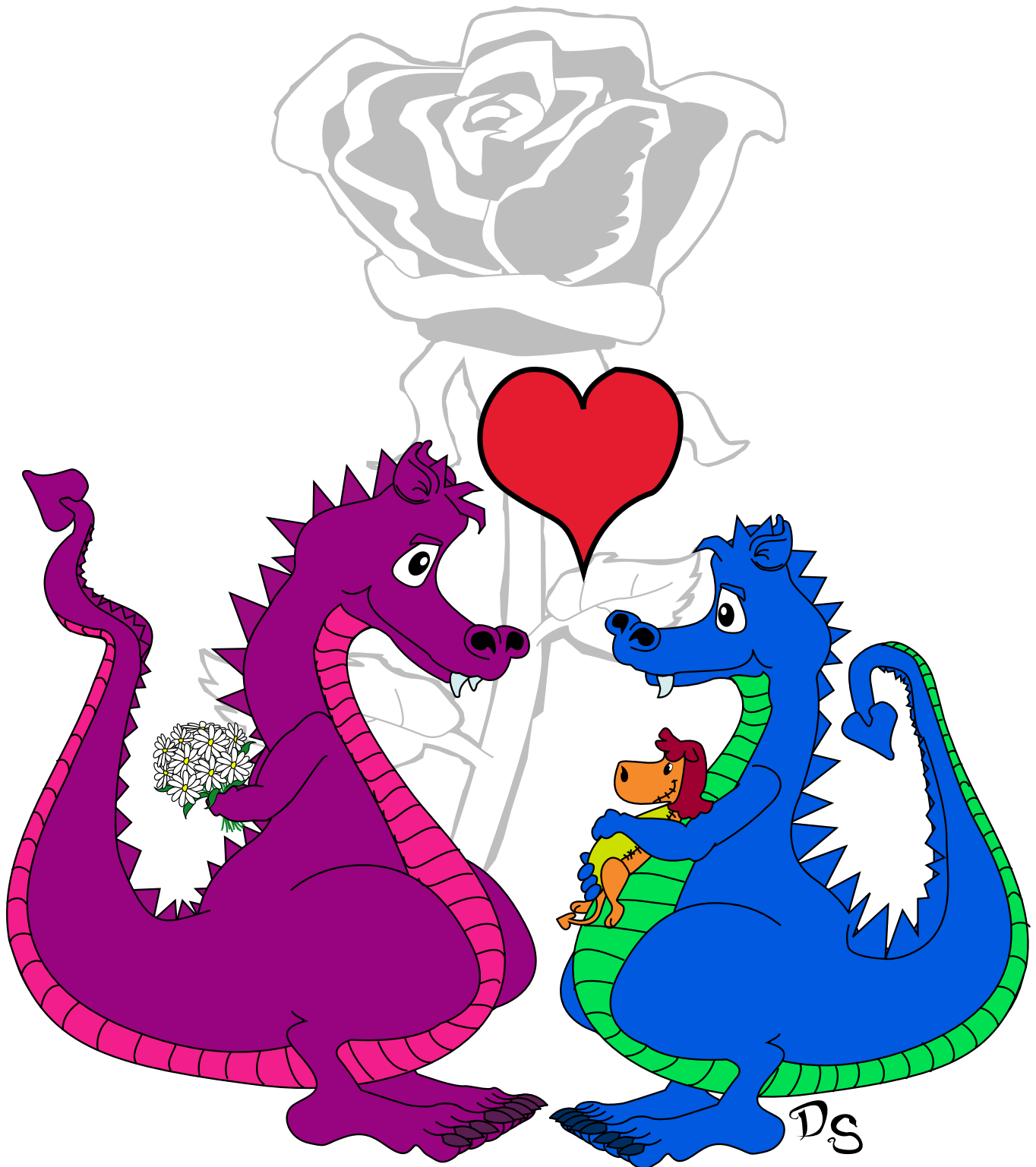


Airy Faerie - Special Edition

The Language of Flowers - A to Z

Collected and reprinted from the Ostara through Samhain Issues, 2004



The Language of Flowers - A to Z

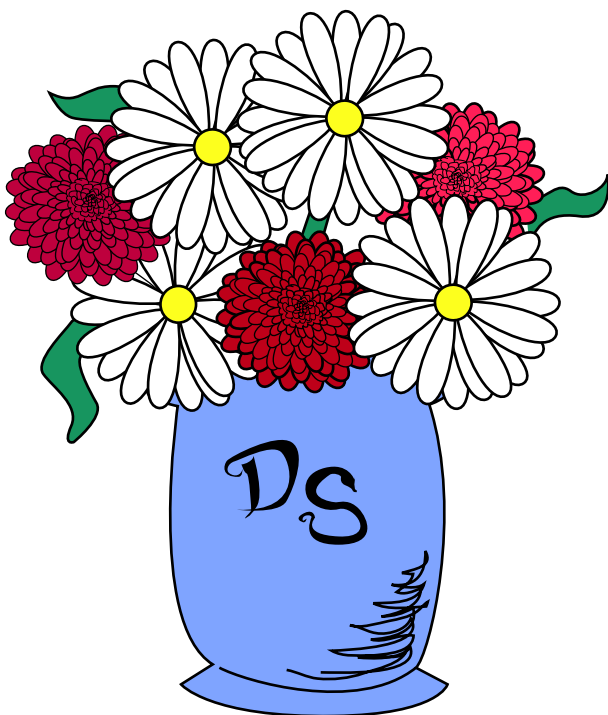
Compiled by Orpheus

Over the centuries, people have been associating different emotions, feelings and sentiments with flowers. If someone wants to convey “love” in a spectacular way, we immediately think of sending roses. But how do you send your secret lover flowers and still convey the message that your partner suspects? How about combining Acacia (secret love) with Oleander (caution) - that conveys the essential message.

Many of these flowers and their associated meanings are very well known as is the case of the red rose. Some may surprise you. How many of you think of yellow roses as being the symbol of friendship? Well, that is the modern interpretation by florists (and I should know I was one for twelve years) that help sell roses when the customer isn't sure if they want to send such a strong message by sending red roses. The traditional message conveyed with yellow roses is a decrease in love or even hatred. Not exactly the same thing, huh?

As we move into the growing season, I thought it would be fun to look at some of these as we plan what to plant in our gardens. When using flowers on an altar, it would be good planning to make sure that the associated meaning of the flower works in harmony with the energies being raised.

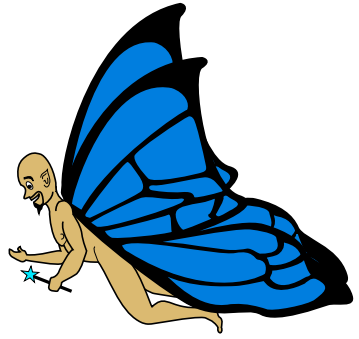
