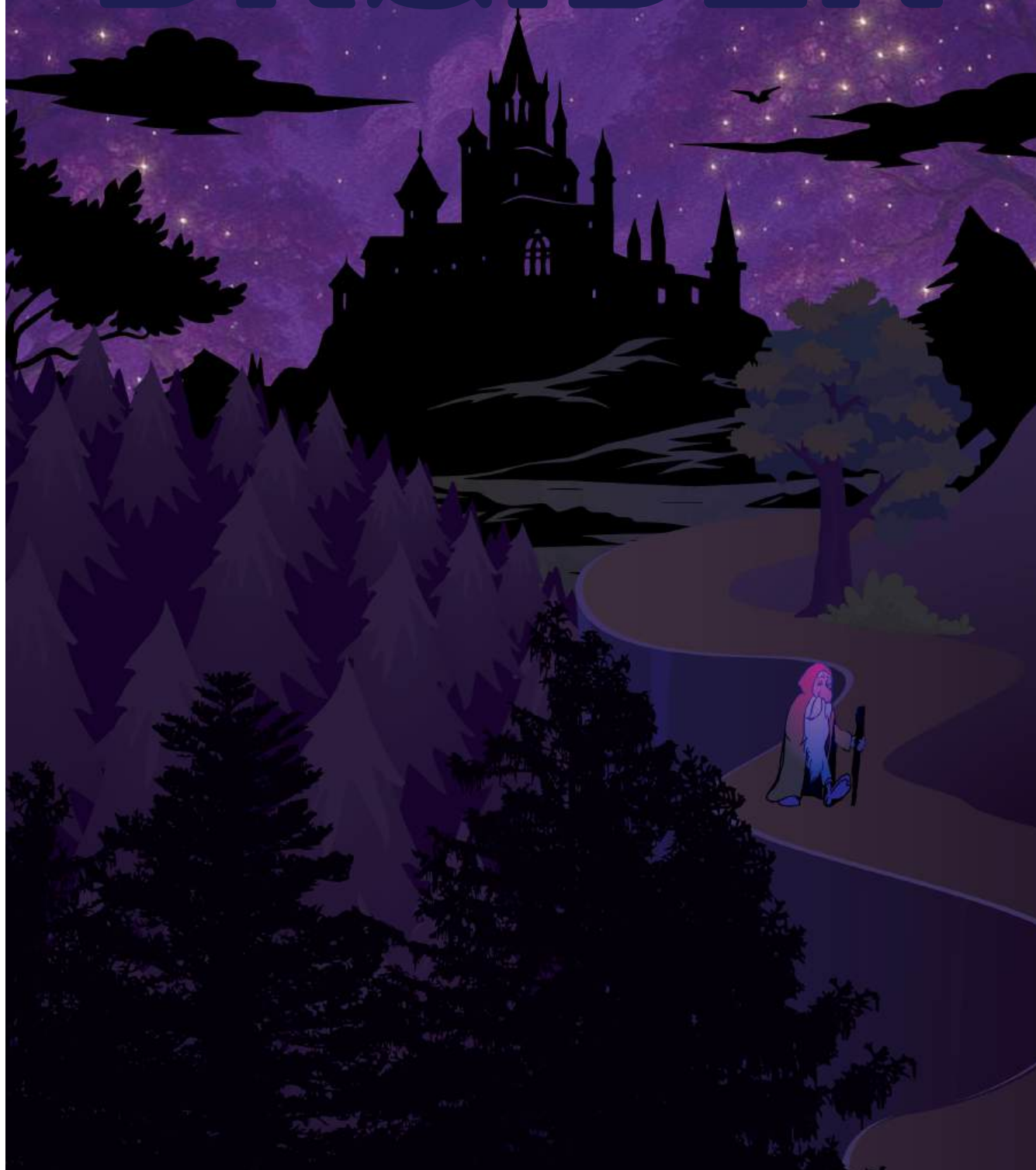


Den Magiska **DRUIDEN**



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Hej på er!

