomnia, despondency, and stress. Demoralized state, focus on negative emotions. Mental pain, heavy doubts, uncertainty about the future. Excessive concentration on dark thoughts, exaggeration of real problems.

Upright: anxiety, depression, anguish

Reverse: dawn, hope, peace

Ten of Swords

DESTRUCTION

This card points to the lower limit, the bottom, the inevitable end. The most oppressive period, there is nothing more to lose; it is necessary to finish the situation. The card symbolizes a sudden end to something. Severe condition, emotional emptiness, pain from loss. A tragic

moment, a drastic change in the life situation, a crisis.

Upright: disaster, devastation, decay

Reverse: enhancement, capture, winning

Page of Swords

INSIGHT

This card illustrates an analytical mind, energy, skill, ability to quickly understand the essence of things. It is necessary to be cautious when making important decisions and signing contracts. Getting important news, a difficult conversation, a polemic. Accepting responsibility.

Upright: dexterity, conflict, acumen

Reverse: espionage, sarcasm, militancy

Knight of Swords

TIRELESSNESS

This card is about direct impressions and temporary chaos. Lightning speed occurrence of events requires full concentration. Readiness to defend ideals and rights. A conflict situation with cooperating partners is possible. At times there is cruel behavior, rash words, an attempt to hurt, thoughtless advice. You need to be on your guard.

Upright: directness, impetuosity, affirmation

Reverse: haste, confrontation, obtuseness

Queen of Swords

INDEPENDENCE

This card is about insight and the ability to give valuable advice. Self-esteem, careful choice of partners, logical and sober mind. Fairness and

objectivity. Weighted solutions, high intelligence. Career and ambitiousness. Ability to handle adversity.

Upright: professionalism, analytical mind, individualism

Reverse: artifice, mistake, malice

King of Swords

CONTROL

This card depicts someone who occupies a high position in society. Striving for domination, calmness, non-emotionality, impartiality. Coolness in any situation, severity, straightforwardness. Ability to give the right answers, to lead. Education, high level of professional skills, initiative, leadership qualities.

Upright: rationality, ethical, prudence

Reverse: hardness, cynicism, unfairness

Reading with the Cards

Reading with tarot cards is much like creating your own story, using the images in the cards to map out the narrative of your question. The Golden Wheel Spread uses eight cards to help you gain perspective on the progression of your situation.

Golden Wheel Spread

Select eight cards, one for each position on the wheel, starting at the top and proceeding clockwise. As you draw the cards, bring to mind your question or concern. After placing all eight cards in the wheel formation, turn over each card one at a time and consider its meaning. A ninth card may be added for further clarification.

**Next Steps,
Forward
movement**

8

7

**Mastery, Inner
Wisdom being
awakened**

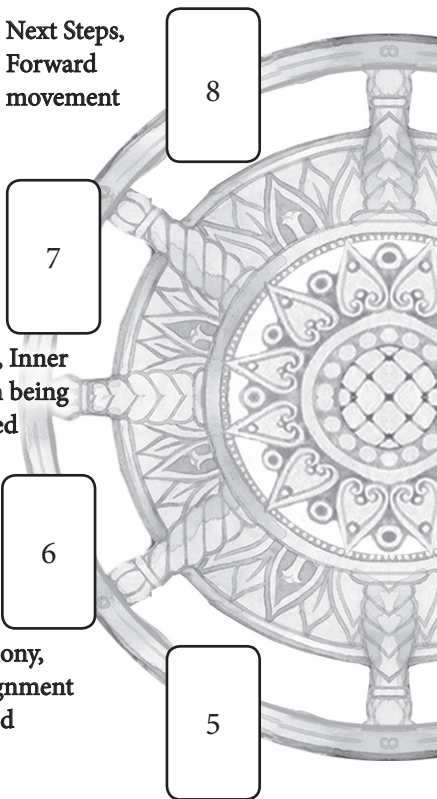
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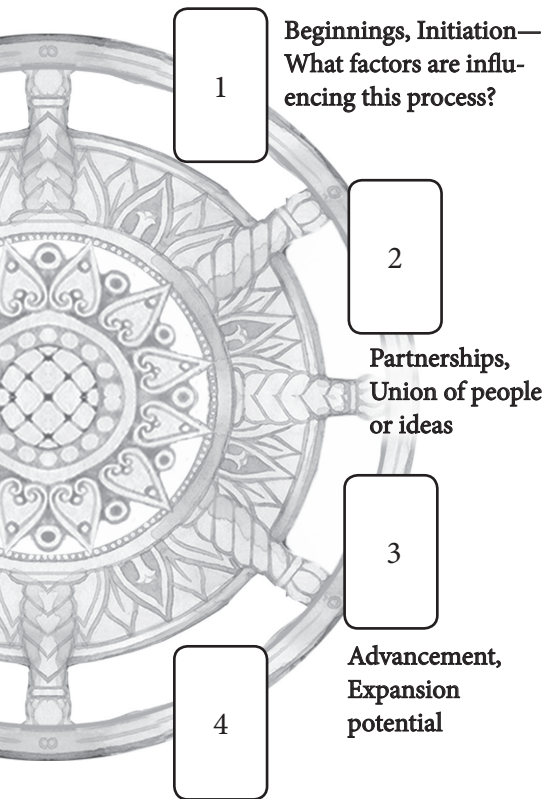
**Harmony,
Realignment
needed**

5

Change, Challenges ahead

F





Planning, Foundations for support

About the Artist

Mila Losenko was born on March 22, 1984. She lives in Russia, in the Altai Territory. She studied at the Biysk Pedagogical College with a degree in “Teacher of Fine Arts”. Since 2010, she has worked as a book illustrator. Her choices of styles and themes have been greatly influenced by Russian artists Ivan Bilibin and Lev Bakst. The aesthetics of Art Nouveau (love of plant ornaments and rich decor) is reflected in her works in the Slavic style. Watercolor is her favorite art medium.



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