



Mammal Scat of North America



Feb. 17, 2020

There's any number of ways to approach this subject:

THE GREAT BLOSSOMING

comparative metaphors. Some might use sports metaphors
 a. depth on the bench
 b. the ball's in your court.

c. full court press
 d. down for the count
 e. down to the wire

P. Hail Mary
 q. In your wheelhouse

Animal	Hot or cold?	Notes	General nutrients		
			Nitrogen	% P Phosphorus	% K Potassium
Llama	Cold	It is very easy to collect and spread	1.7	0.69	0.66
Chicken	Hot		1	0.8	0.4
Horse	Hot	You may get weed seeds	0.07	0.25	
Sheep	Hot	4 stomachs so weeds are more digested	0.95	0.35	1
Cow	Cold		0.6	0.15	0.45
Pig	Cold		0.5	0.35	0.4
Goat	Cold	Pellets are easy to work with	1.44	0.5	1.21
Rabbit	Cold	Pellets are easy to spread	2.4	1.4	0.6



Hail the team

NPK Manure % Chart
 N = Nitrogen P = Phosphorus K = Potassium

	N	P	K
Horse	0.7	0.3	0.6
Cow	0.6	0.4	0.5
Goats	0.7	0.3	0.9
Sheep	0.7	0.3	0.9
Rabbit	2.4	1.4	0.6
Pig	0.8	0.7	0.5
Chicken	1.1	0.8	0.5

But what me, I use farm and garden metaphors.
 a. you have to have patience

b. you must prepare the soil
 c. plant good seeds

and the more the better the manure (the shit) the greater the blossoming.

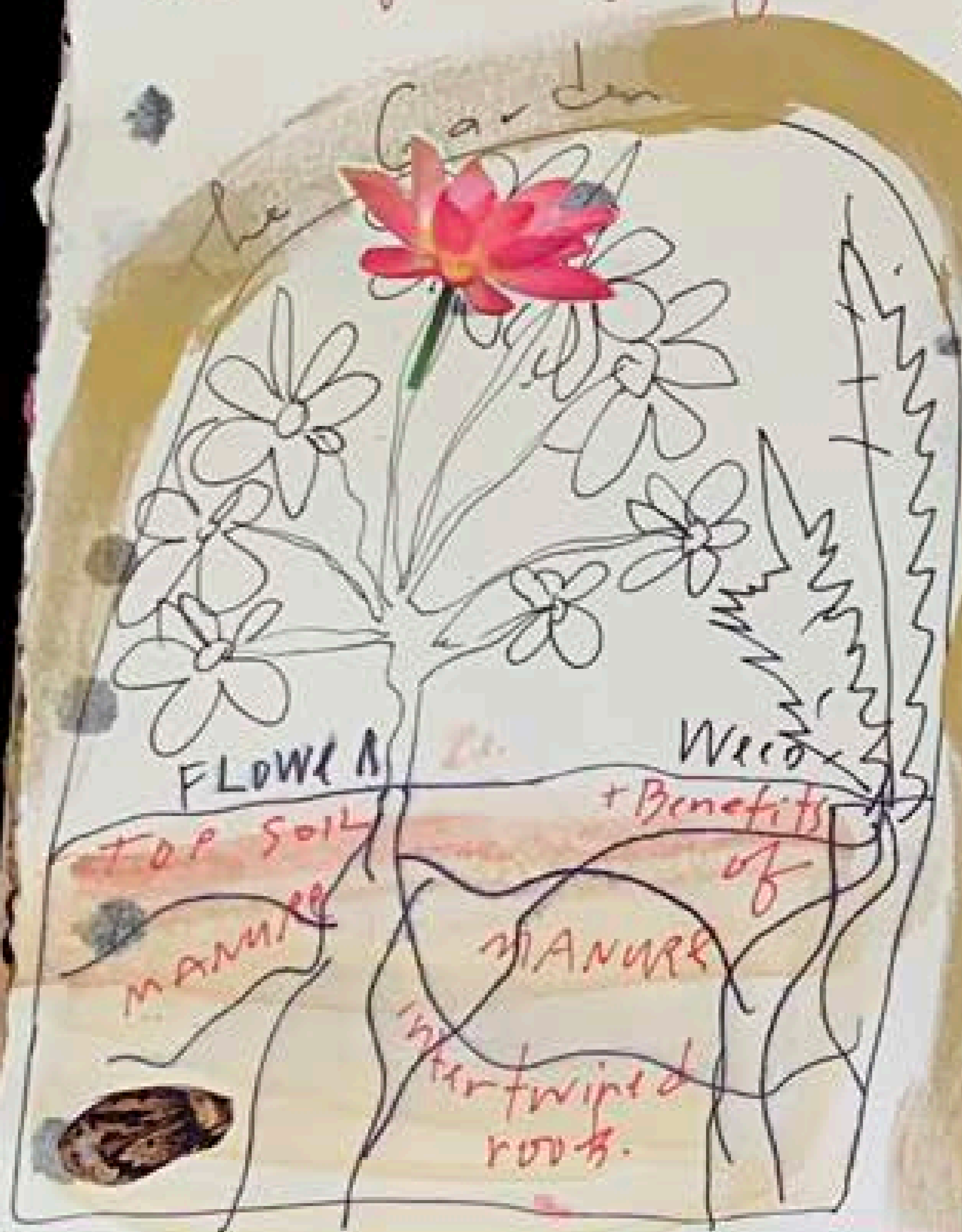
2) By descriptions of the value of different kinds of manure (shit)

3) The science of manure.

4) Comparing human + cow excrement

Top Soil
Manure
Blossoming

Weeds
Benefits
+
Dangers



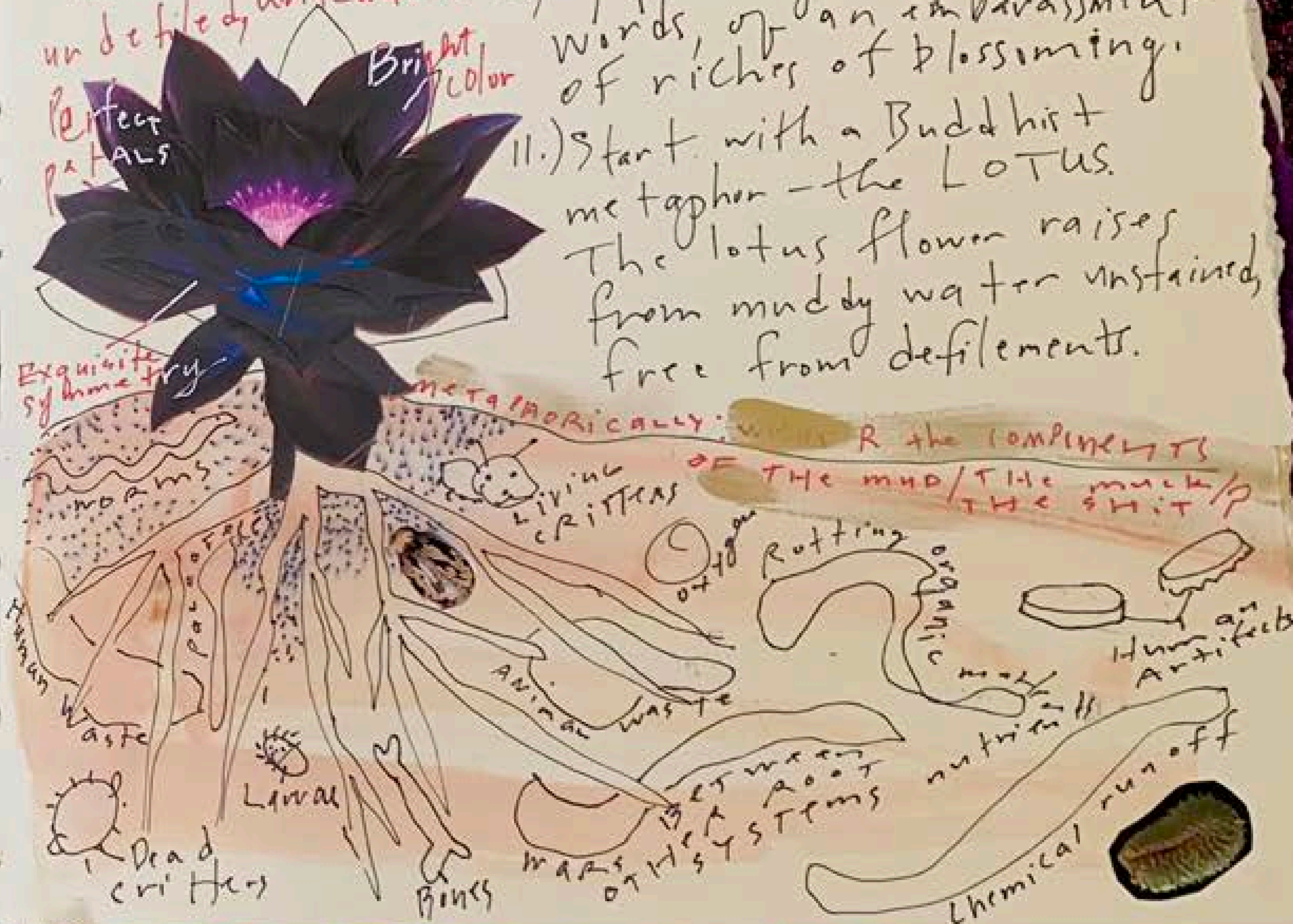
- 5.) The chemistry of manure.
- 6.) The payoff of hard work and persistence.
- 7.) The fortuitous combination of factors out of our control. Right temps, right moisture, fertilizer that contribute to growth.

The Judy Garland factor - born that way. In the DNA, in the spirit.

- 9.) An atmosphere conducive to growth - a veritable jungle or rain forest of growth.



The LOTUS emerges
undefiled, unscathed.
Perfect
petals
Bright
color



- 10.) By painting the picture, in words, of an embarrassment of riches of blossoming.
- 11.) Start with a Buddhist metaphor - the LOTUS. The lotus flower rises from muddy water unstained, free from defilements.

4.4.20. I was REALLY WORKED UP.

Feb. 22, 2020

Kelly gets back from Nebraska today. His surgery for ankle replacement is on March 10. 17 days away. I am stressing about the care and feeding of Kelly because:

- 1) He cannot put weight on the operative ankle for 8 weeks.
- 2) He does not react well to pain meds. He throws up.
- 3) He is not always compliant with P.T.

SO WHAT IS THE

WHAT BOXES NEED

GET

✓ The physical care for of the patient

✓ ENTERTAINMENT FOR PATIENT

✓ HOPEFUL POSITIVE ATTITUDE

SOLUTION HERE?

TO BE CHECKED?
and

CREATIVE

✓ HIGH NUTRIENT FOOD FOR ALL

✓ REST JOY, FULFILLMENT OF CAREGIVER

✓ EASY ON + OFF CLOTHING A PATIENT

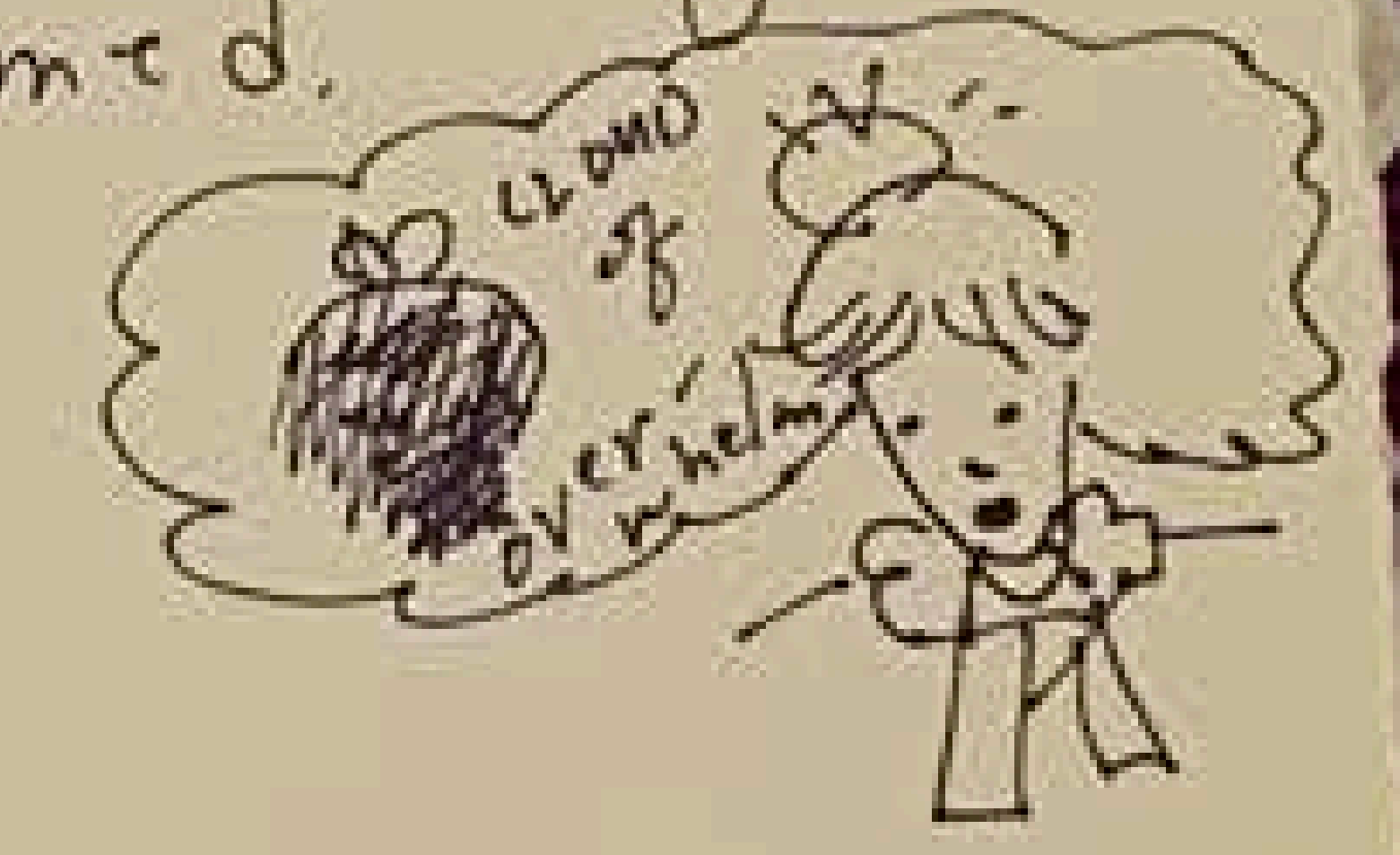
✓ OUTLINES FOR CARE-GIVER

✓ MEDS ON SCHEDULE

✓ FOOD PLAN:
1) Hi nutrient shakes
2) Gnd Bread
3) Fresh fruit + veg.
4) Starch dishes
5) PROTEIN

But mostly because:
1) I will be responsible for feeding another human being - who is essentially helpless - for 8 weeks and:

Though I used to be a good cook, I am totally off my game and feel immediately overwhelmed.



NERVES IN

EVIDENCE: OVERWHELMING

GROCEARY LIST
MASTER/PRINTED

HIGH NUTRIENT FOODS

DECENT FROZEN
ENTRIES

DECENT/GOOD PACKAGED
RICE/QUINOA

The GuideBook



Kelly CaRe

① 6-8 SHAKES
Protein/fruit
veggie

② 6-8 Breakfast
ideas

③ 12 Varied lunch
ideas

④ 12 Salads

⑤ 8 Soups
chili
spinach
Red LENTIL
OYSTER STEW
corn
minestrone
Thai coconut
? New inc

⑥ 17 Main Dishes

⑦ 12 Desserts

⑧ many Hi-
nutrient
snacks

oranges
apples
nuts
protein bars
banana chips
grapes

so earnest

MARCH 2, 2020
In Lincoln. Spent
Sat + Sunday with
Kelly's Mom. Lunch Sunday
with Lorraine. Dinner
at Shelley's last night
with Phoebe - celebrating
her trip east to talk
to Yale, RISD, and others.
All went well. What
a creative vortex.