A little disclaimer here: If you have different associative meanings to flowers, that's ok. When raising energy, as long as you have an understanding of why you picked the flowers you did, that's what is important. And it is fine to say that you just liked the color. This is list is not meant to limit you, just open you to possibilities.



Acacia	Secret love; chaste love; beauty in retirement; elegance; friendship; hope
Acanthus	The fine arts, or artifice
Acorn	Nordic symbol of life and immortality
Agapanthus	Love letters
Agrimony	Gratitude; thankfulness
Allspice	Compassion
Almond Blossom	Hope; lover's charm
Aloe	Grief
Alstroemeria	Devotion; friendship
Alyssum	Worth beyond beauty
Amaranth	Fidelity; Immortality
Amaranth, Globe	Unchangeable
Amaryllis	Pride; Timidity; splendid beauty
Ambrosia	Love returned
Anemone (general)	Unfading love; truth; sincerity; anticipation; forsaken; fading hope
Anemone (field)	Sickness
Anemone (garden)	Forsaken
Angelica	Inspiration
Aniseed	Restoration of youth
Apple blossom	Preference; good fortune
Arbor Vitae	True friendship
Arbutus	Thee only do I love
Artemisia	Dignity
Aster	Love; daintiness
Aster (China)	Variety
Auricula	Painting
Azalea	Take care of yourself for me, fragile passion, temperance, Chinese symbol of womanhood
Baby's Breath	Everlasting love; happiness; pure in heart
Bachelor Button	Celibacy; single blessedness; hope in love
Balm	Sympathy
Balm (gentle)	Pleasantry
Balm of Gilead	Cure; relief
Balsam	Impatience
Basil	Best Wishes, Love
Bay Leaf	Strength
Bee Ophrys	Error
Begonia	Beware; Dark thoughts
Bells Of Ireland	Good luck
Betony	Surprise
Bilberry	Treachery
Bird Of Paradise	Magnificence
Birdsfoot Trefoil	Revenge
Bittersweet	Truth
Blackthorn	Difficulty
Bluebell	Humility; constancy
Bluebottle (century)	Delicacy
Borage	Bluntness; Courage
Bouquet of withered flowers	Rejected love
Bramble	Lowliness; envy