Äntligen är årets tredje
upplaga av Druiden här!

Sätt er på era flygande
mattor och gör er redo för
en magisk resa genom
sidorna, där vi möter allt
från druider till häxor.

Bland vidskepelser, alkemi
och spådomar hittar ni även
pussel och vår alldeles egna
magiska spellista. Vad är
egentligen magi? Det får ni
också utforska!

Försök att inte falla för en
förtrollning när ni bläddrar
vidare...

Mohita Misra
Informationsmästare
(Redacteur) 2025

Ett ärligt uttalande om vidskepelser



När jag tänker på magi så tänker jag på det vi människor har svårt att förklara, gamla traditioner och glömd kunskap. Jag tänker även på icke- konventionell spiritualitet. Och ett bra exempel på detta tror jag man kan hitta hos min ukrainska mamma. Efter 25 år med henne vet jag ett och annat om vidskepelser. Och även om jag inte kan påstå att jag riktigt tror på dem, eller riktigt förstår dem, måste jag erkänna att jag tagit efter henne en del.

Jag knackar alltid i trä tre gånger efter jag sagt något positivt eller hoppfullt för att undvika otur. Som vi i Malmö brukar säga: "Öga inte". Jag har ingen aning om vad som gör trä till det optimala materialet eller om plast tekniskt sätt räknas eftersom att olja är gammalt biologiskt material. Jag har många frågor. Men jag ska inte ljuga, det är lite kul att gå runt och leta efter trä att slå på.



Att sitta tyst innan en flygresor är också något som min mamma alltid tvingat mig till sedan barnsben. Jag vet bättre än att fråga varför, jag bara gör det. Helt ärligt så skrämmer flygresor mig så jag tar all lycka jag kan få. Och än så länge lever jag (knack, knack, knack). Dessutom har en stund av tyst reflektion aldrig skadat någon (tror jag).

Något jag nyligen lärt mig är att man aldrig ska gratta någon på födelsedagen i förväg. Antar att hela konceptet på ett sätt motsvarar talesättet "ta inte ut vinsten i förväg", vilket jag antar är logiskt med tanke på att människor inte levde särskilt länge förr...

Jag har även på nått vis format mina egna vidskepelser med tiden.



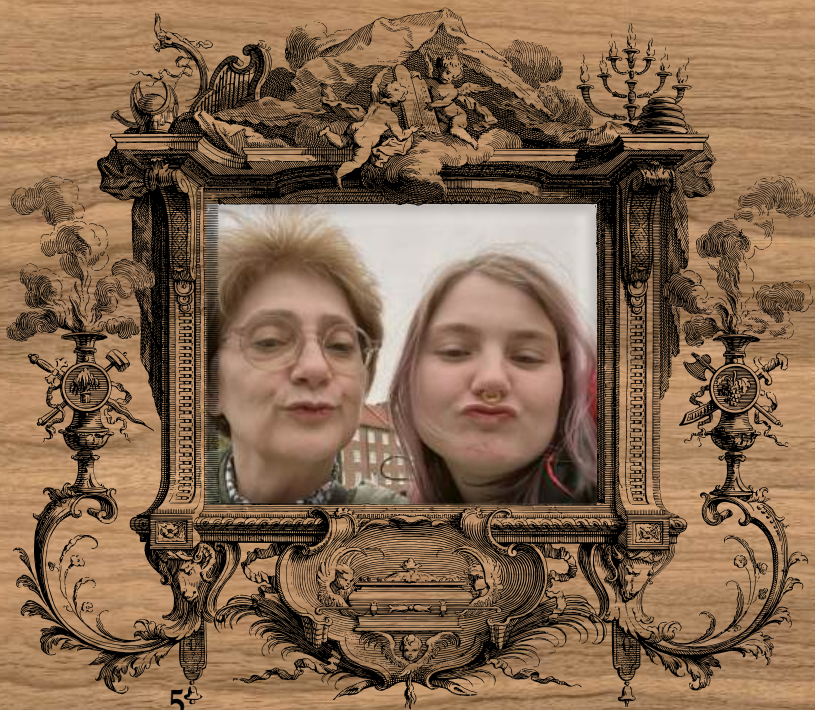
Ett exempel på det är ekorrar. Jag ÄLSKAR de söta små djuren. I min egen lilla värld är ekorrar lyckobringare. Om jag ser en när jag är ute tänker jag direkt att min dag kommer att bli lyckad. Jag har inget belägg på detta, men det känns rätt. Det kanske blir en självuppfyllande profetia då jag blir så glad av att se dem.