Subjects to consider:
My love's inflated sense
of herself - triggered by
my results on SPARK Lumina
personality testing + a memory
from childhood of thinking
I was a fast runner - and
then reality proving me
ridiculously wrong.

3.1.20. Shelley's
Hand



Yaroslav Komarovski, a professor
with an emphasis on
Buddhism. It is in consid-
eration of a project on the
29 Pieces.

I've traveled to Lincoln
for this. And I either have
allergies or am coming down
with a cold. In either case,
I need to be there.
I pray that the words
may flow from me. That
whatever is supposed to
happen - will.

this is the unfolding.
blossoming.
it meant to be, it will be.

I'm prepared. I've looked at the breadth of the projects taken on by the Center for Digital Research. From Willa Cather to an Encyclopedia of the Great Plains,

Professor Leahy is also an illustration. St. Augustine + the City of God.

Professor Yaroslav Komarowski is Russian, teaches Buddhism at the University of Nebraska.

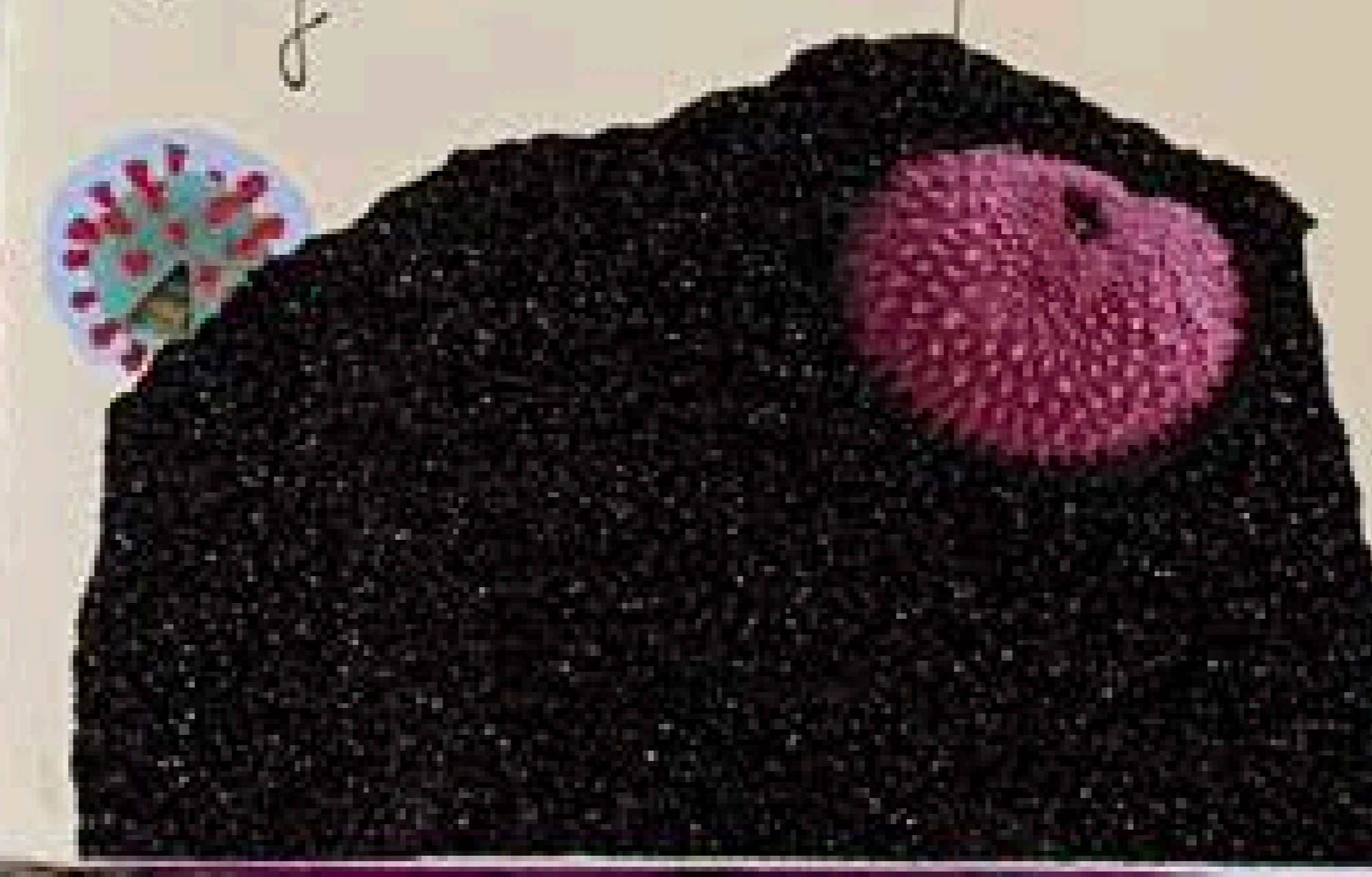
who's wooing who?
or is it simply exploratory?



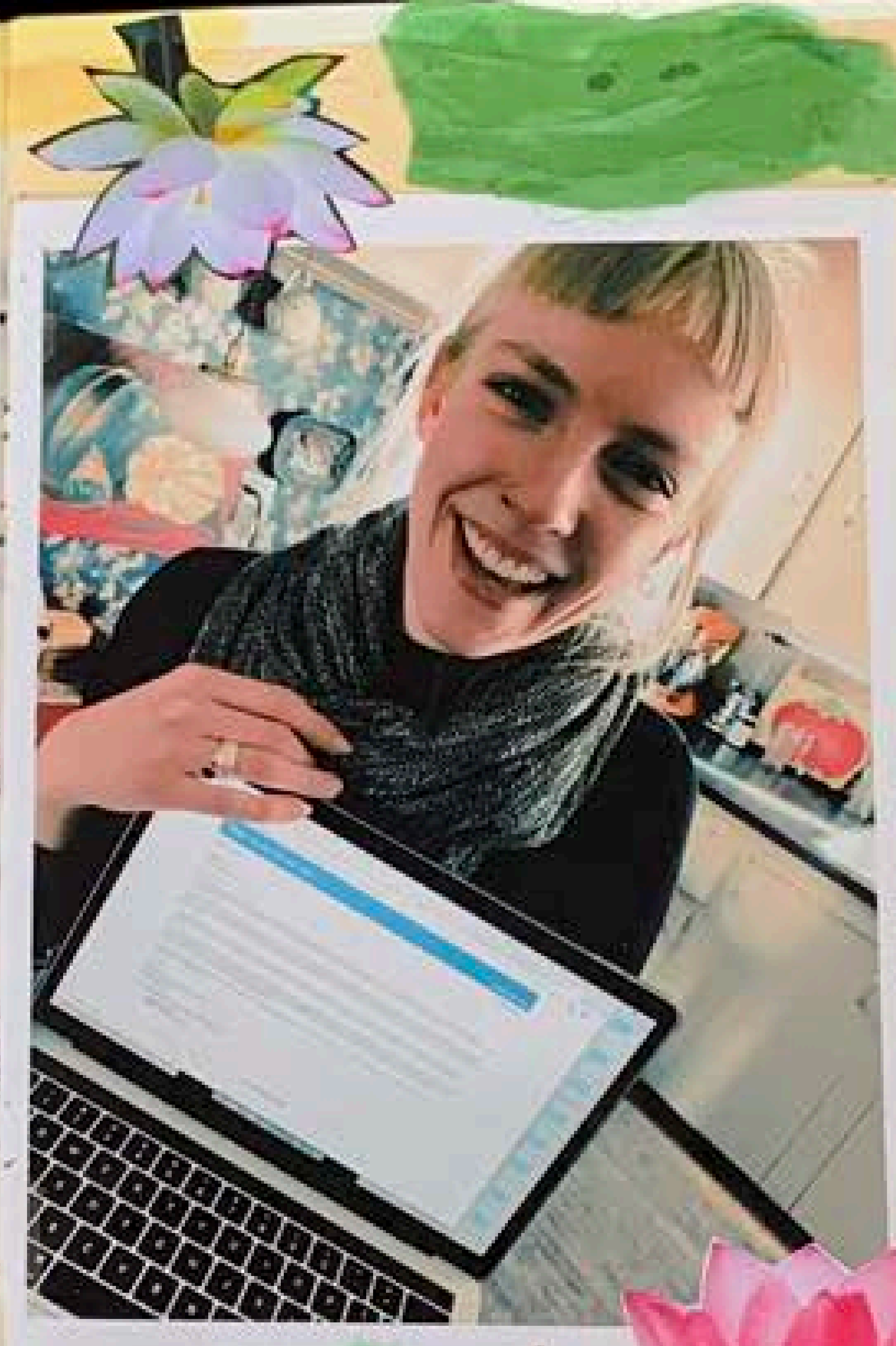
What would I hope to accomplish?
What are the questions I/we should be asking?
What is the message?

What are the questions?
What's the deal with left + right hand?

Why do this project?



Evidence of...
The embrace of the relevance of the timeless messages from all traditions.
The similar conclusions.
Awareness of this particular experience - documented authentic experience.
Abstract art inspired by sacred passages.
context + that.
Hunger for idealism.
If we believe there is a divine spark in us, let's fan the flame.
There are answers to life's big questions.
love + union. One. We are one.



MARCH 3, 2020
 This was quite a day.
 Biggest news!!
 Phoebe was accepted to grad school at Yale.
 And YAY!! I happened to be at Shelley's when Phoebe came in and said she'd gotten a text to check her email. She opened her laptop — and there it was.
 So much talent. So much work. So much hope.
 Her world is just beginning, and opening up for her.
 This day is memorable.



MARCH 4, 2020
 Heading back to Dallas.
 Great meeting with Richard Graham yesterday.

March 12, 2020

Kelly's ankle surgery was 2 days ago. The doctor/surgeon says that all went well. Meanwhile, we are in the midst of CORONAVIRUS.

COVID 19.

Everything from St. Patrick's Day parades, SXSW, audiences at NBA games - CANCELLED.

The U.S. is handling it ineptly - not enough testing, not enough ventilators, a president who mocks the seriousness of it. Wall St. is crumbling.



and we have laughable leadership everywhere - except at certain hospitals and in certain communities.

Trump - the germaphobe. Will it be a germ/virus that eventually wrecks him? May it be Mother Nature who has her way with him.

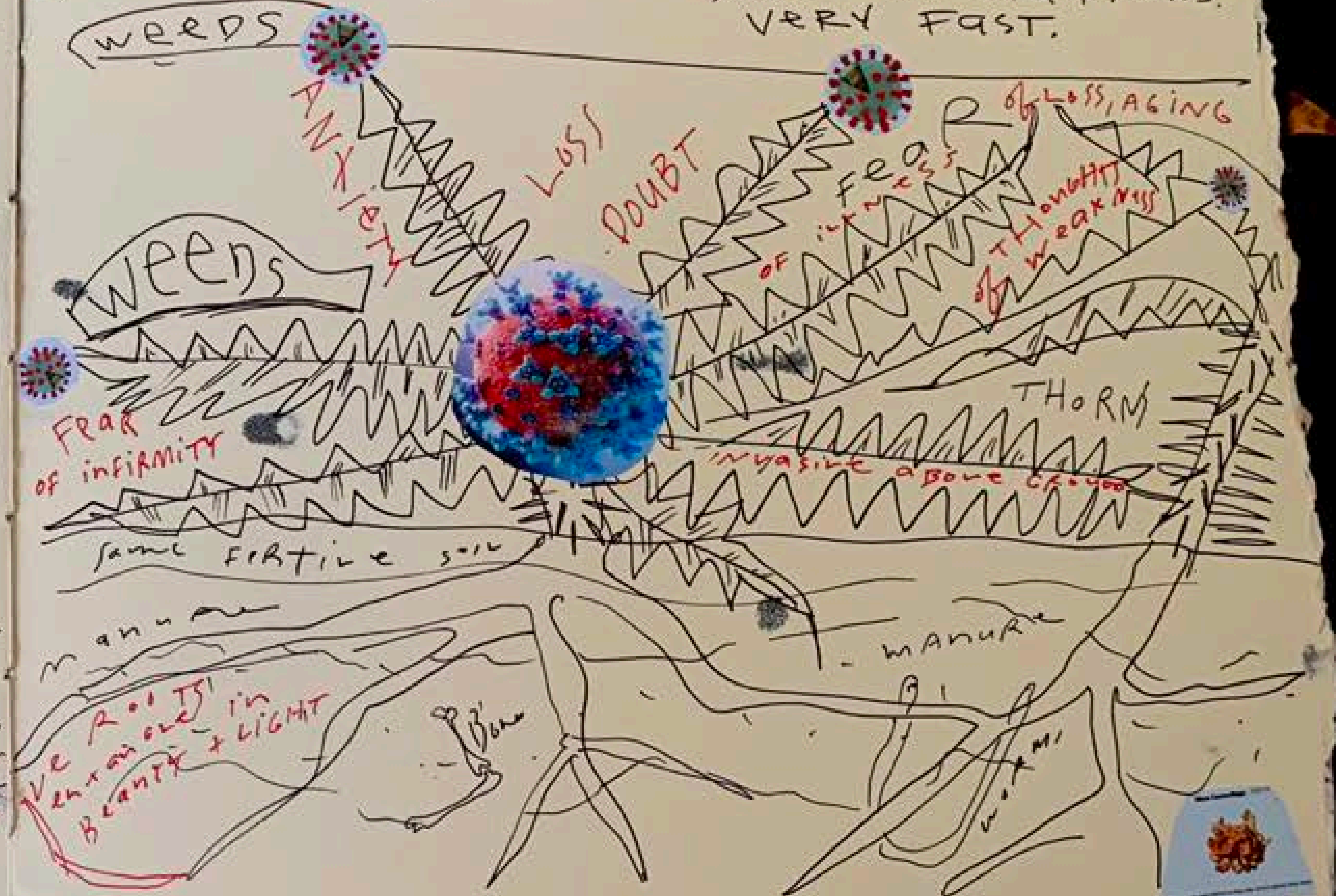
And here - in our little sanctuary/sick room/home/garden, there's been another blossoming.

FEAR

WHEN THERE IS BIG BLOSSOMING,
 AND WHERE THERE IS FERTILE,
 FLOWERS



THERE ARE BIG, WEEDS,
 INVASIVE WEEDS.
 RICH SOIL; MANURE, GROWTH HAPPENS
 VERY FAST.



THE THOUGHTS THAT FOLLOW

① Philosophy 101: Is it a flower?
or. Is it a weed?
Who perceives what?

② In the garden, is there any
gift within the weed? The
weed is often invasive, it
strangles - above + below ground
the desired growth of the
flower or tree.

Does the plant grow stronger-
on its own - because of the
weed's infiltration?