Broom Humility; neatness
 Bugloss Falsehood
 Bulrush Docility
 Burdock Rudeness
 Burnet A merry heart
 Buttercup Cheerfulness; childishness; riches; ingratitude
 Cactus Endurance; warmth; grandeur
 Calendula Joy
 Calycanthus Benevolence
 Camellia Admiration; perfection; good luck gift to a man; loveliness
 Camellia (Japonica) Excellence
 Camellia (pink) Longing for you
 Camellia (red) You're a flame in my heart
 Camellia (white) You're adorable
 Candytuft Indifference
 Canterbury Bell Acknowledgment; gratitude; constancy
 Cardamine Paternal error
 (Cuckoo Flower)
 Cardinal Flower Distinction
 Carnation (pink) I'll never forget you
 Carnation (purple) Capriciousness; whimsical; changeable
 Carnation (red) My heart aches for you; admiration
 Carnation (solid color) Yes

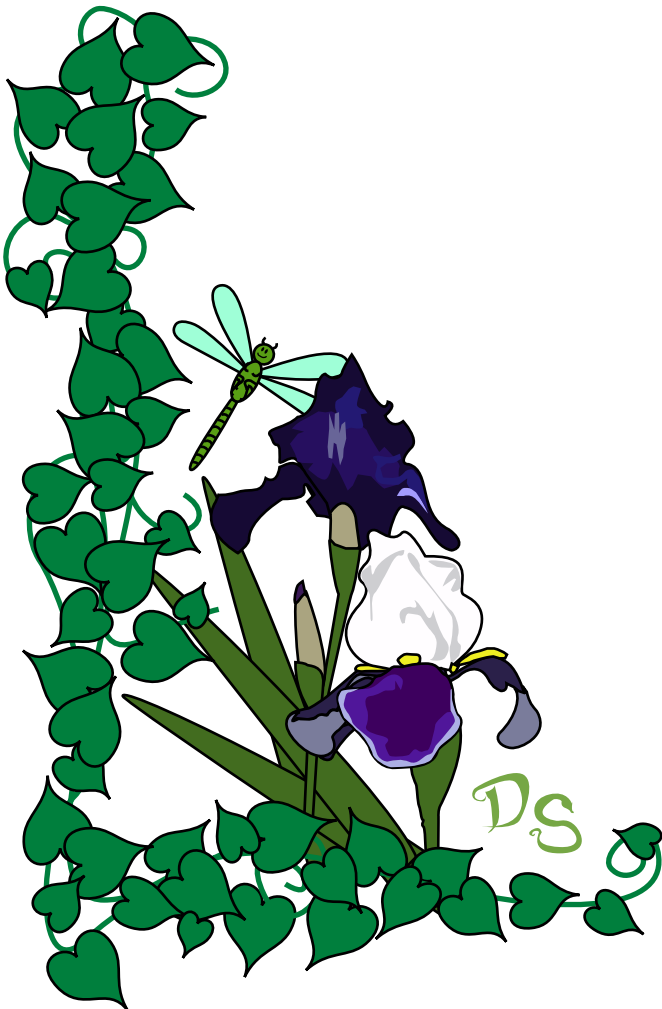
Carnation (striped) No; refusal; sorry I can't be with you; wish I could be with you
 Carnation (white) Sweet and lovely; innocence; pure love; woman's good luck gift
 Carnation (yellow) You have disappointed me; Rejection; disdain
 Carnation (general) Bonds of affection; health and energy; fascination; woman love
 Catchfly Deceit
 Cattail Peace; prosperity
 Cedar I live for thee; think of me
 Celandine Joys to come
 Chamomile Patience ; attracts wealth
 Cherry Tree Education
 Cherry Tree (white) Deception
 China Aster Variety
 China Aster (double) I partake your sentiments
 China Aster (single) I will think of it