Ett annat exempel är min magiska blåa fisk-tenta-skjorta! Den köptes i Odessa för typ 20 år sedan. Jag känner kraften av hela min ukrainska blodslinje i den. Speciellt min mormor som själv var ingenjör. Den har dessutom väldigt bra "track record".

Personligen tror jag att vissa vidskepelser egentligen är varningar som med generationer blivit lite diffusa. Många av dem får mig även att reflektera över hur skört livet är och att man ej borde ta det för givet. Allt kan ändras närsomhelst, oavsett om det är otur, onda andar eller något annat som drar i alla strängar. Vidskepelser kanske är ett sätt att påminna oss om det. Jag håller i alla fall öppen för min mammas "knasiga idéer". Så vitt jag vet så vet jag ingenting om hur världen fungerar bakom det vi kan se med det blotta ögat.

- Vera Panicheva Söderholm K23





Have you considered you may be a witch?

If you think about it, potion brewing is actually just pharmaceutical chemistry. Measuring ingredients, controlling temperature, mixing in the right order, it's just in a lab setting instead of a cauldron. The way the substance influences a person, just with more realistic expectations. Maybe the line between chemist and witch isn't as clear as we like to think.

Historically, the word "witch", at least in a European context, was used to accuse someone of "witchcraft". This could mean almost anything, it often targeted women who were independent, skilled, or simply existing outside social norms. By that definition, a lot of us would've been burnt at stake in medieval Europe...

But that's not quite what I mean when I say "witch." The historical association with witches has created the modern image of what a witch is. What do you think of when you think of a witch? Brewing potions, black cats, broomsticks, long, flowy clothes and maybe odd items everywhere? A little intuition and fortune telling? On my way home, as I think of the concept of witches, I see a familiar face come up to me. Not of a human- but of a bird, a crow. Without a second thought, I reach into my pocket and pull out a small pouch of pumpkin seeds, and toss it over. I've been feeding the corvids around KC for some time. It is only recently that I have done this regularly, so they have started recognizing me. At this point I am constantly under "crow surveillance", haha. Oh... right, corvids are very closely associated with witches as well, that's one stereotype that I fit.

I've long been fascinated by corvids (the family of birds that crows and ravens, among others belong to), so befriending them is something that has been of my interest. In highschool I did befriend a rook, it was easier since it was always in the area and was a bit hurt, so it appreciated the food I gave it. It would run up to me whenever it saw me (it struggled with flying, and had very bad balance because of suspected brain damage) but it sadly passed away after some time due to its injuries. Other unconventional animals I love are rats, insects and frogs! I was very obsessed with pigs as a child, but they aren't as witchy as the others.

I finally come home, to my corridor room at Delphi, densely decorated despite it being small. I check on my very many stick and leaf bugs (I have three species of stick insects and one of leaf insect), on the wall above the two big terrariums they reside in, are two posters: one with swedish frog, toad and salamander species and the other with various bugs and insects.

I guess you could say my very maximalist room has a witchy essence to it. Black cat though? A black cat is strongly associated with witches, hmmm... Tic-tic-tic-tic... I look behind: there! My beloved Kit Cat Klock, my own black cat telling me the time as it glances side to side and swings its tail in pace. (if this clock seems familiar to you, it is also shown in Back to the future movie, the model has been untouched since 1932). My collection of odd objects does look like a witch's collection of artifacts.

