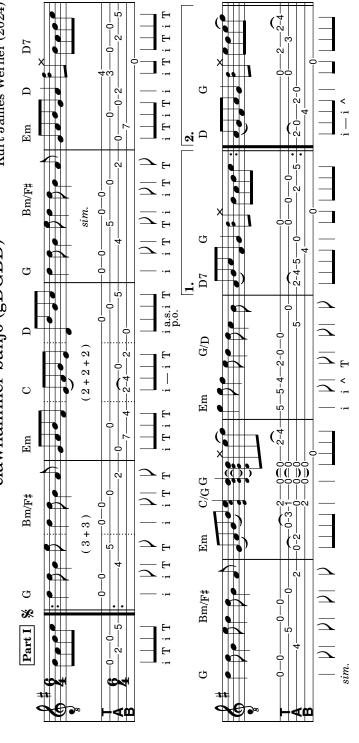
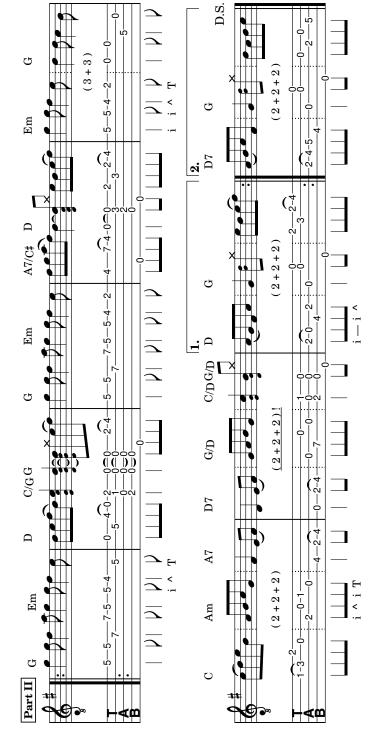


Fingers & Toes

clawhammer banjo (gDGBD)

Kurt James Werner (2024)



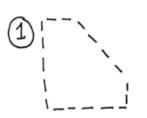


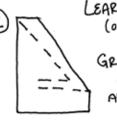
I wrote this tune, "Fingers & Toes," in July 2024. It is named after a long-lost sketch of a pair of succulent plants that adorned my desk in Belfast: "the fingers" (short stubby ones) and "the toes" (long witchy pointy friends). The "trick" in this tune is that, although it stays in 6/4 time throughout, it vacillates between groupings of 3+3 and 2+2+2, breaking the pattern in the cadence of Part II. Note that "×" noteheads indicate drone notes, "a.s.p.o." indicates "alternate string pull-off," and "^" indicate upstrokes (I use my ring finger, but YMMV). I've left most fingering marks out, except the first line and where something fancy is happening. Enjoy!



A TRICK OF THE PENCIL (1)

by Chakoian, Z.

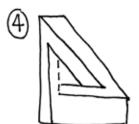




LEARN A TRICK!
(OF THE EYE)

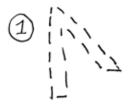
GRAB A PENCIL
AND FOLLOW
ALONG FOR THE
EASY MODE.





A TRICK OF THE PENCIL (2)

by Chakoian, Z.



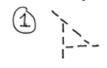




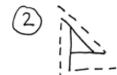
NOW FOR THE
LESS EASY MODE.
(UNLESS YOU HAVE
BETTER 3D IMAGINING
SKYLLS THAN I DO)

A TRICK OF THE PENCIL (3)

by Chakoian, Z.



NOW THAT I'VE DISCOVERED THIS METHOD



MAYBE THIS ISN'T THE "HARD MODE" 1 EXPECTED ...

TEICKY.



TRICK YO SELF

The best treats are tricks. Like a compliment. from a grouch, a Love fallen into when it's inconvenient, or a moment of humor in a tragedy. The pantheon has no space for treatsters. Yes, I would rather be tricked into a treat or treated to a trick. A sweet trick;

