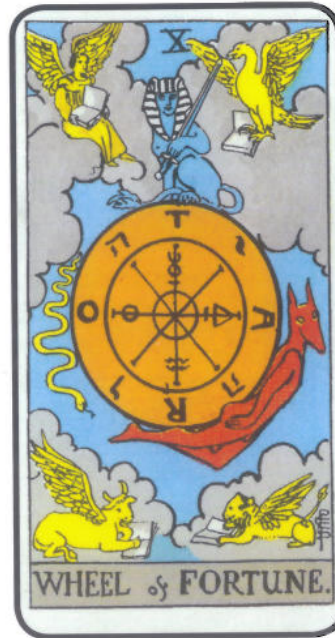


Our next portal, The Wheel of Fortune, is often depicted by a giant wheel engraved with Kabbalistic symbols representing inner balance, strength, power and spiritual knowledge. Our life experience is guided into motion by the four archetypal/zodiacal elements of: fire/Leo/lion, earth/Taurus/bull, air/Aquarius/angel and water/Scorpio/eagle.

If we have embraced and understood the lessons offered to us by these elemental life guides along our journey, then we can move through the Wheel of Fortune portal with ease. When we really know ourselves as a unique and essential spoke in the turning wheel of human evolution, then we are ready to allow ourselves to ascend to a higher level of consciousness and fortuitous happenings. For those that are not yet ready to embrace their inner truth, the portal door will be closed. So they may stay spinning out of control on a lower rung of the spiral, feeling dizzy with confusion, going nowhere and often holding their attention on the regressive part of the spin, or what appears as ill fortune. Fortune or destiny is simply what is crossing our current path, but how we respond it is our free will. Whether we perceive who or what meets us as negative or positive, hindering or helpful is a choice. Whether we respond to the meeting with a boundary-firm "No" or an open-hearted "Yes" comes from our inner self-knowing of what we need at heart.

IMAGES FROM RIDER-WAITE (LEFT) AND VISCONTI SFORZA (RIGHT) DECKS



In our third Tarot portal, we transcend The World by honouring the unity of the elements within. This unity is portrayed in a grand celebratory wreath and in some Tarot decks by a serpent biting its tail. Within this wreath is a dancing naked woman holding two batons, one that points below to earth and the other above to the sky and as such capturing the earthy embodiment of freedom and creative expression that is divinely inspired. The Osho Zen Tarot concisely and aptly portrays this concept of integration of self with spirit with an image of the Buddha as a puzzle with the last piece being put into place. In this higher state of being, we can realize that we are an essential and unique part of all that is and can therefore fully and compassionately embrace All. We may be imperfect and feel incomplete in a human, finite sense, but when we witness ourselves as part of an infinite, spiritual dimension we become perfect and complete. Then we open up to the great evolving expansiveness of the Universe and know that everything is possible. There are no limits to what we can create, manifest, know or experience as spiritual beings on Earth.

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NEXT ISSUE: ARCHETYPAL INTEGRATION IN THE TAROT, EXPLORING THE MAGICIAN, LOVERS, TEMPERANCE.