My friends say that my room has several "cursed" objects, they mostly mean the weird looking masks I have up on my walls here and there (shoutout to the old lady on facebook marketplace I got 16 sort-of-scary masks from). I must say, I've been leaning more and more into the witch-concept. I dress mostly inspired by music I listen to, I like to express different feelings or "vibes" I get from my favorite music. I always visualize things when I think, so I dress accordingly to the world that gets painted.



It makes sense that I can sometimes dress very witchy, I mostly listen to different subgenres of punk, and of course I've been quite into Kate Bush recently. A pioneer of the "whimsigoth" style. If we jump back to the original meaning of the word "witch", it stems from existing outside societal norms- that is also the backbone of the punk genre-subculture.

Witchiness also aligns a lot with spirituality and is often associated with fortune telling etc. I must say that I do not exactly believe in the typically-associated practices, such as horoscopes, crystal-powers etc. I very much base my worldview on as far science can go to explain things. It just makes the most sense to me. However I also can't help but be a little superstitious at times... I haven't grown up particularly close to religious traditions, but my take on the unexplained aligned quite well with concepts within Hinduism, which I was raised with. Sometimes I do like to be a little "delusional" as many describe, or better explained: indulge in the typical witch-associated rituals. Like tarot reading that I did for InfU tries out, (see page 16). Logically I know it is just chance, I am just good at applying the outcome to context- but I feel a strong intuition when doing readings, and sometimes they are just crazy accurate. I don't really define my beliefs as they are something that constantly evolve. Which is also a core part of witchcraft, I would say. Non-conformity.

Lastly, I am very interested in pharmaceutical chemistry: poisons, medicine, just how compounds can impact living beings. I guess I do count as a witch, considering all the stereotypes I fit in and the non-conformity aspect of it. If you relate too much to the things I've brought up, it's about time you get yourself a cauldron!

- Mohita Misra, K23



Alchemy

Science or Magic?

This is the tale of those who wished to turn lead into gold. Those who sought a cure to end all disease, those who wanted to live indefinitely. It can be perceived as a combination of religion and science, or was it actually magic?

This practice is called alchemy and it has been vital for our understanding of the world - especially chemistry. The word alchemy is actually the origin of the word chemistry. It can be described as a philosophy of describing matter by changing it. The practitioners were a tight-knit group who used symbolism, drawings and code words in their texts. Most texts focused on transmutation, such as turning lead into gold. This was not an easy task since the knowledge of metals was very limited and so was the equipment supply, not even thermometers existed yet.

You might have heard of something called the philosopher's stone (for example in Harry Potter). The philosopher's stone is the legendary alchemical substance that supposedly could turn base metals into gold or silver. It was also believed to be an elixir of life. The stone was more of a concept than an actual thing, since its composition was unknown. To discover the philosopher's stone was the ultimate goal of many Alchemists and the hunt for it is referred to as the Magnum Opus ("Great Work").

But alchemists were not only interested in metals, some were more focused on the human body. These were usually physicians, who wanted to make pharmaceuticals. On the other side, some worked on resurrection and extending life. These with rather disappointing results.

Alchemists were scattered across the globe and separated into different methods. Such as Chinese alchemy, which contributed to the invention of gunpowder, German alchemy, which led to the making of the printing press, or Swiss alchemy, which introduced salt as the element that all metals are made up of...

With time, alchemy gained an ugly reputation for being low-class and out of fashion. It was classed as superstitious. Truth be told, a lot of the alchemists' discoveries have been proven false. Still, all this experimenting provided a great deal of new knowledge about compounds, metals in particular, despite the challenge of interpreting all the code words in the findings. Because after all, alchemy helped maintaining an interest in debating the true nature of things. They aimed for magic, but we got something almost as good - chemistry.

- Hanna Östgren, B23

Side notes:

Some names of alchemists you might recognize: Robert Boyle, Isaac Newton and August Stindberg.