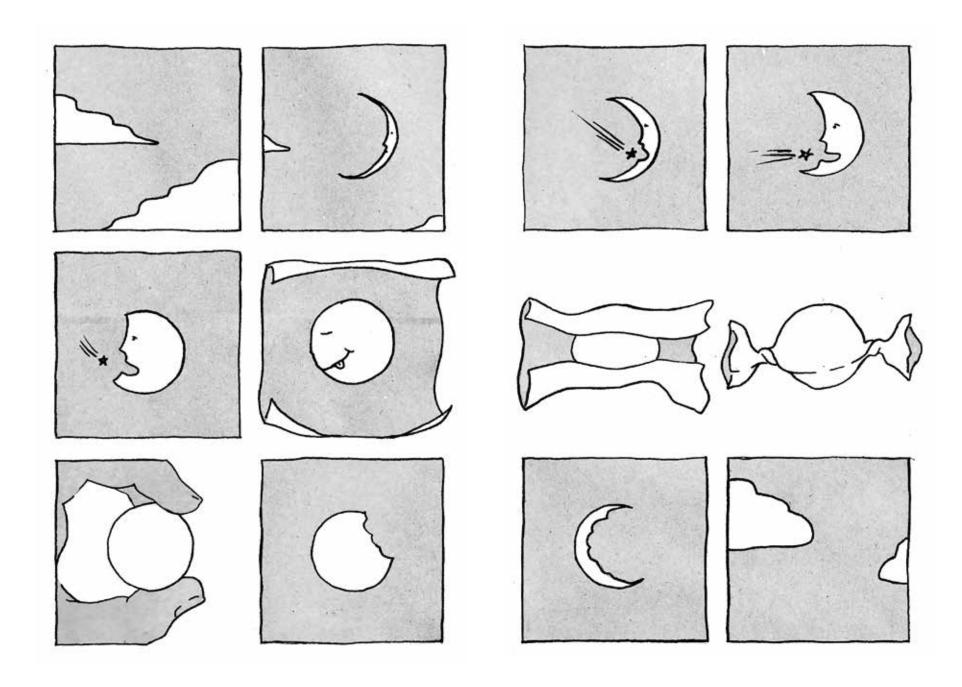
that'll do the treat.















FROGER WITH A SILENT F PisPis

TAROTSCAPE AND TREATS READINGS FROM THE MYSTIC TREEHOUSE

by Eve, Mystic Treehouse #6, somewhere in the valley, 02452

Tarot divination uses 78 cards to explore the experience of being human as we journey through life. Spirit has asked me to share these messages with you as you journey through November. These are readings for the collective, so take what resonates and leave the rest. Check your sun, moon, and rising signs for a full 3-card reading. Each reading has been charmed with a treat – find the flavor and eat it to claim your reading!

Scorpio (October 23 - November 21): Ace of Cups

The Ace of Cups hovers above the ocean, overflowing with the water of emotions as they pour into the waves below. This month, the House of Scorpio will host the New Moon – the shadowy symbol of our unconscious emotions and their mystery. As the understated secret-keeper of the Zodiac, you, too, often feel deeply while remaining a mystery to those around you. The Ace of Cups invites you to let go and embrace new emotional experiences. Let your emotions flow through you, take a chance and express yourself, and let people really see you. They don't want to miss out on what you have to offer. | Charm to claim: orange cranberry

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21): The Chariot Fearless, driven, wind in your hair and sun in your face, you are riding headfirst into your life. This card shows a bedazzled knight driving a star-spangled chariot, pulled by two sphynxes, leaving behind the castle walls for an adventure of their own. The Chariot is the seat of willpower, determination, and agency. You are the author of your own life, and you are going to make it a page-turner. You have a flair for adventure, Sagittarius, and your penchant for the beautiful, unpredictable, magnificent possibilities of life will not go to waste this

month. Aim your arrow and shoot your shot, Sagittarius, for no one could write this story quite like you. | Charm to claim: pop rocks

Capricorn (December 22 - January 19): King of Wands, crossed by Page of Swords

You have been working steadfastly for a long time, Capricorn. Progress has been slow, and there have been ups and downs, but even on the toughest days, you can persevere because you know the bigger picture and why all of this matters. The King of Wands card invites you to bring your vision to others – to step into your potential as a leader and collaborate more deeply with others to achieve your vision, whether at work, in family, in love, or in art. The Page of Swords reflects your determination to succeed, poised for battle in a windswept field. Capricorns are not ones to give up – it won't be easy, but it will be worth it. | Charm to claim: chocolate almond

Aquarius (January 20 - February 18): Three of Cups You have always danced to the beat of your own drum, or better yet, to the beat of something that wasn't designed for drumming but is somehow perfect for your song – a tin pot and a spoon, wind chimes, high heels on pavement. This month, give into the music and let yourself dance as much as you want. The Three of Cups is a card of celebration, friendship, reunions, and – according to traditional interpretation – partying. Three sisters frolic among pumpkins, raising their glasses in a toast. Is it hot cider, spiked seltzer, or an unapologetic pumpkin spice latte? Whatever it is, drink it: this is the time to celebrate your favorite people, indulge in your favorite things, and take time to notice the joys in your life. | Charm to claim: champagne truffle

Pisces (February 19 - March 20): Ace of Pentacles You are a The Ace of Pentacles speaks of new opportunities, especially in careers and finance. A hand extends toward you, holding a giant pentacle. Sometimes a gate is visible in the distance. Will you walk through it? You are a thoughtful, kind, and empathetic soul, Pisces. In the darkness of winter, you kindle the fires and defrost the windows, so everyone can see the faded sunlight. As you work hard to help others, keep an eye out for the opportunities that are meant to help you, too. When a new project, a new relationship, or a new idea crosses your path, listen to your inner voice, and if you're drawn to it, speak up. This is your moment: your creativity and thoughtfulness will guide you to success. | Charm to claim: Nutella

