



The Fool may be the first card in the deck, but the energy is strong and palpable. We are the Fool more often than we think. The Fool (depicted here as a fragile duckling or chick) is taking his first steps towards mastering the sky. The golden horizon stretches out, encompassing his whole earth. He may not even notice yet the color grows dim as bottom drops in height. He notices the surroundings, scented with a sweet perfume. He notices the wind, the very essence of the sky. If all that is fragile around him can survive the storm, surely, he can too.

He could fly, or he could fall. The Fool is on the precipice of his journey. He is the embodiment of confidence and courage. His small body contradicts these attributes. By looking at the Fool, it appears that he is unprepared and not capable of completing such an arduous task. What the Fool lacks is size or strength he makes up for in heart and belief. He must have the conviction to tackle the sky. This is no small task. The sky has claimed many more competent flyers than him. The sky is full of enemies and thunder. But right now, he is only concerned with the reach upward toward the gold and blue tapestry of flight.

Part of the reason that he is not concerned yet with any threat that may come for him is his complete innocence. His inexperience is both a blessing and a curse. He has had the privilege of his

surroundings being buffered with light and flowers. His situation has blessed him with the untainted view of a wonderful world. But, this brings a lack of knowledge about the world beyond his branch, a world that is full of threats. Now, as he is about to take the first plunge into the new, into the adventure, into the unknown, his innocence filters the experience through possibility and spontaneity.

The Fool is a free spirit. His organic nature permeates his actions and his choices. He doesn't seek the untraveled path because he maliciously rejects the status quo. He does not seek adventure for the cheap thrill of running away. His free spirit needs to be challenged. The Fool needs the unknown to gauge himself and observe the landscapes he must face. He is called to push himself and experience what is available in this world.

There is an aspect of nature and nurture with the Fool. He is nurtured and inclined to fold himself into the world. He is nurtured to believe in the bright world, and all the beautiful bounty is can bestow on him. But, there is an aspect of nature too. As a small duckling, he must learn to fly. He is small and frail, but he must learn to meet and conquer this task if he is to survive in the world. The Fool must learn the ways of the storm and sky. If he doesn't, he will not survive.

Channel the Fool by embracing the new, by stepping into your journey with belief and love. Love yourself and your individuality. Believe that you can conquer the plunge. You must be brave. You must be willing and receptive. Open your mind. Let the fear fall away. If the Fool shows up for you, be observant on your path. Find a balance between friend and threat. It is a hindrance to believe that everything is evil, but it will not help to push away all potential friends. Seek spontaneous actions. Choose with the guidance of your own spirit and compass. Hold truth with a sense of innocence and wonder.