Read a good book: The Alchemist (fiction)

Rebus Pussel

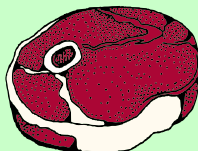


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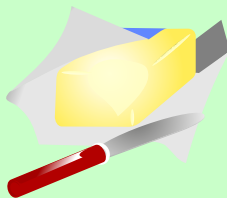


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- Hanna Östgren, B23



Lösning på sida 13!

InfUs spellista

Vilken låt känns "magisk" för dig?

Mohita: Shameless Shadow- The Garden

Rasmus: Xleepy- Machine Girl

Saga: Two for Nero- Everything Everything

Vera: Dance Of The Sugar Plum Fairy- Pjotr Tchaikovsky

Nawal: Out of time- The Weeknd

Hanna: Abracadabra- Lady Gaga



MENU

Skanna på spotify
för att lyssna!



Vad är en Druid?

Som vi alla vet har K-sektionen en svaghet för Asterix. Detta kan vi se på vårt monument Bautastenen, studierummet Gallien och såklart vår kära Druiden. Men var kommer egentligen det här temat ifrån? Och vad är ens en druid?

Många av oss har nog vuxit upp med Asterix och vet lite grann om vad berättelsen handlar om. Men vad har karaktären Miraculix för roll? Själv trodde jag nog att han var en trollkarl och det visar sig inte vara alltför långt ifrån sanningen.

Astrix utspelar sig i Romarriket, i en by i det galliska riket. Skyddshelgonet Miraculix är byns druid som tillreder den trolldryck som ger karaktärerna övernaturlig styrka. Druiderna var en lärd grupp inom det keltiska folket. De kunde agera som religiösa ledare, lärare och domare. Namnet tros härstamma från det keltiska ordet för "ekens kännare". Det finns inte supermycket information om druiderna då de inte efterlämnade några egna skriftliga källor, men en av de främsta källorna till det vi vet idag är självaste Julius Caesar.

Caesar beskrev hur druiderna ägnade sig åt människooffer och fungerade som domare i samhällskonflikter. De ska ha varit emot krig och istället ägnat sig åt studier inom språk, filosofi, astronomi och gudstro. Så det verkar ha funnits inspiration från de historiska druiderna när man skapade karaktären Miraculix, men han framställs betydligt mer magisk än vad druider tycks ha gett intryck av. Förutom sin trolldryck var Miraculix också byns doktor och lärare.

Det är faktiskt från maskoten Miraculix som K-sektionen fått sitt tema. Miraculix höll nämligen på med alkemi och han var helt enkelt det närmaste en tecknad kemist man kunde hitta. Härifrån kom alltså temat Asterix till sektionen och självklart behövde sektionens egen tidning döpas efter maskoten.

Sektionstidningen har funnits sedan 1971, men var då mer som ett nyhetsblad och kallades Kempen. En möjlig förklaring till det namnet är en sammanslagning av "kemi" och "penna". Först 2015 kom den första tidningen med namnet Druiden ut.

Så namnet Druiden kommer från den trollkarsliknande alkemisten ur den tecknade Asterix. Men det var det historiska lärda keltiska folket som inspirerade till allt detta.

- Hanna Östgren, B23

Den främste druiden



Rebus Lösning (sida 10):

“Alla katter är grå i mörkret”

A walkthrough on the concept of magic

Life, in all its forms, is pure magic. Look around, and you'll find it everywhere, not necessarily in the old-fashioned sense of an elderly man with a tall hat waving a wand and muttering "abracadabra" to turn something big into something small, or a scientist swirling their pipette like a magic wand, watching the color fade from purple to colorless. Pure science perhaps, but I would like to call it a little bit of magic.

Magic is something that happens every single day. What makes life beautiful is how we start appreciating those small, magical moments that give us the energy to keep going. Take this very moment, for instance writing this text. It truly feels magical, how the words seem to flow effortlessly as I type. Is it really magic, or just a mix of science and creativity? I don't know. Maybe I'm being a little philosophical, maybe a bit dreamy, or maybe... just a little magical myself. Watching a movie or a series can spark that same feeling too, where reality feels blurred, and for a while, you drift into another world.