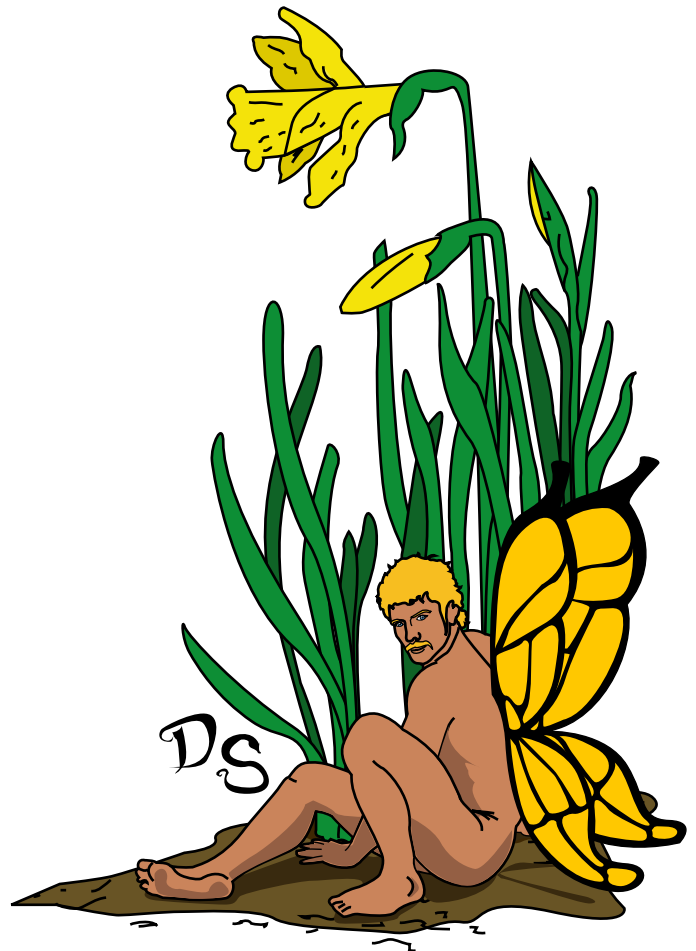
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Chrysanthemum (general) Cheerfulness; You're a wonderful friend
 Chrysanthemum (red) I love
 Chrysanthemum (white) Truth
 Chrysanthemum (yellow) Slighted love
 Cinnamon My fortune is yours
 Cinquefoil Maternal affection
 Clematis Mental beauty
 Clematis (evergreen) Poverty
 Clover (four leaf) Good luck
 Clover (red) Industry
 Clover (white) Think of me
 Coltsfoot Justice shall be done
 Columbine Folly; frivolity
 Columbine (purple) Resolution
 Columbine (red) Anxious and trembling
 Convolvulus Repose
 Coreopsis Always cheerful
 Coriander Lust
 Corn Riches
 Cornflower Delicacy; refinement
 Cowslip Pensiveness; winning grace
 Cowslip (American) You are my divinity
 Coxcomb Foppery
 Crab Blossom Ill-nature
 Cranberry Cure for heartache
 Cranesbill Envy