Aries (March 21 - April 19): Hanged Man, crossed by Eight of Swords

The Hanged Man hangs upside down from the Tree of Life, bound by his right foot. His left foot is free to move, but he waits. Whether its patience, strategy, or a barrier, the Hanged Man is on pause for now. The Eight of Swords shows a woman blindfolded, wrapped in ropes and surrounded by swords that can't free her, because she can't see them. Ruled by Mars, you are one of the warriors of the zodiac – always on the go, achieving goals, and making your mark on the world. Perhaps it's time to slow down and be strategic in your next move. Perhaps it's time to free your mind from negativity so you can move ahead. Wherever you are in relation to the Hanged Man, take notice of your mindset and give yourself some flexibility. | Charm to claim: salted caramel

Taurus (April 20 - May 20): The Hierophant

Seated in a temple with his hands in a blessing, the Hierophant is an ancient priest representing tradition, wisdom, learning, and rites of passage. Many of your strengths are reflected in this card – deliberation, careful planning, orderly checklists that ensure no detail is forgotten. Perhaps you are in a position of leadership this month, and the Hierophant invites you to notice the power and impact of how you support others. Or perhaps you are experiencing a rite of passage yourself – entering a new level in your work, relationships, or personal growth. Learn from those who have gone before you, but make sure you are also thinking for yourself and charting your own path. | Charm to claim: espresso chocolate

Gemini (May 21 - June 20): Queen of Cups, crossed by Two of Wands

It is fitting that the Tarot could not decide on a single card for you, Gemini. The Two of Wands invites you to make plans for the future, and the Queen of Cups, a mermaid swimming through the rivers of emotion, is a guardian of empathy, compassion, and heart. As a Gemini, you are a master communicator – full of charm, wit, and laughter, but your real superpower is your ability to listen. More than

any other sign, you can yourself in others' shoes and really imagine what they feel. Let this power guide you in your relationships and your plans for the future. | Charm to claim: spicy cocoa

Cancer (June 21 - July 22): The Sun

As the weather cools, it is time to allow yourself to rest, get cozy, and lean into the things that bring you joy. The Sun has a happy cherub riding a white horse, waving a flag and enjoying the rays of sunlight on their face. As a Cancer, you are gifted with a rich emotional tapestry and the ability to connect deeply with others. With Mercury entering Scorpio in early November, communication is in peak energy. Let yourself receive the people you love and the things that inspire you: schedule that coffee, go see that play, have a heart-to-heart with your family. Enjoy the togetherness and connection of this season. | Charm to claim: lavender cocoa

Leo (July 23 - August 22): The High Priestess

As the air cools, preparing the Earth for winter, your inner fire glows brighter. The High Priestess, one of the Tarot's major arcana, speaks of deep intuition and the wisdom of your Higher Self. As a Leo, your soul was cast in the immutable warmth of the Sun. Even if its rays are hard to see, its fire is always deep within you – it is who you are. This month, your life may feel turbulent on the surface, but slow down and look within. The High Priestess is here to tell you that you have everything you need. Just breathe and listen to your inner fire, and your inner wisdom will guide you through. | Charm to claim: raspberry or mixed berry

Virgo (August 23 - September 22): The Tower

The Tower is shocking on first glance: a castle turret struck by lightning, flames in the windows, and people falling through the air. But this card is not about fear. It represents unexpected and powerful change. It is an invitation to see the opportunity within upheaval and to have faith in the future. As a Virgo, your soul blossomed during the harvest – when the diversity and abundance of nature must be captured in time for the season's change. Your creativity, perseverance, optimism, and strategic clarity are precisely what's needed in moments like the Tower. Have faith in your abilities, and you will find your wings in the flames. | Charm to claim: pumpkin spice

Libra (September 23 - October 22): The Emperor Seated on an ironclad throne, the Emperor represents stability,

I'M BAD AT TITLES, WHO KNOWS

by JM Grant; @acidjoshjeans

There's a trick to pinball; and knowing it allows for even greater enjoyment that will bring you

back again and again until you're out of quarters.

Here's what you need to know: You will lose.

Gravity, friction and entropy are the opponents acting on the ball. They're undefeated.

Gravity will keep a ball from ascending a ramp before sending it straight down the middle.

Friction slows the ball so targets aren't hit. Entropy will find new, infuriating ways to end the turn.

The ball will drain.

But everything before that happens is so cool. Pinball is, in some cases literally, a game of bells

and whistles with art all over the playfield, fun sound effects, killer soundtracks, and big flashy

scoreboards. A silverball caroms off of targets, screams up ramps or around long orbital lanes,

and rips through spinners all because you hit it just right.

And the points. Oh baby, the points. Just listen and watch the scoreboard as points tick up and

up after each successful strike is so satisfying.

"Maybe," you think, "this time I'm getting a high score."

Even if you do set records though, the ball will still drain.

Wince because that was a great ball. Or curse because you didn't flip at all.

Then look at the shooter lane, see the next ball ready to go, plunge it and play again.

You will lose; that's the trick. You will play again; that's the treat.

JOHN'S PINBALL PIECE