For me, the most magical moments are when I'm somewhere new, talking to strangers, and hearing their stories. It feels both strange and wonderful at once. Everyone experiences the same moment differently, this exact moment for instance, you're reading this magazine, while others are doing something completely different. Some might say it's all about physics or quantum mechanics, talking about parallel universe theory or bringing Einstein up somehow, but I choose to believe it's simply magic.

Food, too, is its own kind of magic. Think about it. You put together a few ingredients, add some salt, pepper, and spices, and suddenly you've created something wonderful. Even though I'm not the best cook, the idea of turning simple things into something extraordinary fascinates me. That, to me, is true magic. Lately, what's caught my eye most is the color of the autumn leaves. No one can deny how magical they are. The shades blend perfectly, layer after layer, impossible not to notice. I even tried taking some leaves home, just to keep a bit of that magic with me. God only knows how beautiful they are. I've realized that autumn itself is magical... and I'm already missing it.

There are millions of magical things around us if we only start paying attention. You hold magic within yourself, in a kind word to a friend that turns their day around, in helping someone finally solve a problem they've been struggling with, or even in guiding a lost stranger through a new city. Whatever it is, show off your magic. Let it shine and radiate through your words and actions, because that's what truly makes life magical.

- Nawal Al-Hakim, K23

INFU TRIES OUT:

Tarot Reading

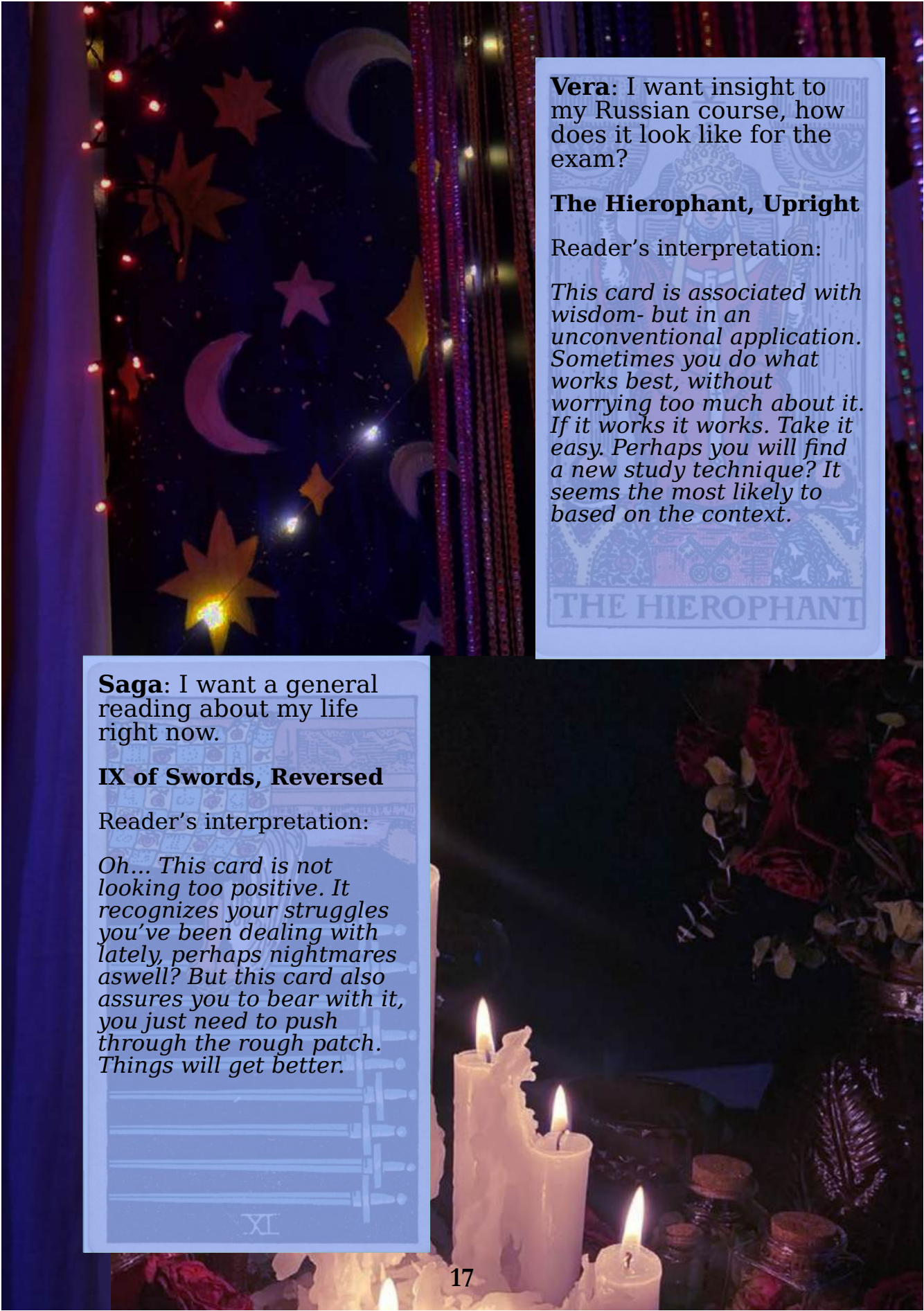
How else would you get insight into your near future, present, maybe even the past- If not with a little cartomancy?!