③ Years ago, walking in the
garden on Y St with Phoebe,
I was showing her the

When I work in these books, words come fast +

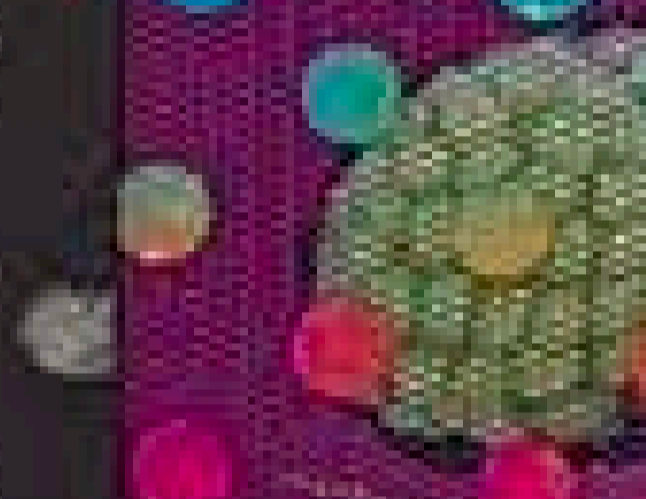
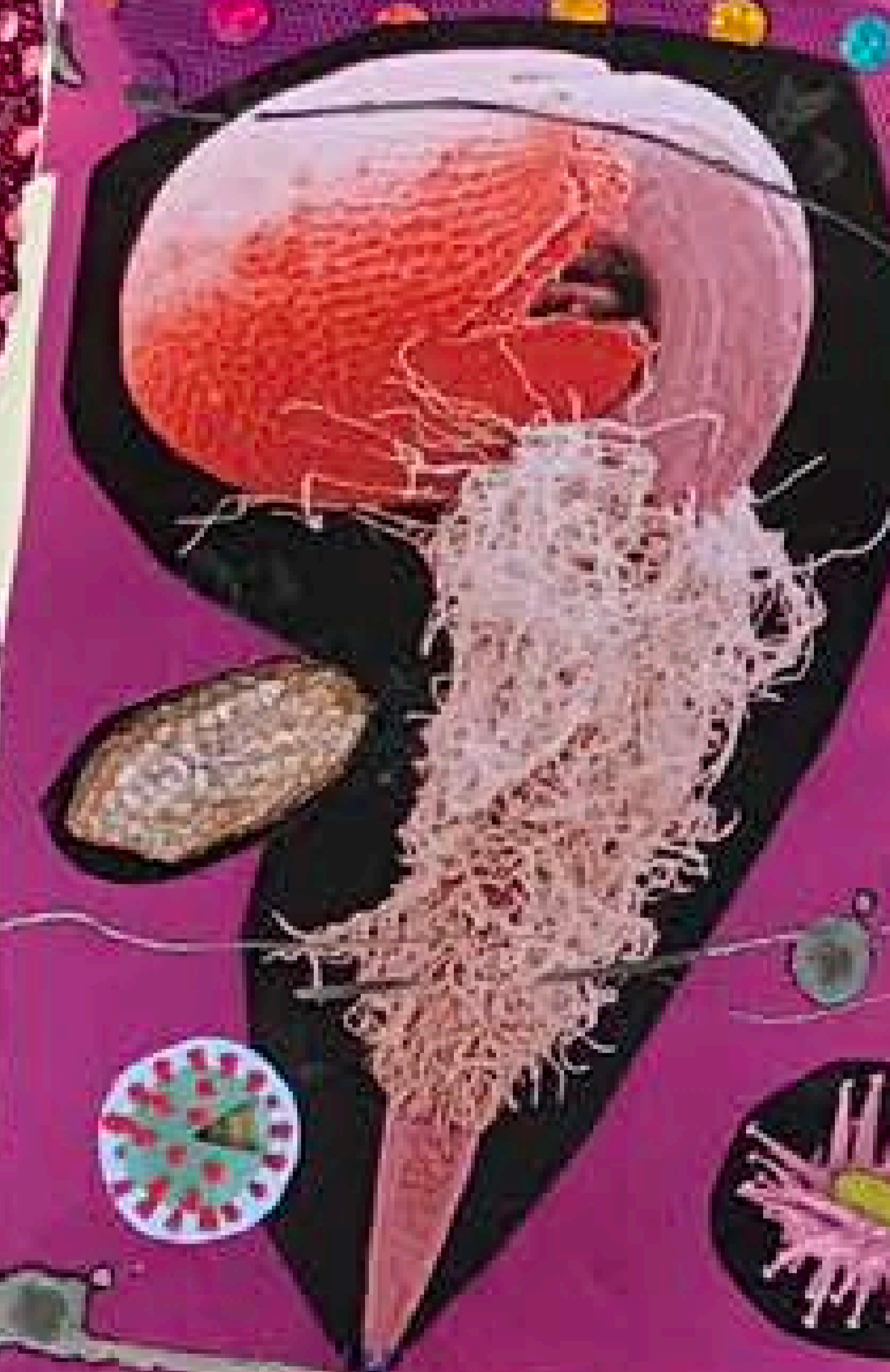
tulips + daffodils" but
what drew Phoebe's eyes
were the very small flowering
weeds growing amongst the
grass.

She favored the weeds.

④ In life... when the advancing
armies of fear, doubt +
anxiety, thoughts of aging
+ weakness advance... when
their seeds are multiplying
so quickly... where is the
gift in that?

It helps to identify
the enemy - FEAR

need to go down faster than my patience in visually
showing them.



And then?
 Look it steadily in the eye.
 Quickly catalog its capacity.
 Slow the mind.
 Cast aside what limits you.
 Turn to God in prayer.
 Self ceases to be. (Little self)
 Act with love. Fearlessly.
 Only the infinite exists
 for you now.

**Bad News Wrapped in Protein:
 Inside the Coronavirus Genome**
By Jonathan Corum and Carl Zimmer April 8, 2020

This was started. This book started as a way to begin to process the Blossoming that happened from the birth of 29 pieces.

- The origins:
- The murder
 - Dad's violence with my dog Pudge.
 - My own helplessness turning into power.
 - Despair & sadness about cruelty in the world.

- The Blossom:
- Every thing 29 pieces
 - Art, children, relationships



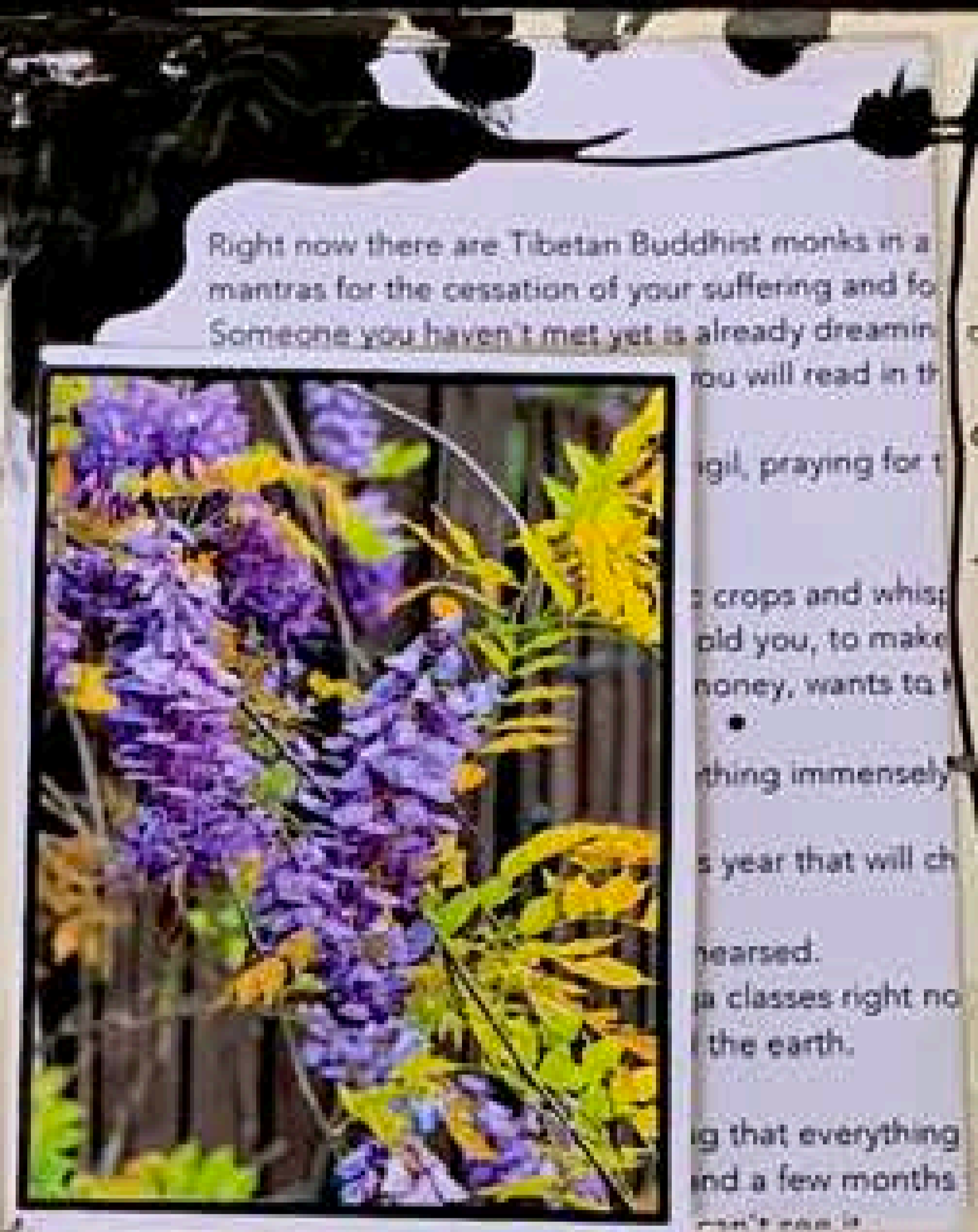
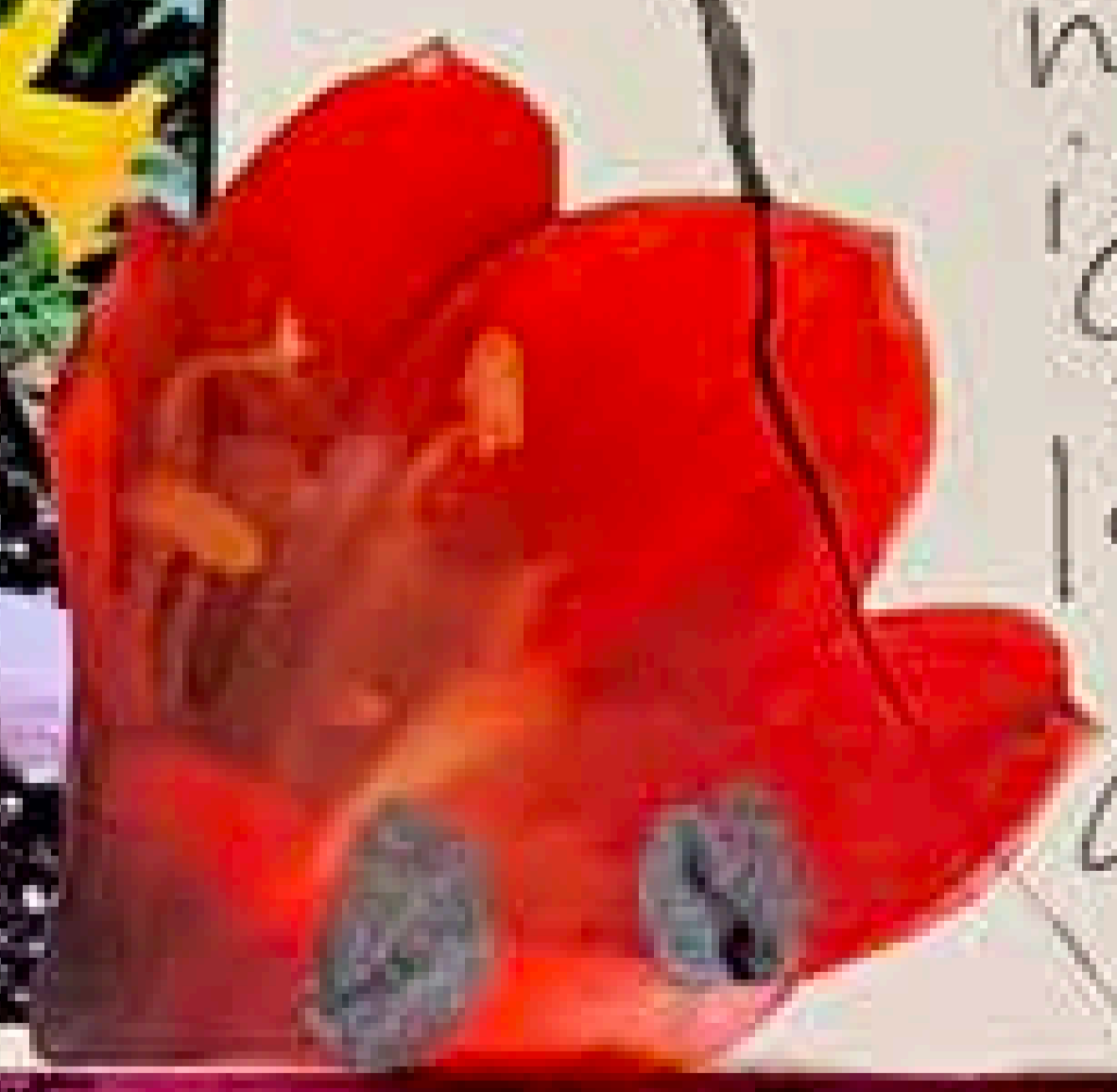
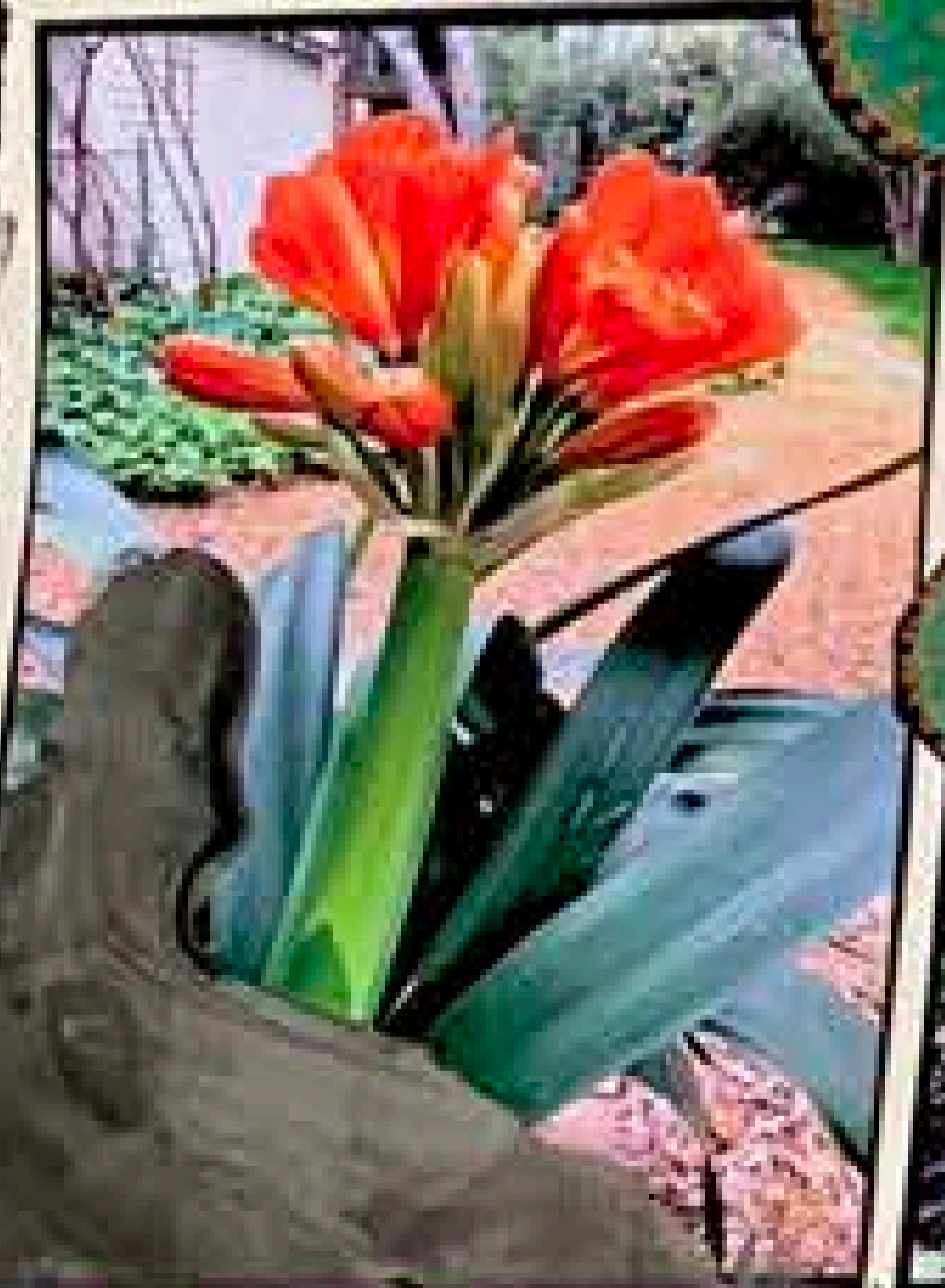
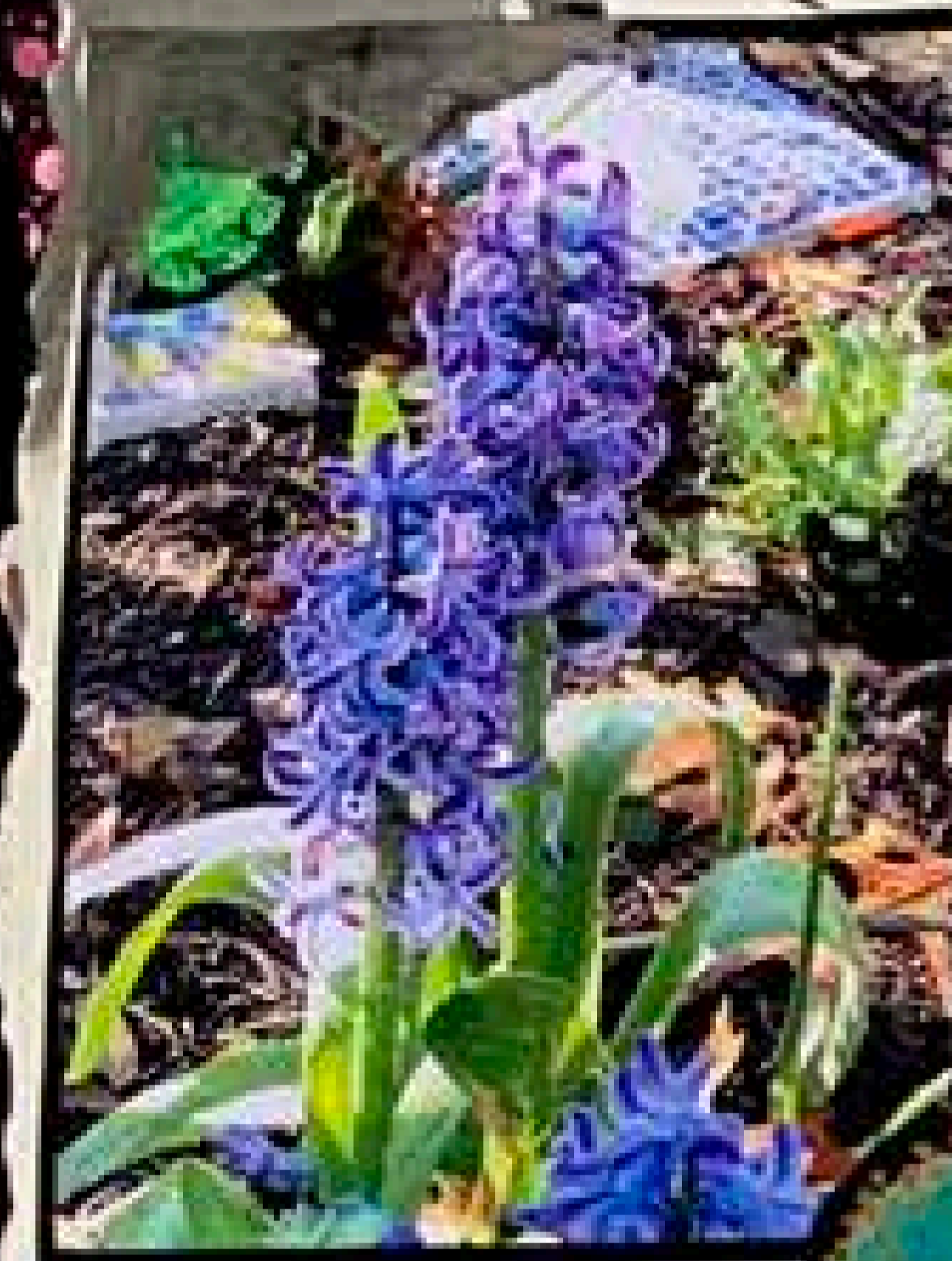
The Fertile Soil

