



WHIMSY WONDERLAND

Safe Passage

With Katrina Koltes

Welcome!

Hello creative souls,
I'm so happy to share this fun and inspiring lesson with you!

I absolutely love creating story art, and especially on wood-slices. There's something so organic about it, and I feel it connects us to nature in a special way when we create.

In this project I will also show you how I like to turn my paintings into dream-catchers too, and if you love arts'n crafts like me you will enjoy that part too. I'm so excited to get started and create with you during one of my favorite times of the year, so special!

So let's begin, and don't forget to ask me in the Facebook group if you have any questions.

I can't wait to see all of your fabulous creations!

Much love,
Katrina





SUPPLY LIST

FOR THE PAINTING:

- 1) **Small wood round or canvas (I used 6x6x1 inch)**
- 2) **Gesso, palette, napkins or rag**
- 3) **Paintbrushes**, some small rounds and flats, and a scruffy one for dry-brushing and varnishing
- 4) Heavy body **Acrylics**: Please use what you have! But if you want to use what I used: Titanium white, burnt sienna, burnt acra orange (or Indian red), burnt umber, black, green gold, emerald green, yellow ochre (or yellow oxide), deep violet, deep magenta, quinacridone blue violet.
- 5) Final **Varnish** to protect your wood-round (I used liquitex satin varnis)
- 6) **Water jar, napkins and rag, salt**
- 7) **White posca pen or sharpie**
- 8) **White or colored pastel pencil**

FOR THE DREAMCATCHER:

- 1) **Ribbon, lace, white cotton or patterned material, string, large wooden beads, feathers, etc.**
- 2) **large stapler or glue gun** to attach the strips to the wood or canvas, **Scissors**
- 3) **A Hook to hang up the dreamcatcher** (and small nails/hammer, or glue gun to attach it)

Creating the painting

Step 1



So before we start painting on our wood slice we want to put a layer of gesso first.

This will make our colors stand out more and so the wood doesn't soak up all the paint.

Once that's dry we can start painting it.

Step 2



First we create a circle for the sun, and then with the yellow mixed with some white we create that glow around it. As we move outward we add the orange and then the red, blending it in with the yellow creating a subtle shading from light to dark.

Step 3



Once that is dry we can start adding our trees. I use some burnt umber and burnt orange, mixing in some black as we get to the edge to darken them. So as the trees get to the middle and further away they get lighter and the paint will be more diluted too.

Step 4



Now we create an under-layer of the ground, with some green, black and burnt umber. I leave some of the red in the background showing through especially in the middle where they are crossing a little deer path or forest trail.

Step 5



Next we add a white silhouette around the figures to really bring them out. We use a white sharpie but a white posca pen will do too. Against the white silhouette I add a darker line with the paint to give it even more depth.

Step 6



Now we can draw our figure with a pastel pencil. You can also use my template and trace it onto the wood round if that makes it easier, or use the oval method I suggest in the video.

Step 7



To make things easier (since the background is showing through) we outline the fox and her arm and leg just so we can see what we are doing more clearly. I use burnt umber to outline lightly.

Step 8



Then we paint in the fox. We paint a strip of white on his tummy and chin, and then burnt sienna for the body, mixing in the burnt orange (or Indian red) for the top of the back and legs. we also paint his eyes and ears with white, and the fluffy tip of his tail as well, and his nose black.

Step 9



Now we paint the girl, Her shirt and stockings are a purple with white stripes (I use the posca pen for the stripes) and her cape green with a fur lining. I also add some green and white polka dots to her coat. We also paint her little boots brown with white buttons :)

Step 10



We then sprinkle on some snow with the titanium white and a round brush. I also add some tiny splashes near his legs as he kicks up some snow while he's running. :D
And we're finished!
The Next step is varnishing and creating a dream-catcher with our wood slice.

Step 11



Before we add our material, feathers and beads we want to varnish our piece. I use liquitex satin varnish, but please use what you prefer. I matt varnish also works well.

Best not to use your good brush as varnish tends to stiffen your brushes. And you'll need to rinse it out right away after use.

Step 12



Next we rip pieces of cotton cloth and cut some length of ribbon, creating various strips of color combinations. I also add a string with each strip to add some feathers and beads. Once we have an idea of our layout we can start attaching them to the wood round.

Step 13



Once we have attached all our cloth strips, ribbons and strings, we add some feathers and beads to them. I like to use similar pattern feathers and colors of the painting to bring the color down. You can even add paper flowers, shells, or anything you like.

Step 14



As a last step we add a hook to the back so we can hang it up. You can even attach a string to the top so you can hang it from above.

I really hope you enjoyed painting with me!

Don't forget to wait for drying time in between layers, and use your imagination for this!

You can even paint your own spirit animal, or one that calls to you...

Another idea is to switch to cool colors and paint a full moon and night scene instead of the setting sun.

So have fun with this, and I'll be looking forward to seeing your work in the Facebook group!

I'm so excited to see what you come up with as you create your own dream-catcher!

Don't forget to reach out if you have any questions, I'm always happy to help!

Much love,
Katrina

CONTINUE YOUR JOURNEY WITH ME:

Website (free tutorials, retreats, workshops): <https://katrinakoltes.com/>

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/creatingmagic/>

Facebook community: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/540740159626914/>

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