

Nicole Cartwright Denison: *Purview to Undoing*

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Ranunculaceae: DELPHINIUM L. Larkspur

(lower branches terminal; Sepals elliptic, spurred;
pedicels unequal; Seed wingless)

remember Route 74 :: the oracle's watch

a sparring match :: wit versus instinct

beware augur, trenches :: pavement eases travel

gravel marvels slack jaw :: disregard bibliomancy

memorize verse :: episode tome

blue-lined page :: scrawled vein weeps pink

till drained :: drought-tolerant spirit author

words suss terminus :: world without end

wings won't carry you far on this ground

Rutaceae: PRICKLY ASH

(leaves alternate; leaflets fleshy; plant spiny)

manners (demeanor) matter, dear, considerably more so than textures (perception):

and, (grinning) remember:

you will certainly attract more _____ with _____

Simplicity™ pattern aside, there seems a sundress

(finally) to flatter your figure:

(these slope-shoulders, thick-trunk)

(don't slump, give an air of your bearing)

polka dotted, Swiss bib

A-line, Empire

waistline

a classic

(still acceptable for your age)

Smile, Darling

(you're ever the frump)

and just remember:

You may attract more _____ with _____ than with _____

Gentianaceae: SABATIA

(plant with roots in the soil)

discerned from the *Key to Families*:

Key 1 relates those bodies of twining vines
vascular flow germane to species health
(exhalation is tantamount to exposure)

(flashback: cauldrons of lye steeping, laundry
tightroping the yard, a minstrel affair mid-breeze
before...) clematis bloomed six-fold
(divide rootstock in autumn months only)

twining vines exhibit pronounced aversion (*flora interruptus*)
to climbing more than 15' in height,
yet there are no width, or space, considerations
for clumping perennials

plant under advisement, watchful of moonsign
make ample room for seedlings—transplants not recommended
(exaltation is purview to undoing)

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Convolvulaceae: LOVE VINE

(plant with *haustoria* (parasitic tip) in the stems of other plants,
at least at flowering or fruiting time; roots in soil only when young)

Saturdays are reserved for dancing, dinners out:

sister almond eyes close taffeta, three-tiered
brassieres, deft fingers along the spine
edge brunette, letters smartly pinned upon a lapel

final keepsake: headscarf, rough silhouette
porchlight glow of swoon, of onset, of *yes*

pale August evening whispers trick you toward harvest:
pick *this*:
(petals pollinated)
climbers are prone to wither in such heat

Asteraceae: GOAT'S BEARD

(ovary inferior; corolla lobes and stamens; fruit 1-seeded)

when there was one, it endured in the field:

whipsmart inner envelope

bent in wind

strained weeds, invasive plantain

overcome

when there was another, it wilted:

putting out

sole knotty pod

last glint

tilting in sunlight

unsuccessful propagation:

tough husk

strung on the back of a breeze

new terrain: loam and modification

suggest (ensure) extinction