- The meditation practice
- Discipline learned from 1st career.
- Exploded energy.
- Desire right desire
- Expanded consciousness
- The children + teaching
- ART

The weeds so much of what beautiful becomes

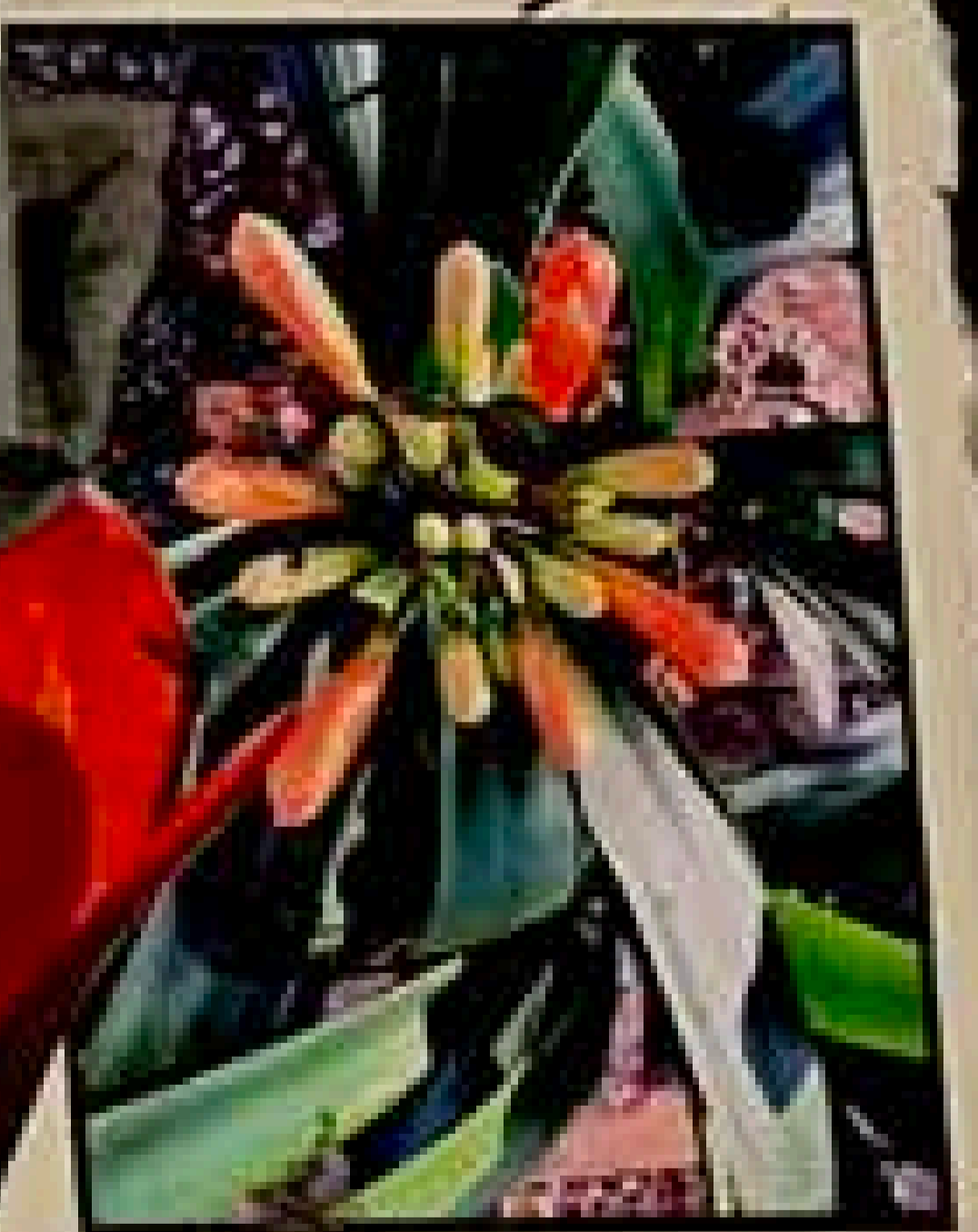
Every obstacle along the way stained.

- Others
- My own:
 - naivete
 - ignorance
 - fears
 - lack of permission
 - doubts
 - fears.



From Mother Earth News:
 Weeds do have their good side. Beneficial weeds can greatly benefit the garden. They hold top soil, pull up water + nutrients, provide food, help control insects + more.

And it goes on and on
 Weeds = good
 As long as kept under control



Even the darkness is not too dark.

Exploring the darkness in my heart. The occasional darkness. It isn't TOO dark.

This cool indifference that arises when overextended or disrespected.

Back when working on ONE BULLET, I had experiential moments of recognition of darkness. And it wasn't "dark" - as in no light, or pure black.

It was something cold, steel blue grey, indifferent, vacuous, expansive ^{to biting} wind. An apathetic, in finite cold blue biting wind. The exact polar opposite of a Van Gogh sunflower painting.



My mostly sun gazing heart has its moments. [when I] Turn away from the sun, or someone pulls a hood

over my head, and I feel that biting wind on the back of my neck and for a moment or two or three, I am lodged in that expansive, vacuous, cold blue place.

It's not where I want to be.

Turn
Pivot
Re-calibrate
Refresh

Back to soak up the light of mercy, compassion, human and love.

Even the darkness is not too dark.

It can feel pitch black and still the hand of love can touch you. Directly. No filters. No bent rays. No reflection.

March 15, 2020

5 days out from Kelly's ankle replacement + surgery. He is eating and sleeping. Pain is under control. So now it is patience + healing. He will be in bed for 8 weeks.

I am cooking with my new pots, LOVE them, and making the kitchen my own again. I gladly gave it to



Kelly after his retirement. It is my turn to wait on him after he cared for me through 3 surgeries.

As long as he continues to manage OK, I am at peace with this arrangement. I have the little bed in Kelly's 'rock' + mineral room, these journals a book to read (Emily Dickinson bio by Lyndall Gordon - LIVES LIKE LOADED GUNS)

Abundant quiet time to



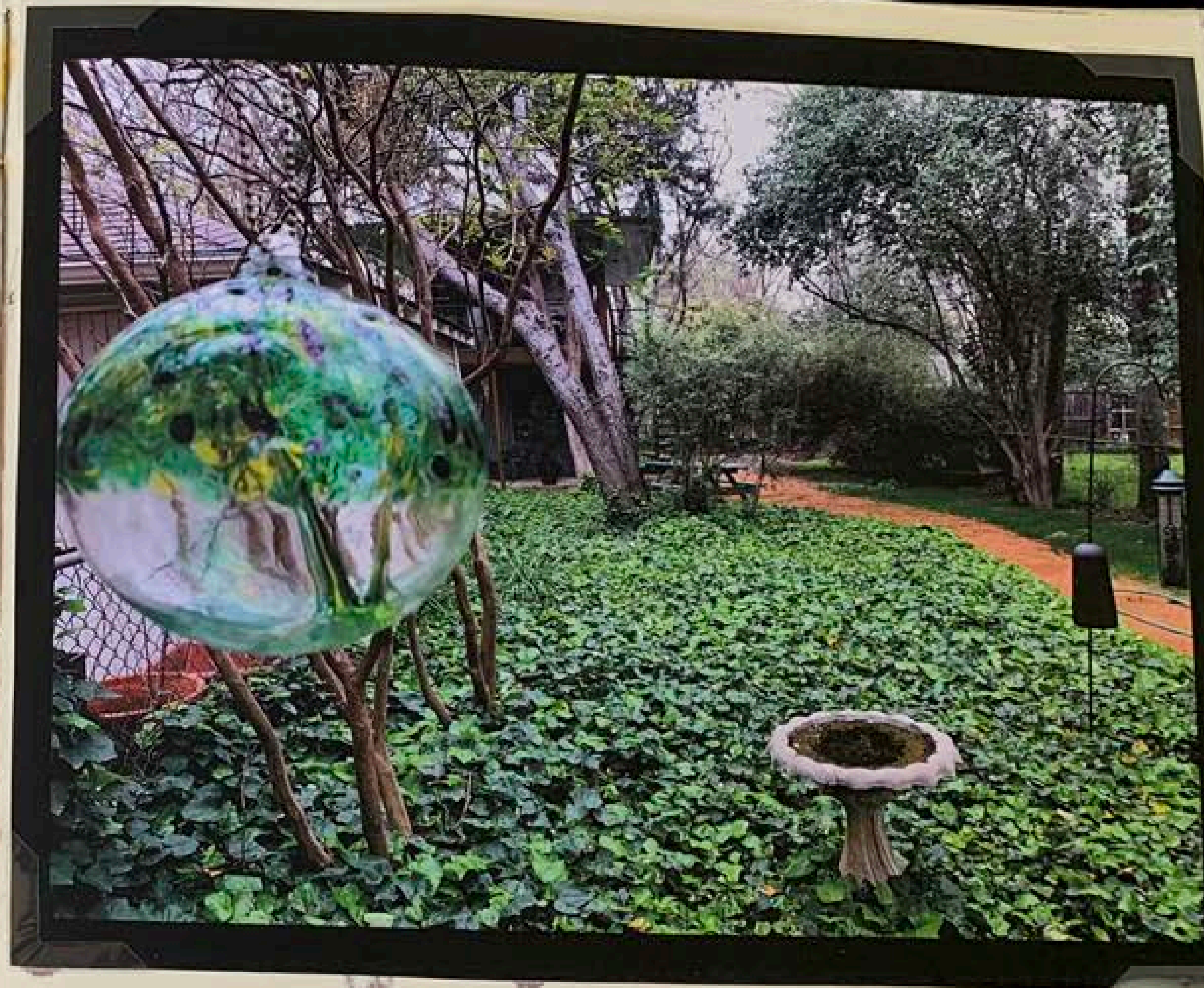
do what I do.

Kelly shows patience + compliance to the routine for the most part. Inevitably, there will come times of frustration + depression.

Eyes on the prize. With two successful surgeries, he will have a balanced gait for the first time in his life.

Today:

Roasted veggies
Straight on this worn
Print lotuses.



March 16, 2020

We all social distance in the wake of the
Kelly rests, eats pretty well, and rests + heals.
lack of sleep, his surgery, caregiving,
in the wake of a possible pandemic.
Artists, actors, musicians, contract employ-
ees, hurt by this.