Us in InfU gave tarot-reading a try. The most suitable atmosphere was achieved- dimmed lights and candles. Appropriate attire was also worn.

For those unfamiliar with the concept, a tarot card deck consists of 78 cards, from which one or more are drawn with intuition and a query in mind. There are many different ways to do tarot readings, but each draw (which can be upright or reversed, depending on how it lands in relation to the client) has a different meaning. This is used to interpret the situation and give insight into the query.

- Mohita, K23





Vera: I want insight to my Russian course, how does it look like for the exam?

The Hierophant, Upright

Reader's interpretation:

This card is associated with wisdom- but in an unconventional application. Sometimes you do what works best, without worrying too much about it. If it works it works. Take it easy. Perhaps you will find a new study technique? It seems the most likely to based on the context.

THE HIEROPHANT

Saga: I want a general reading about my life right now.

IX of Swords, Reversed

Reader's interpretation:

Oh... This card is not looking too positive. It recognizes your struggles you've been dealing with lately, perhaps nightmares aswell? But this card also assures you to bear with it, you just need to push through the rough patch. Things will get better.

XI



Hanna: I want to go on exchange, how will that turn out?

**The Hanged Man,
Upright**

Reader's interpretation:

Hmm, you may be worrying unnecessarily right now. You've come far, and will get through it. As the card says: patience and a new perspective will serve you well. Maybe what you have in mind right now isn't how it will turn out, but you for sure will be satisfied with whatever the outcome will be.

THE HANGED MAN.

Nawal: I hadn't thought of applying for exchange this year, but I think I will still try. How does that look for me?

VI of Wands, Reversed

Reader's interpretation:

Your uncertainty will unfortunately not give your favored outcome this time. In short, you won't be able to go on exchange this year. The card reads: Delays, setbacks, and even bad luck may lie ahead. Maybe next year?



Rasmus: I too, want to know how it will turn out with going on exchange for me.

The Hanged Man, Upright

Reader's interpretation:

You know exactly what you want, but it will be tough. Be prepared to push through the struggles, it will likely be competitive. It may feel a little chaotic, and you may feel a bit conflicted at some point.

Mohita: I have applied for the upcoming Lundakarnevalens design- team and I am also hoping to be part of the parade. I wonder how that will go.

The Moon, Upright

Reader's interpretation:
(I did my own reading)

The card recognizes my worries and uncertainties, but gives a very positive look! It tells me to follow my intuition, push through these "fearful illusions" and I'll get what I wish for.

THE MOON.



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