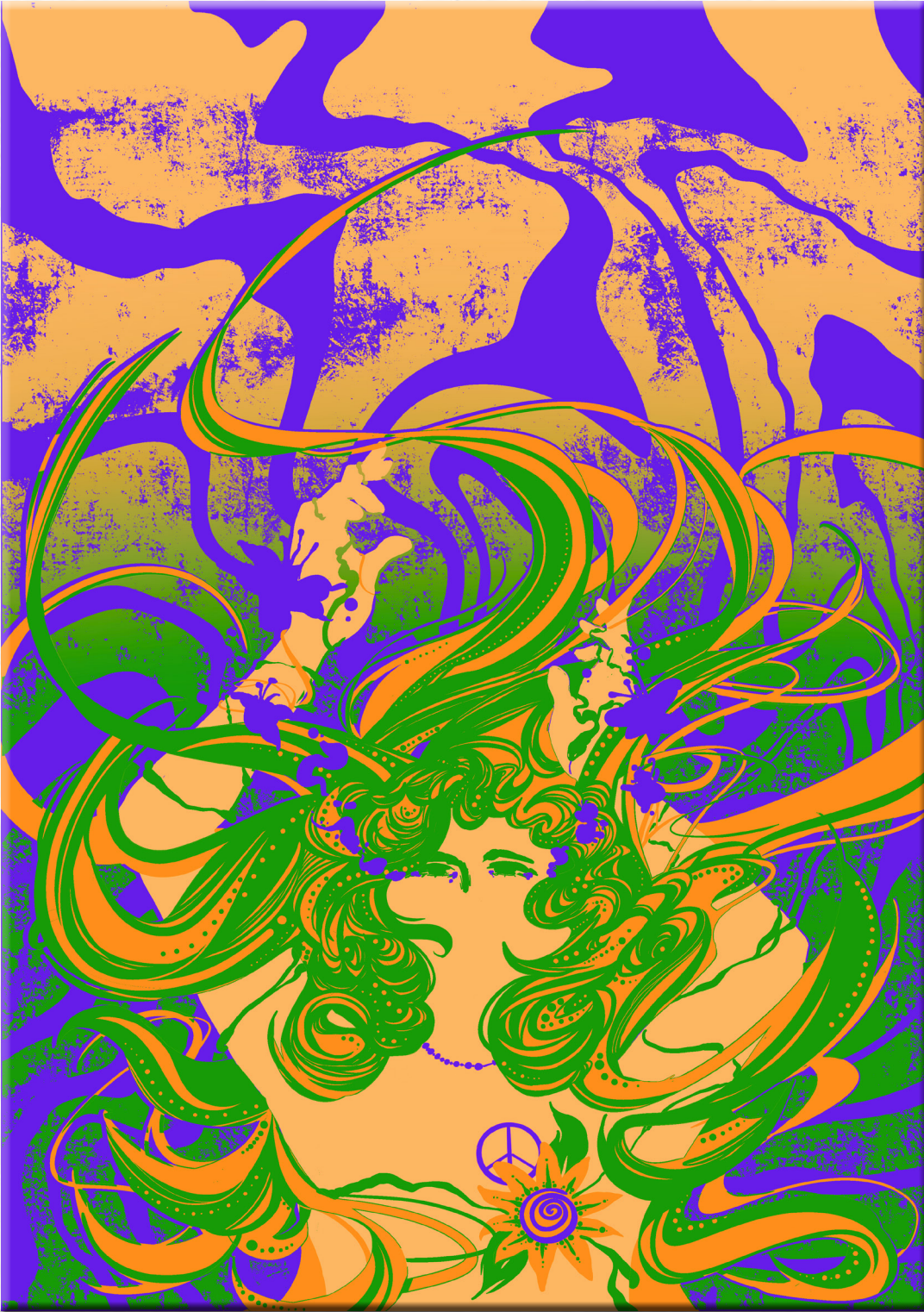


Recluse

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The sunflower symbolizing “loyalty” and the hyssop and tears for “purification” and “redemption” show that the spirit of peace, love, authenticity and individuality in counterculture is central to my personal pursuits and helps anchor myself as I gradually figure out my identity in my coming-of-age. In a world that often undervalues these things, though living these values fully can make one feel withdrawn—like a ‘recluse,’ it can help me reaffirm my loyalty to myself.