But meanwhile: Trash collectors, doctors,
take the risk and interest with
While Kelly heals and I cook, what

Energies dispersed + divided:

From one responsibility
to another (Care +
Kelly, 29 pieces)

- Sleep
- Frith away
the rest (talk
shop, etc.)

coronavirus, throat. New territory.
My energies are not quite focused +
Cooking, adjusting 29 pieces plans
So many people will struggle.
airlines, restaurants, and on + on.

nurses, drug store, grocery store workers -
the public.

do I really want to do this year?

Energies focused!

One desire to
SERVE and CREATE

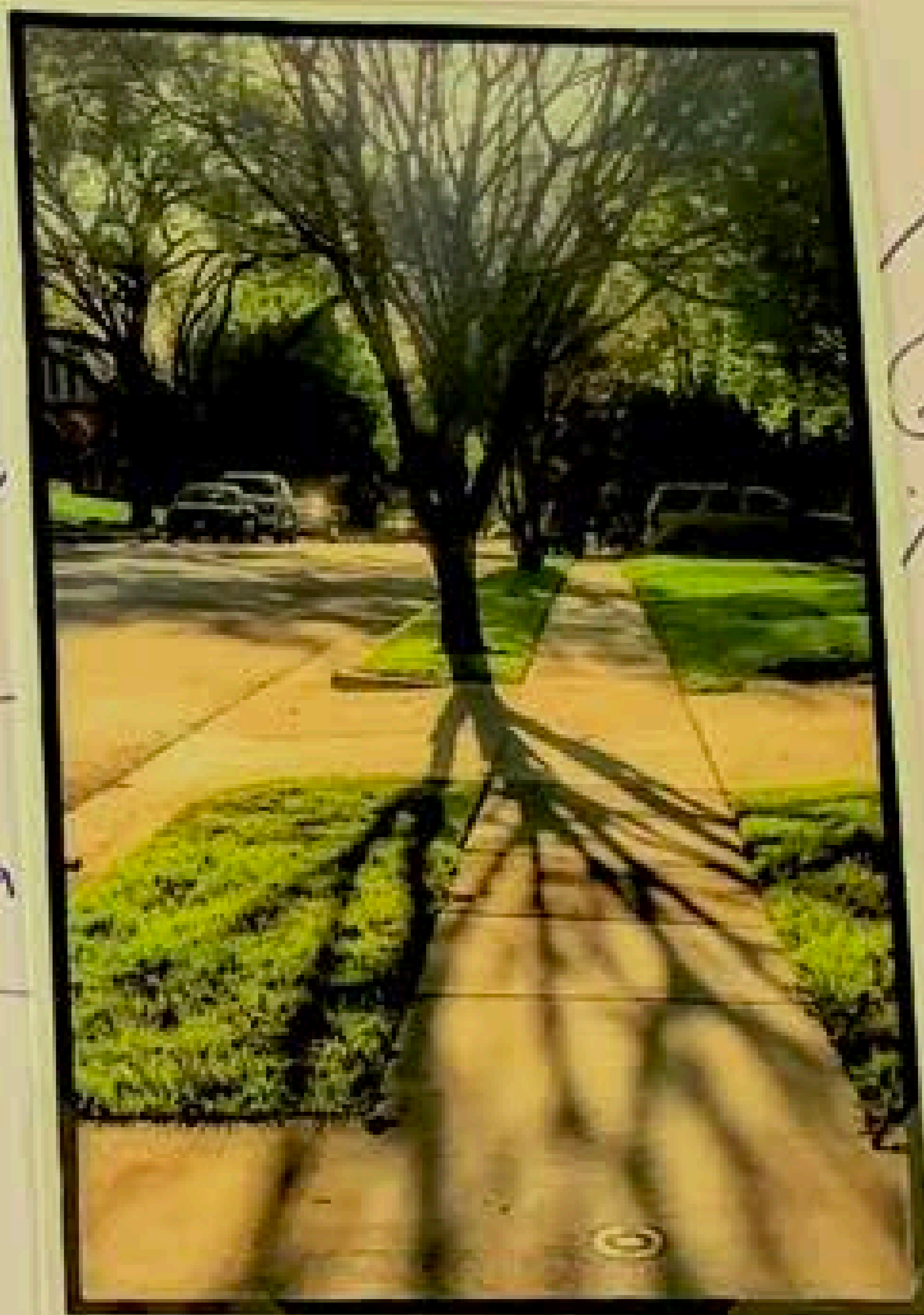
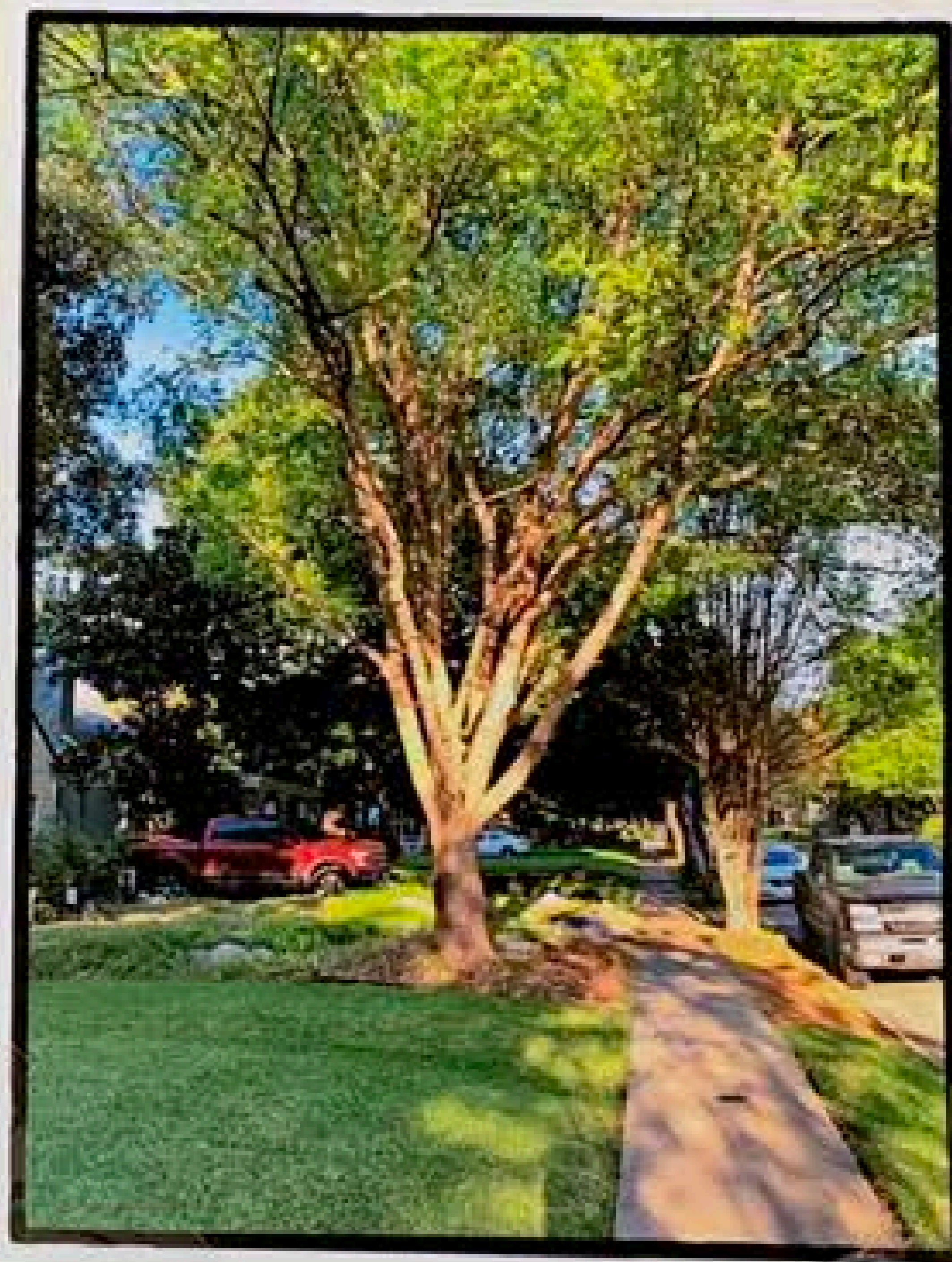
in a continuum



UP there

Side of the
tion Energy Ask.
World is a mirror

- Out here.
Every thing else.



Girt

March 19, 2020

Fear Spreads. We are all "social distancing" "sheltering in place."

Within the shit + the weeds, there is blossoming.

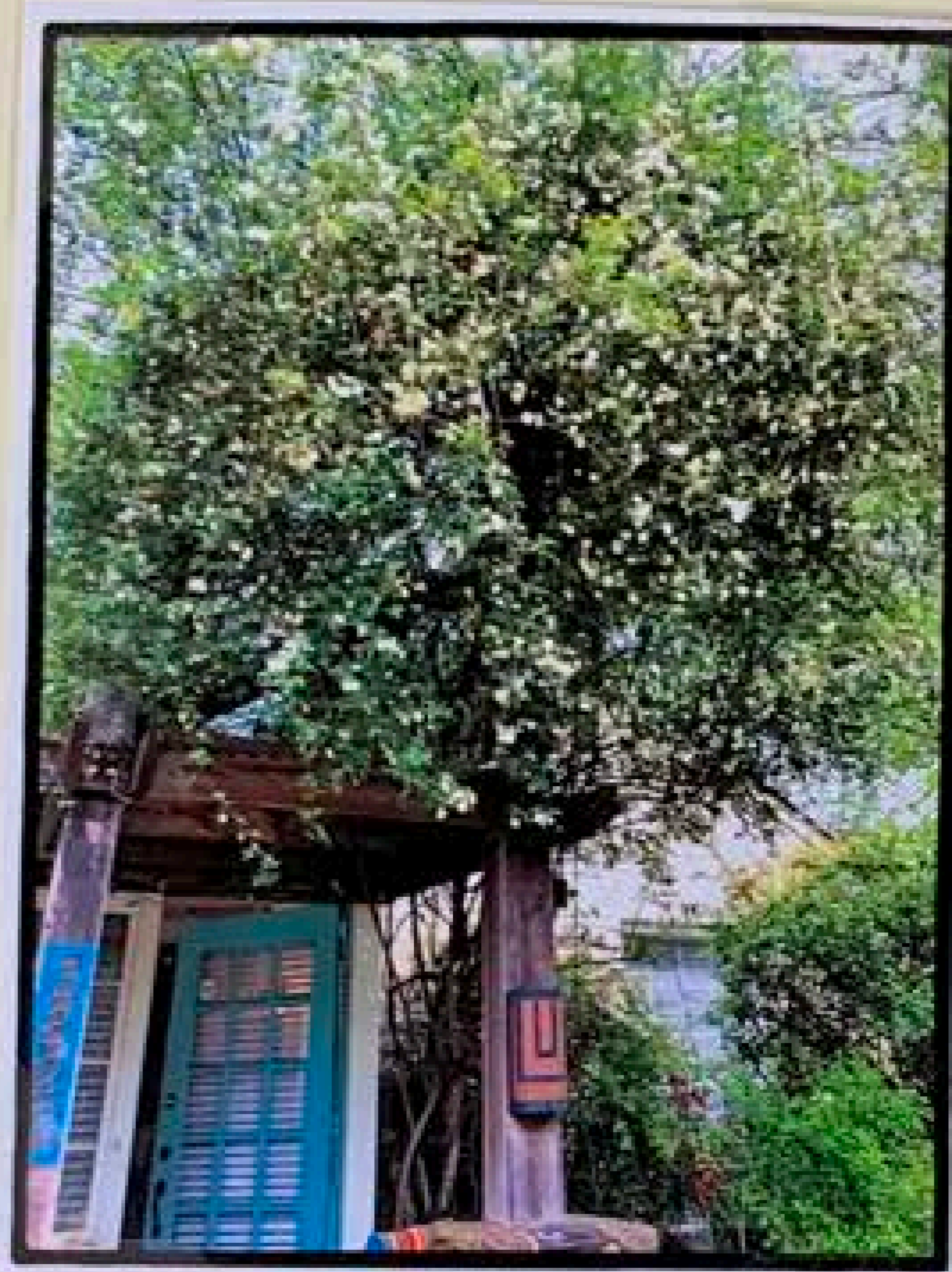
The Shit?

• This coronavirus.
Covid 19.

• People ill, dying, frightened, suffering and losing loved ones.

• People out of work - looking to !!GOVERNMENT!! to bail them out.

(This vile GOVERNMENT - or more exactly - VILE, SELFISH LEADERS.

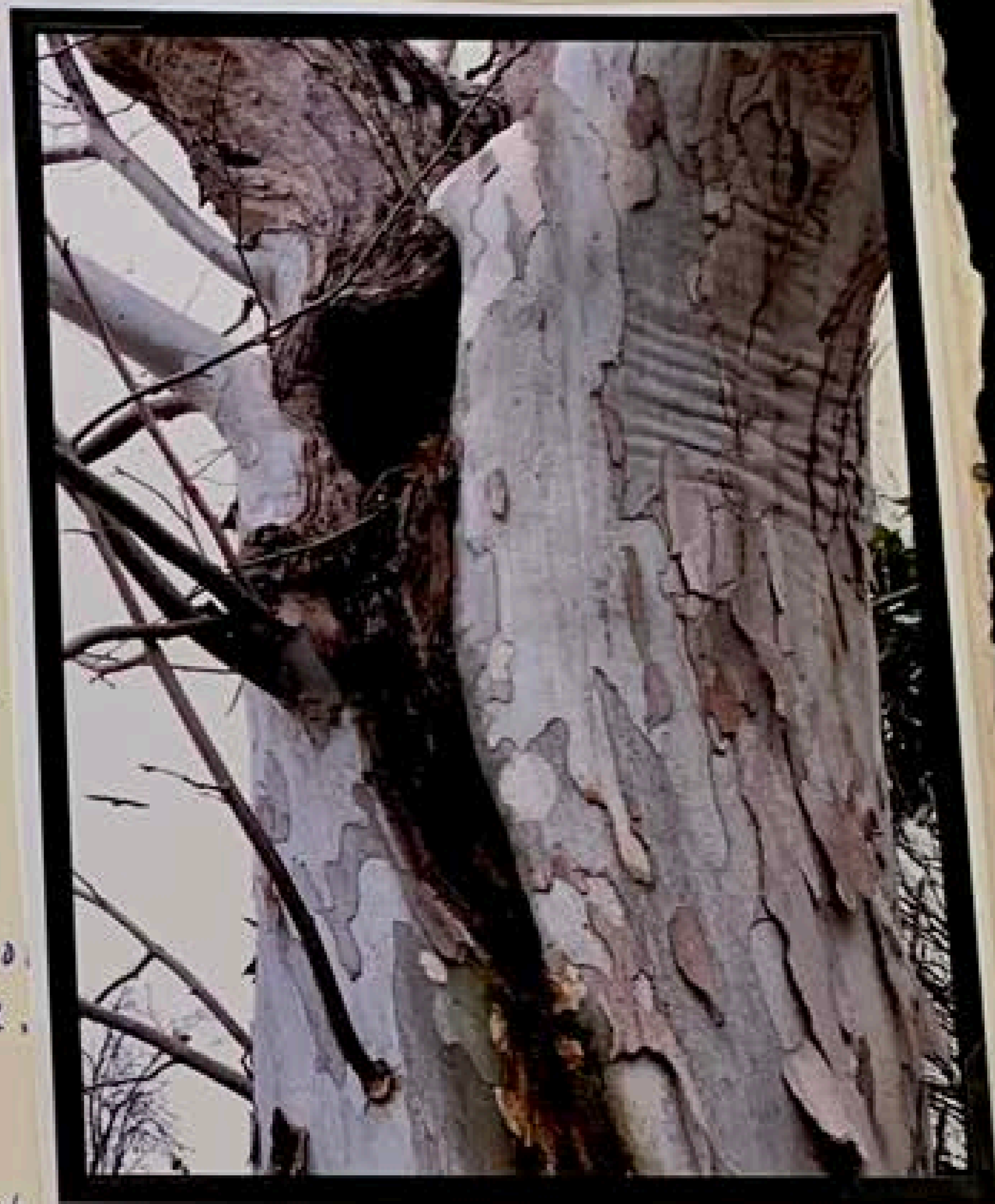


MORE SHIT

- Damaged economy
- Kids' education disrupted, meals
- Kids at home for long days with their abusers.
- and on + on

THE BLOSSOMING

- The quiet
- The slowing down
- The cleaner air
- The time for reflection.
- The gap in accumulate, accumulate.
- Time, to read, Relax, Walk, Cook.
- The galloping mania of humans + development is slowed.



