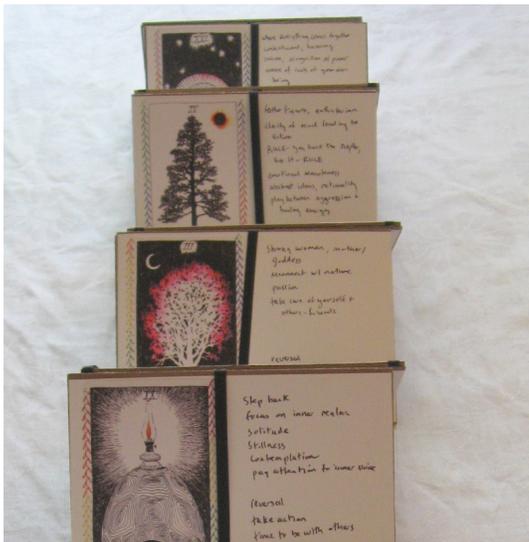


THE GAME OF LIFE

Camellia El-Antably

Life Readings

Jacob's Ladder binding, sewn images, handwritten images from *The Wild Unknown* by Kim Karns ©2012



Statement

A game within a game, the Jacob's ladder flips the tarot cards in an endless cascade, echoing the ceaseless play of life's gifts, changes and challenges embodied by the tarot. The Tarot, which began as a game, later came to be used for mystical, divinatory and meditative purposes.

The images here, from *The Wild Unknown* by Kim Karns, draw on wild nature and mystery. The interpretations are born from both inner knowledge and a combination of sources over nearly 20 years of reading various decks of cards, with an emphasis on the Ryder Waite deck (most people's introduction to the tarot), the Shining Woman deck drawing on sources of ancient and female wisdom, and the Kalevala Tarot based on Finnish mythology and the Kalevala poem cycle.



The tarot can be unforgiving and uncompromising in its message, downright obscure and uninformative, or a bolt of lightning, a validation of inner certainty. Mythos has ever been a call to action, requiring humans to think deeply and apply the messages of heroic stories to their own lives.

The tarot for me is that same call to action, helping me think through experiences and visualize the path forward.

Biography

Camellia is a visual artist, writer and arts administrator. In 2009, Camellia co-founded Clay Paper Scissors Gallery & Studio in Cheyenne, a space that shows contemporary art and rents studios to artists. She served the arts community through the Wyoming Arts Council for nearly 15 years in a variety of capacities, including arts education, visual arts, and deputy manager.



Currently on sabbatical, Camellia is exploring new opportunities as they arise and evaluating how best to use her skills and talents in the world. She holds a MA in Book Arts from Camberwell College of Arts in London and a BA from Mills College in Oakland, California.