Sunday March 22, 2020 (4-2's)
Quadruple 2.

Grey days Grey days

The gloomy skies almost every
day this year reflect the strange
foreboding in the time of pandemic

A year that began in communal
unity at Rafi + Wahreda's on



9.23.20

Kelly had a great check up today. X-rays look "perfect." The six incision sites were not infected or swollen. The huge bandage came off and a sleek fiberglass cast went on - water triggered. Cool.



Phoebe asked for my thoughts on her financial aid package. She asked specific questions.

I have the experience of 29 Pieces
The questions to ask:

Questions + use Phoebe as the example.

Begin with a project budget.

① How much money do I need?

- a. For what?
- b. Have I thoughtfully figured out my need?
- c. Can I express the \$ amount clearly?
 - x for rent
 - x for food
 - x for health care

What is my need?

② Why? What is my story about this need? What compelling, engaging way can I tell this story so that another person cares?



③ ~~what~~ are the possible sources of income to fill financial need?

a. A loan - what are the best sources for a loan?

b. Go deep get real creative.

~~1. Earning income~~
What might that look like?

- My examples:

29 - K&B prints to pay for Africa trip

29 - Love of vit sale of framed art.

29 - Programming for school for pregnant teens.

29 - Dallas Teacher Speak Shortfall.



It's much easier to find one person to write a \$20,000 check than 200 people to write a \$100 check.

④ Assess your strengths, your assets.

In Phoebe's case:
① Yale has given their stamp of approval.

② The work + usage of the work - to sell originals on prints.

③ Phoebe. Your presence, your intelligence, your talent, your skill with words, your looks, your kindness.

FOR PHOEBE: MONEY AND THE ASK

Before we start, remember:

There are a lot of people who have a lot of money. The resources are always out there.

How creative can you be in tracking it down?

Your work is very good ... exceptional. You also possess physical and verbal gifts.

People will want to be associated with you.

crowd sourcing but it has worked well for some.

① How do I capitalize on what I have?

② Come up with a plan. The brilliant idea. Prepare.

- Who can I approach?

- Who has the resources?

- Who believes in me?

- Who do I want to go on this ride with me?

- Do your homework on the person you are approaching?

↳ What does every person want to talk about more than anything else? themselves.

Develop a relationship with the person who signed this letter.

Adrift! A little boat adrift!
And night is coming down!
Will no one guide a little boat
Unto the nearest town?

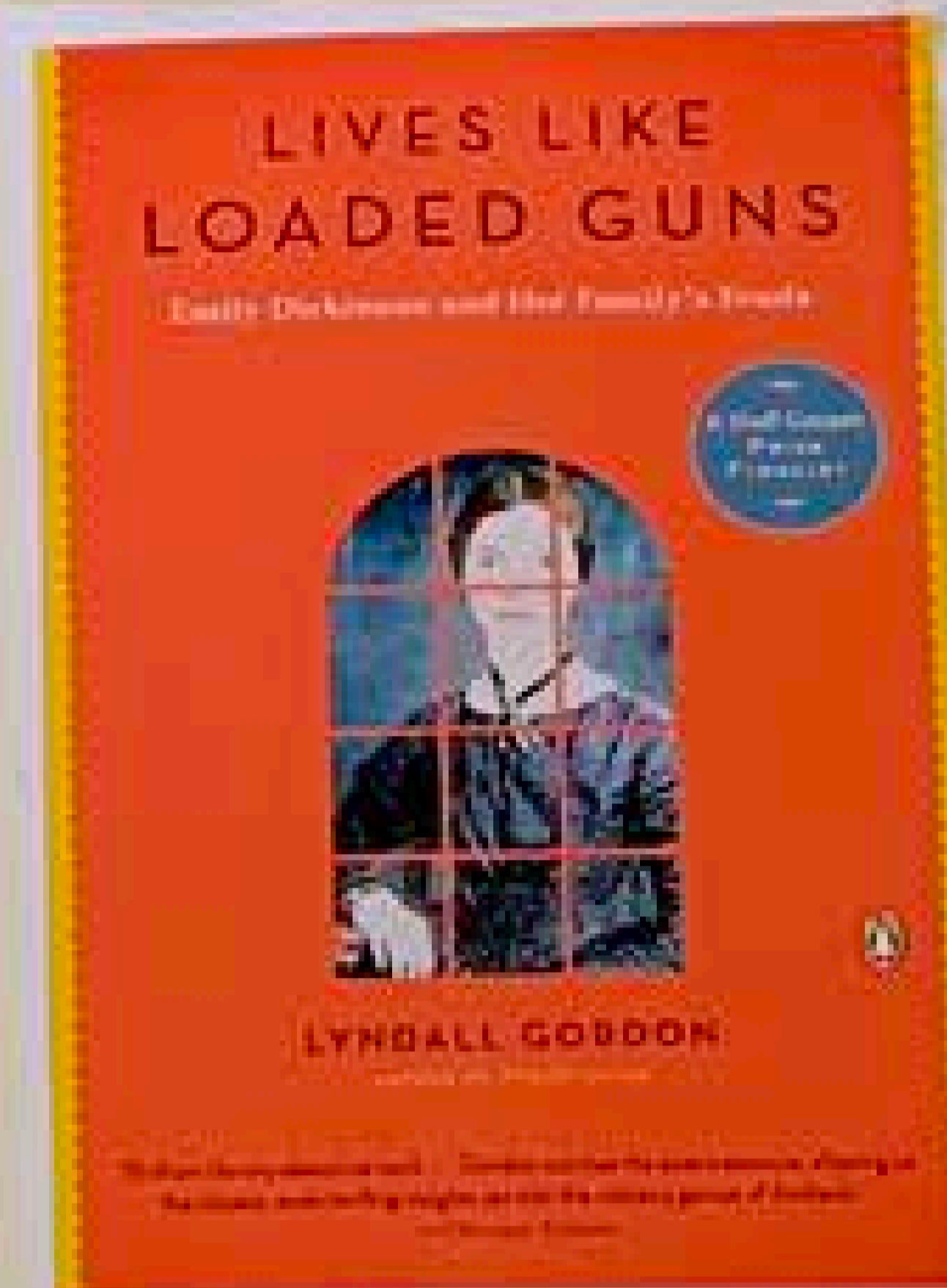
So Sailors say -- on yesterday --
Just as the dusk was brown
One little boat gave up its strife
And gurgled down and down.

So angels say -- on yesterday --
Just as the dawn was red
One little boat -- o'erspent with gales --
Retrimmed its masts -- redecked its sails --
And shot -- exultant on!

- F.6 (1858)

Avoid making enemies,

The poem itself has 'no power to die' — it's an immortal power, wielded by a killer eye and thumb, that is the control art imposes on the ephemeral, the mortal, passing across its field of vision.



My Life had stood - a Loaded Gun -
In Corners - till a Day
The Owner passed - identified -
And carried Me away -

And now We roam in Sovereign Woods -
And now We hunt the Doe -
And every time I speak for Him
The Mountains straight reply -

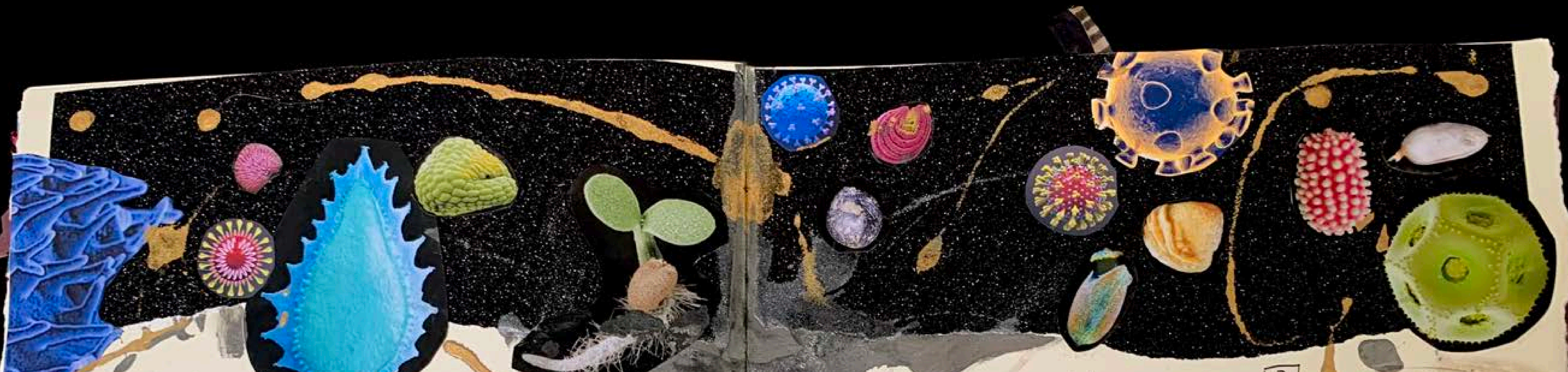
And do I smile, such cordial light
Upon the Valley glow -
It is as a Vesuvian face
Had let it's pleasure through -

And when at Night - Our good Day done -
I guard My Master's Head -
'Tis better than the Eider Duck's
Deep Pillow - to have shared -

To foe of His - I'm deadly foe -
None stir the second time -
On whom I lay a Yellow Eye -
Or an emphatic Thumb -

Though I than He - may longer live
He longer must - than I -
For I have but the power to kill,
Without - the power to die -

March 28, 2020
The local lockdown parallels our lockdown here for Kelly's recuperation. The ankle is healing. So far, so good.
My what defines this time — domestically — quotidian nationally/globaly — from artistically — journals, Emily Dickinson



Questions:

When life as we know it may be coming to an end, species dying, virus spreading, consumerism out of hand, my own body in incremental slip slides, what do I do?

Be like a dying tree and burst forth with seeds

Be a public voice

Be a voice in my circle of influence the neighborhood, the city

Listen for a call from God

Continue doing what I am doing 29 pieces. My one thing. Message it.

Prepare to live to see
 Phoebe grow another
 25-30 years
 Prepare to die
 Retreat to art / the
 studio

Continue to love to live
 for those around me

3.29.20
 This journal began as a storytelling device about
 the evolution of 29 Pieces, 20 years since
 the murder; 15 years since the beginning
 of 29 Pieces. The shit/manure metaphor was
 to be the overriding "magic rock."

SHIT/
manure = the murder

weeds = obstacles/
silver lining in
the weeds

Seeds = ideas, art,
values, kids,
teachers,
schools

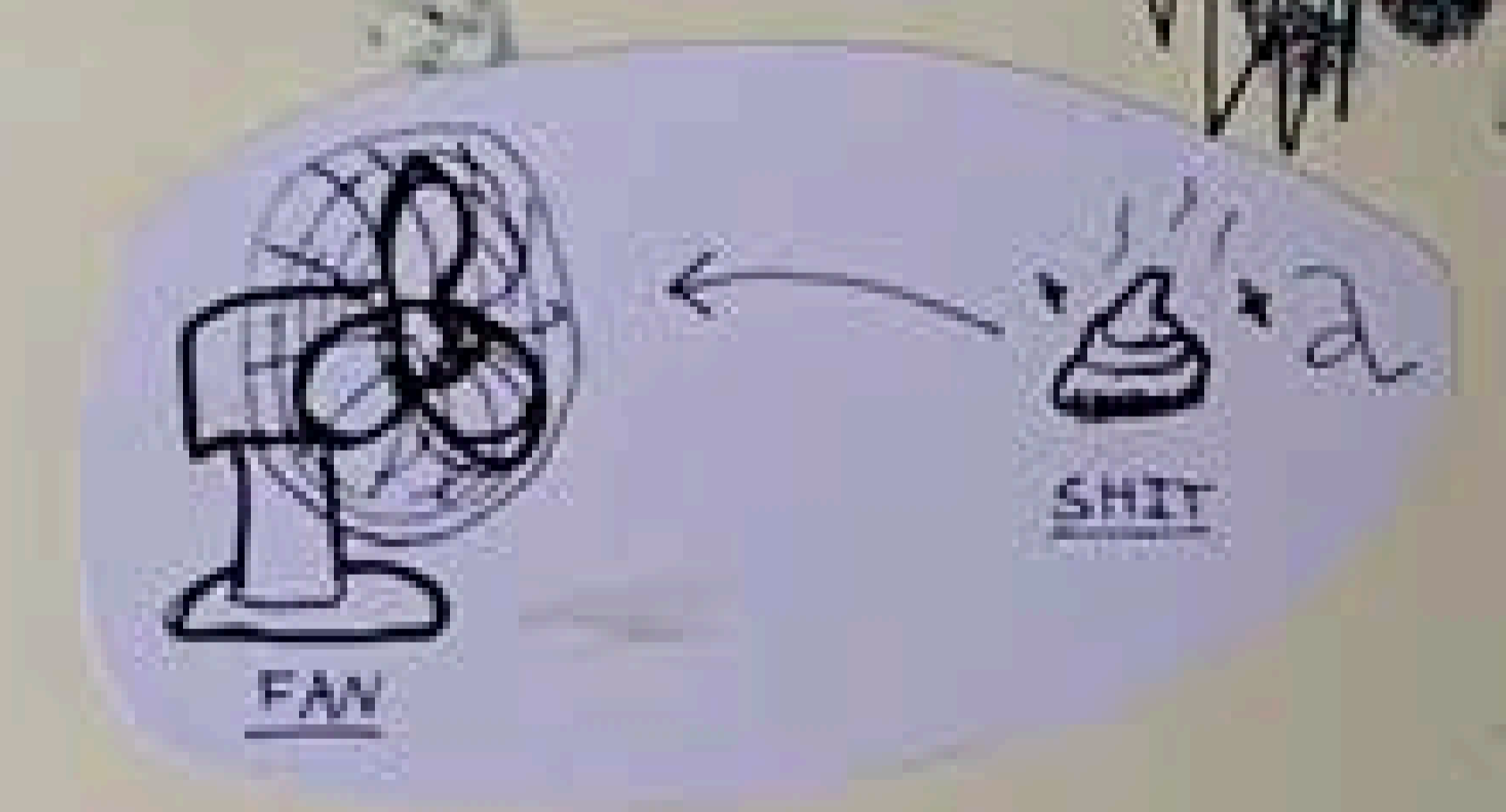
Weather = Changing
climate/
opinions

Growth = all the fragile/
susceptible/
vulnerable
stages.

Blossoming = now beauty
of the org.



But
Thru.



CORONAVIRUS / COVID-19

Globally, the shit really hit the fan.
Quite literally. Whether it was Mother
Nature, a deliberate act of bio-warfare,
a stupid accident or ——— what?

It started in Wuhan, China. Deaths
overstretched hospitals. The shit hit
the fan and it ^{blew all the way} was carried to
Iran, Italy, South Korea, the U.S.
and pretty much all over the globe.
Trump — like other authoritarian,
ego/self driven 'leaders' — downplayed
it, had dismantled public health
institutions. So we are in crisis.
And it becomes interesting to

categorize. This is the shit.
 This is the seed.
 This is the weed.
 This is the hail storm.
 This is the freeze.
 This is the sun.
 This is the wind.
 This is the seedling.
 This is the plant.
 This is the blossom.
 and again This is the seed.
 This is the weed.
 This is the blossom.

And the questions:

What grows in the wake of a
shit storm like this?

Do only the strong survive?

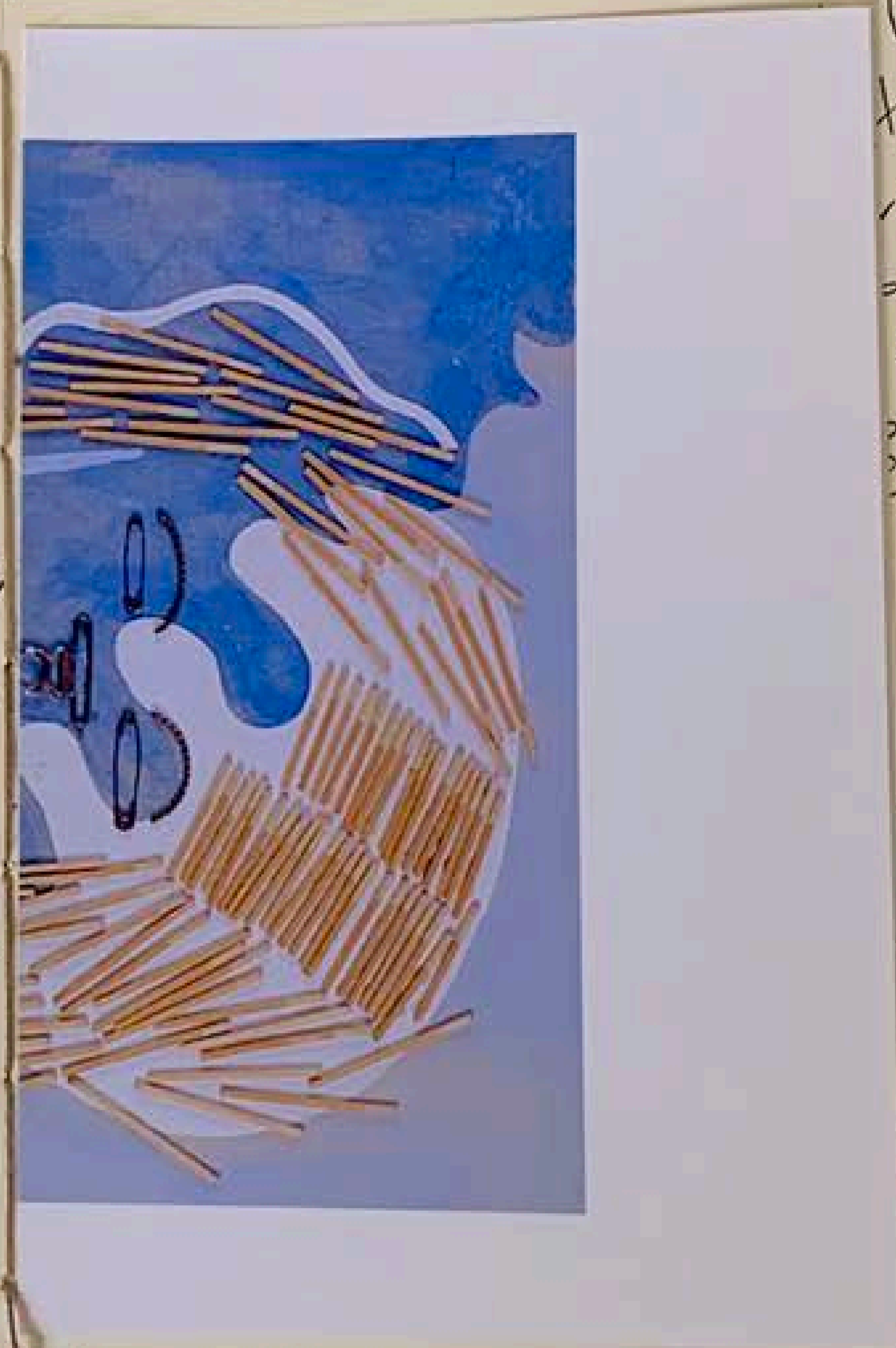
What are the components of
"STRONG"? RELENTLESSNESS?

ADAPTATION?	GRIT?	DESIRE?
GRACE?	MONEY?	HEALTH?
FAITH?	CREATIVITY?	COURAGE?
LOVE?	WILL?	CREATIVITY?
GOOD CHEER?	RESOURCEFULNESS?	STRENGTH?
HUMOR?	MIGHT?	RUTHLESSNESS?

the GREATEST of these is —

- 1993 ABSOLUT
- 1993 Dad's illness
- 1994 Death
- 1994 Vancouver
- 1996 Mom's Death
- 2000 In Mom's Eye
- 2001 Murder
- Africa
- One Bullet
- Peace One Day
- I'm 53
- 29 Pieces
- the art
- Meditation
- All that is 29 pieces

Times Sq. 3.29.20
 ABSOLUT
 BE an angel
 I'd hoped that in this book I could tell the story of these last 15 years of 29 Pieces, and the 12 years - the tumultuous, heartbreaking, tragic, fruitful, intense, sometimes joyful 12 years from 1993 - 2005, leading up to the birth of the organization.
 It may be too much for right now - this moment in time. I'm having difficulty focusing on the thread of my story line.



le
 the thick of the mid 19 pandemic + war. And also, the occupation of caring for Kelly and keeping us well.
 The 'Blossoming' was to be a celebration of sixts - over 100 obstacles, etc. But the image all the manure it fed my story - mingling with greater story going

-Love - How deep is it?

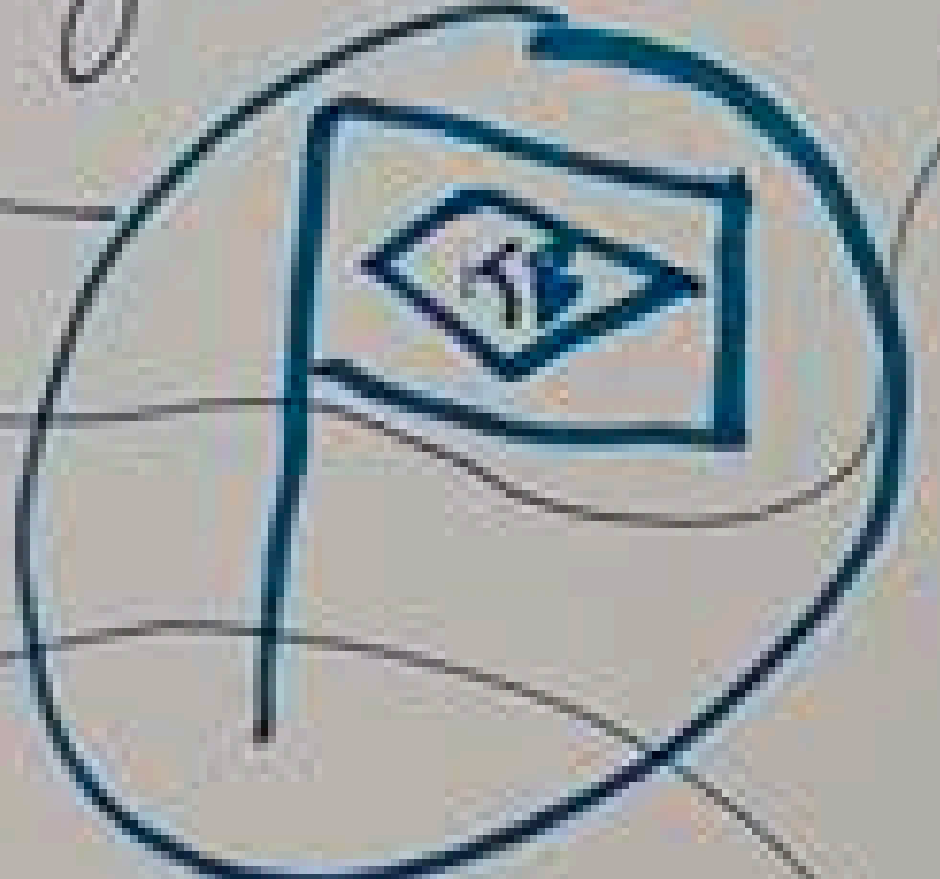
- ABSOLUT
- 1993 Dad's illness
 - 1994 Death
 - 1999 Vancouver
 - 1996 Mom's Death
 - 2000 In Mom's Eye
 - 2001 Murder
 - Africa
 - One Bullet
 - Peace One Day
 - 29 pieces the art
 - Meditation
 - All that is 29 pieces

Times Sq.
ABSOLUT
BC a man

- Love - How deep is it

WHAT COUNTRY DO I CLAIM?

SPirit
SOUL

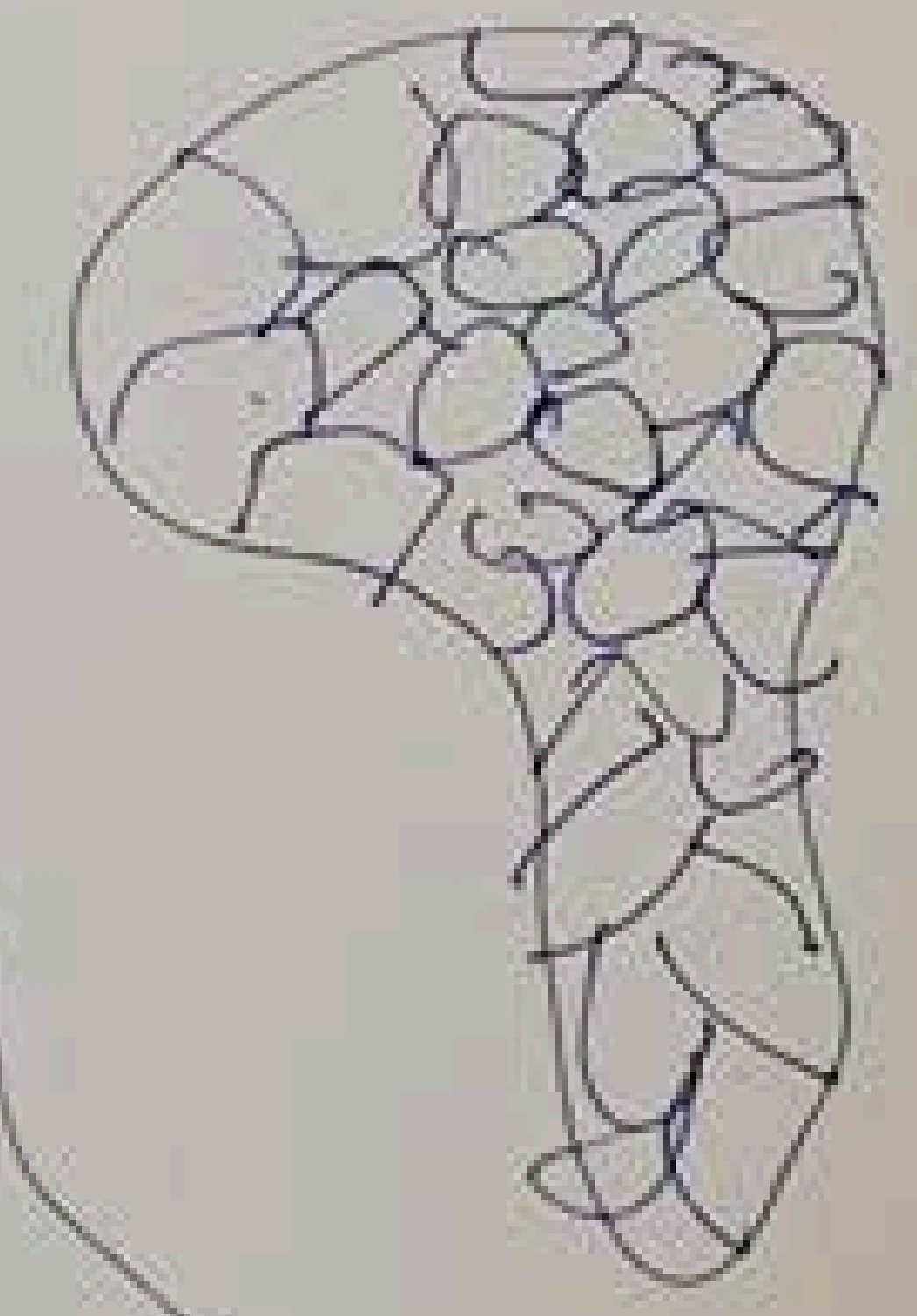


- Gaia -
The earth

President
U.S.A.
Endless aggression
Capitalism
Political divisions

Mexico
The TRIBAL way

Europe



le the thick of the
rid 19 pandemic +
ar. And also, the
occupation of caring
on Kelly and keeping
of us well.

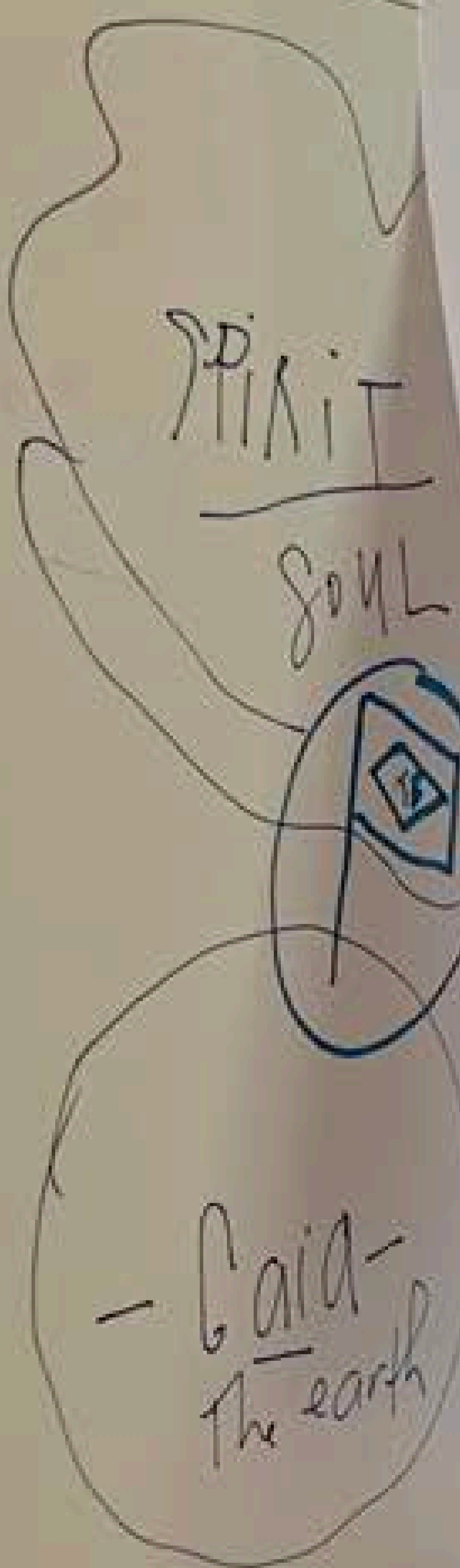
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 - Meditation
 - All that is 29 pieces

-Love - How deep is it?

9.29.20
 Times Sq. I'd hoped
 ABSOLUT
 BE an ANGEL book
 The story of
 15 years of
 and the 12
 tumultuous, b
 tragic, fru
 sometimes joy
 from 1993 -
 up to the bi
 organization
 It may
 so right no
 in time. I'm
 difficulty fo
 thread of n

WHAT



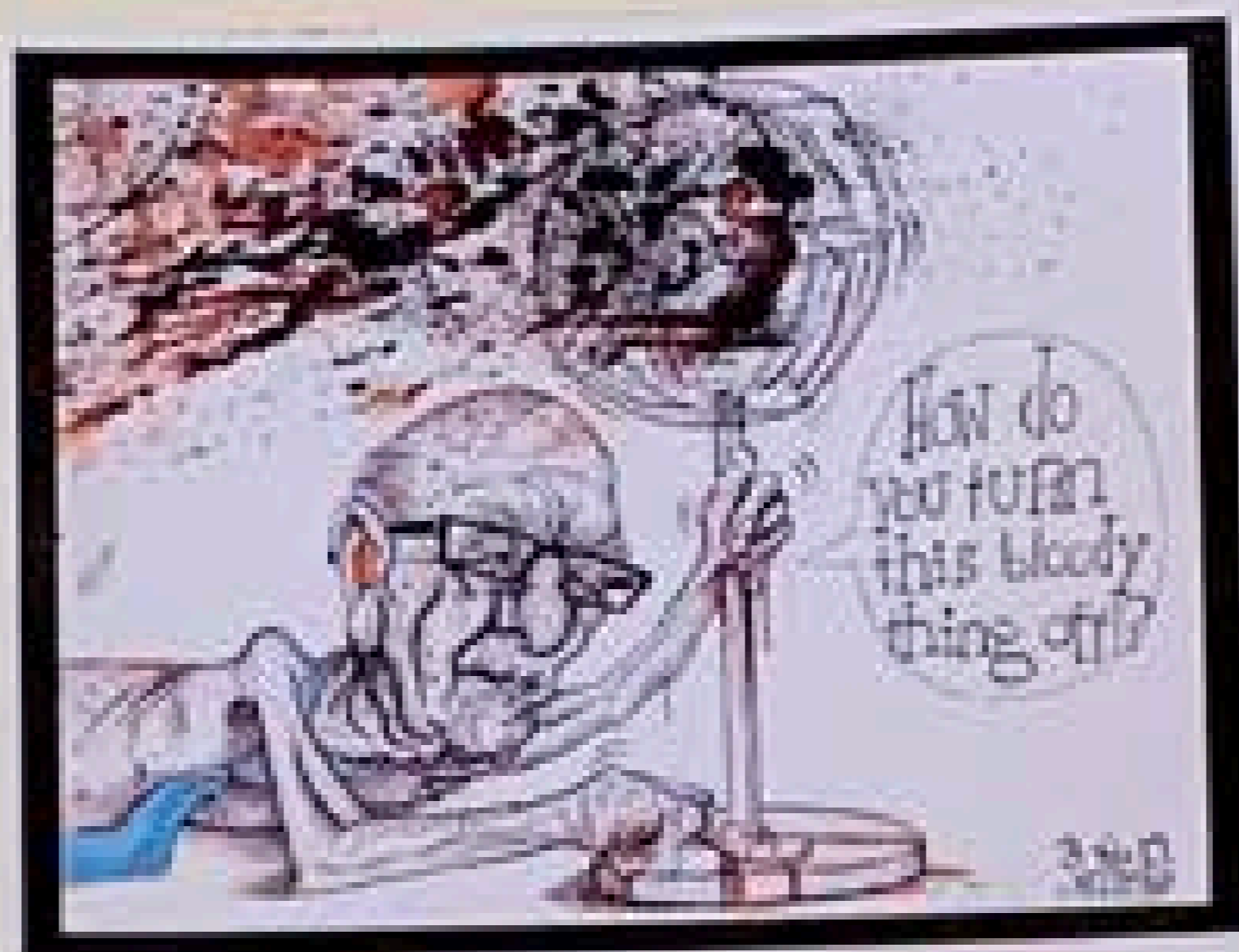
Francis Picabia collage with found objects

while
 In the thick of the
 Covid 19 pandemic +
 fear. And also, the
 preoccupation of caring
 for Kelly and keeping
 both of us well.

The 'Blossoming'
 idea was to be a celebra-
 tion of sirs - over
 tragedy, obstacles, etc.
 But the image
 of all the manure
 that fed my story
 is co-mingling with
 this greater story going
 on,

My story has moved
through its arc and
gone airborne.
Reached the other
shore.

But in the
world now, the dumping
is angering, and its
frightening, and the
on front of all this
will be told in so
many stories, yet
what will its impact
be on the greater
organism? Our earth?



END of May 2020,
Demonstrations.
Murder of George Floyd.
More shit than
we imagined has
hit the fan.
Will there be
seeds of something
better?

~~That's what I want to~~
Will 'we' learn?
Will 'we' write a
triumphant, celebrating
story for ourselves?
a new Renaissance?

Sometimes I think that
the greatest thing any of
us can do is to stand in
awe of the beauty.

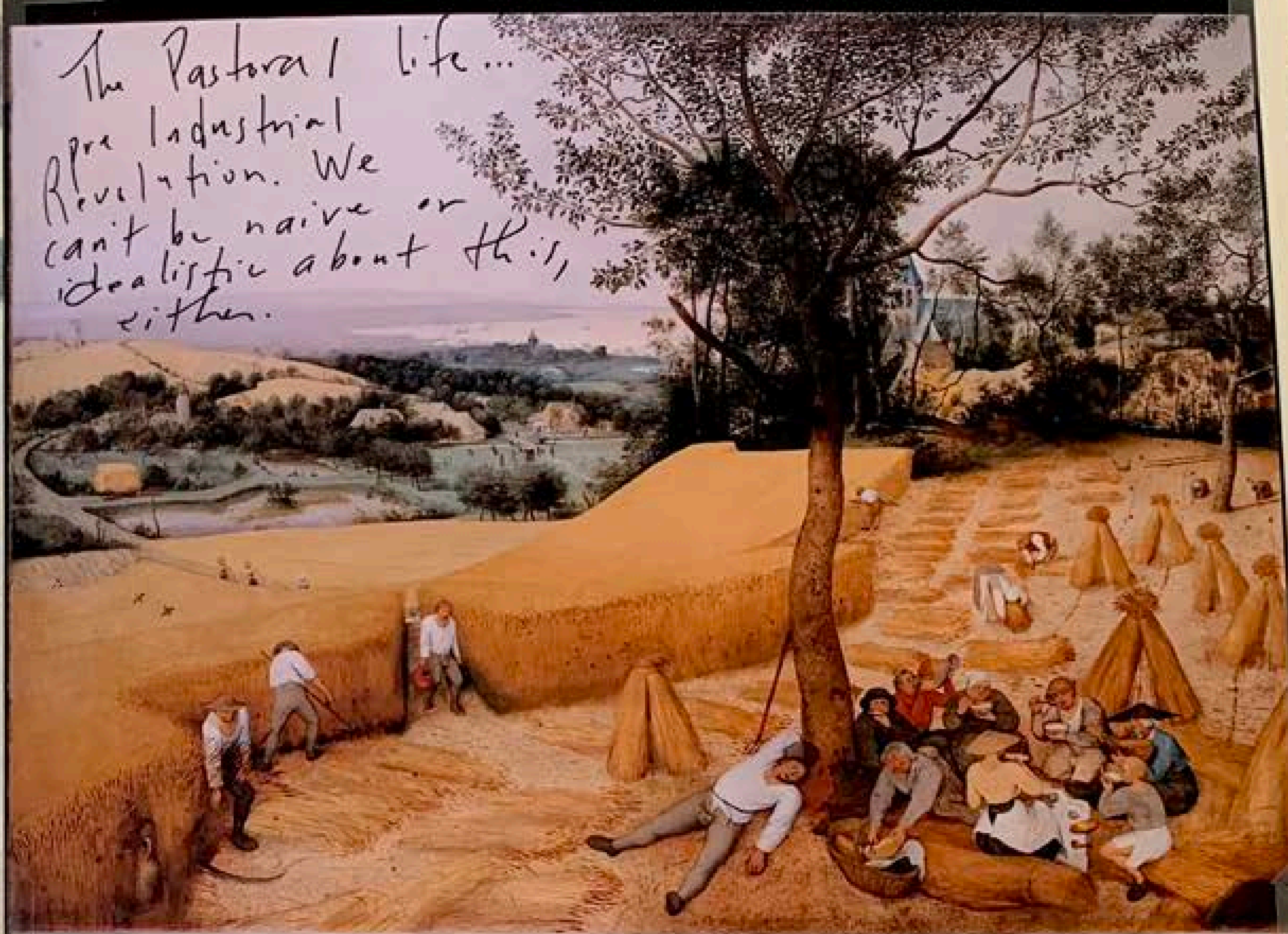
To look. Really look
and appreciate.
To be completely humbled
by the wing of a moth.

So. A grain of sand.
A drop of water.
An egg.
A seed.

While I may look back at 15 years
of 29 Piers as a great blossoming,
and I may privately stop
and celebrate what
we've accomplished +
overcome, current
realities demand
a (both) broader and
outward turned focus,
as well as an inventory
of inner resources.

What's happening in New
York - the beloved city -
is heartbreaking.

The Pastoral life...
Pre Industrial
Revolution. We
can't be naive or
idealistic about this,
either.



Nov 2019
Nov 2020
Aid 1



FROM BREWSTER

and here too these last months — a clusterfuck of incompetence, wrong people in responsible positions, ego, blame, tragedy, pain, suffering, loss, death, division, class warfare, utter madness.

KELLY
BETSY
POPPY
LYNDA
KAREN I. + PAUL
LINDA M. DUNN
KATZ
WILL RICHY
JOE STAKES
MARIA

GANDRA
Jane
Shelley
Phiebe
Lorraine
Janelle
Candy
Bill + Linda
Janelle/Lia
Richard Graham

Gretchen
Francie
Viola Mogen
Debby K.
Sibyl Dana
Linda Mc-
Lemon Dunn

What Can We Learn From the Art of Pandemics Past? - The New York Times Magazine <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/08/magazine/art-coronavirus.html>

The New York Times Style Magazine <https://nyti.ms/2x2e4cF>

What Can We Learn From the Art of Pandemics Past?

From the playground game ring-around-the-rosy to the short stories of Edgar Allan Poe, the scars of illnesses throughout history are still visible today.

By Megan O'Grady

Published April 8, 2020 Updated April 11, 2020

When the pandemic hit, we began gathering around the hearths of our screens, for news, or in solidarity with friends and family, for the cold solace of a cocktail-hour booze-Zoom, even for preschool, the grid of domestic scenes and small, hopeful faces meant to relieve us of our isolation somehow only succeeding in reinforcing it. (Even those of us who tend naturally toward solitary endeavors find ourselves running low on interiority these days.) Under normal circumstances, illness is a largely private event; even a common disease is suffered individually. But a pandemic isolates us collectively, as the grid illustrates almost too perfectly; we aren't alone in our loneliness. When we Zoom, we "connect" along our metaphoric edges. We've existed in such grids for a while without really acknowledging it, one might argue, imprisoned in our small geometries of perspective. Grid life seems all too easy a metaphor for a society stripped bare, exposed for what it has become. But that's the thing about the grid; live with it long enough and one forgets it's there, until the next catastrophe.

We will all have our own metaphors and images to make meaning of this time: art or reportage or our own witnessing, the visuals that endure, reflecting us back to ourselves. We don't yet have the image, the one that stands for everything that went wrong — the equivalent of the little migrant girl weeping as her mother is arrested, or the young black woman in a

life."
E-
19
5107.

Now ge. + id. i.



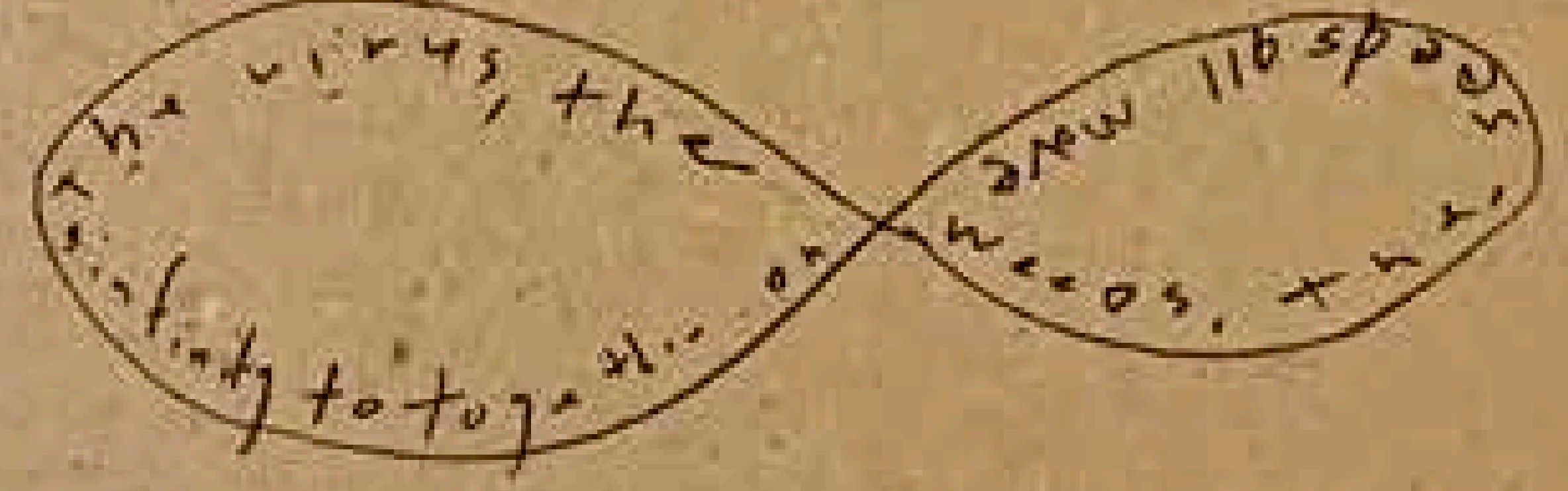
FROM BREXIT

and here too these last months a a last tangle of incompetence, wrong people in responsible positions, ego, blames, tragedy, pain, suffering, loss, death, division, class war far beyond madness.

- KELLY
- BETSY
- POPPY
- LYNDA
- KAREN I. PAUL
- LINDA M. DUNN
- KATZ
- WILL RICHEY
- JOE STOKES
- MARIA DOLORES
- HOPP
- MAURICIO N.
- CINDY
- JENNIFER
- CHARME + DWIGHT
- ROSEMARY

- SANDRA
- JANE
- SHELLY
- PHIEBE
- LUCY
- JANELLE
- CANDY
- BILL + LINDA
- JANELLE/LA
- RICHARD GRAHAM
- KIRBY + JIHAN

- GRETCHEN
- FRANCIE
- VIOL. MEGAN
- DEBBY K.
- SIBYL DANA
- LINDA MUR
- LEMON DUNN



PAPER ARTS

"I am an immortal being with a million interconnections with all of life." E.E.

CONTACT in the time of COVID 19 YET some HOLD HOPE, HOLD COMPASSION.

Are

there

acceptable

places

FROM WHICH

INSPIRATION

BLOWS?

Acceptable

Not Acceptable

OR

DOES

IT

JUST

BLOW?