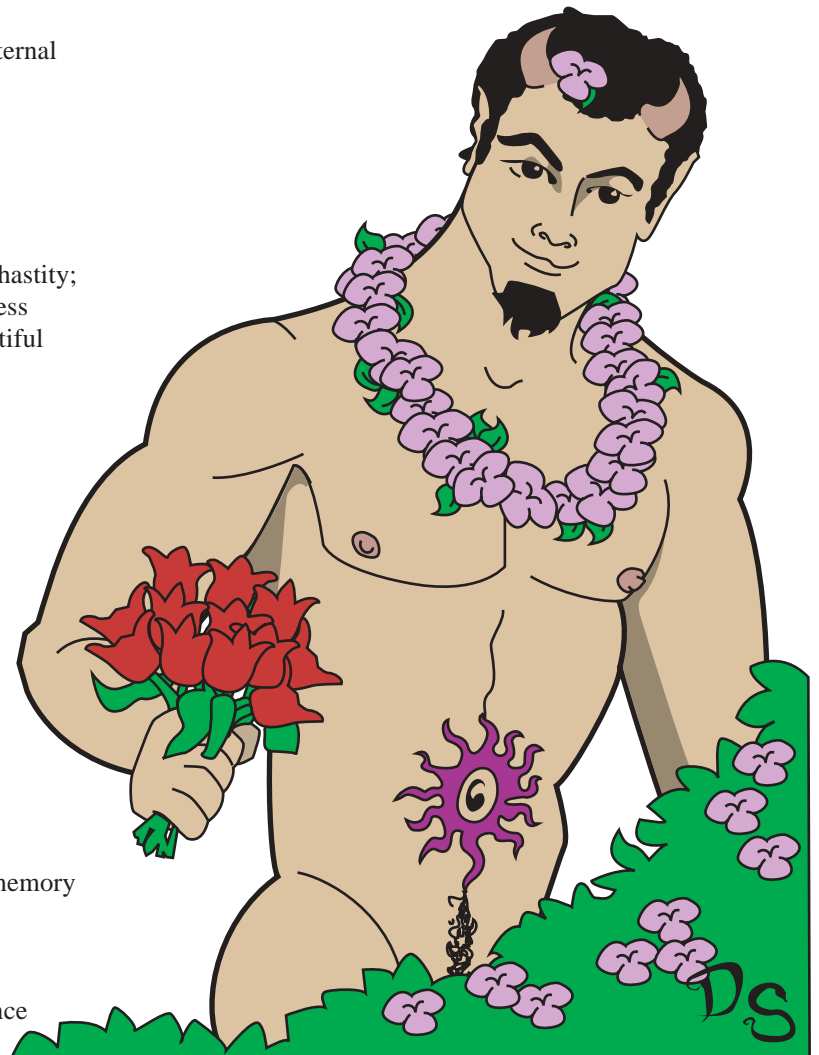
Crocus Cheerfulness; abuse not; joy
 Crocus (spring) Youthful gladness
 Crown Imperial Majesty; power
 Cyclamen Resignation and good-bye; diffidence
 Daffodil Respect; regard; unrequited love; deceit
 Dahlia Good taste
 Daisy Innocence; loyal love; purity; faith; cheer; simplicity
 Daisy (garden) I share your sentiments
 Daisy (Michaelmas) Afterthought
 Daisy (Ox-eye) A token
 Dandelion Wishes come true; faithfulness; happiness; foresight
 Daphne Odora Painting the lily
 Delphinium Airy
 Dew Plant A serenade
 Dittany of Crete Birth
 Dittany (white) Passion
 Dock Patience
 Dogwood Durability
 Edelweiss Daring; noble courage
 Eglantine (Sweet Briar) Poetry
 Elder Zealousness; compassion
 Eucalyptus Protection
 Fennel Worthy of all praise; strength
 Fern Sincerity
 Fern (Magic) Fascination; confidence and shelter
 Fern (Maidenhair) Secret bond of love
 Feverfew Protection
 Fir Time
 Flax Domestic industry; fate; I feel your kindness
 Fleur-de-Lys Flame
 Flowering Reed Confidence in heaven
 Flower-of-an-Hour Delicate beauty
 Forget-me-not True love; memories; forget me not
 Forsythia Anticipation
 Foxglove Insincerity
 Fuchsia Good taste
 Gardenia You're lovely; secret love; refinement; joy
 Garland of roses Reward of virtue
 Garlic Courage; strength
 Geranium (Dark) Melancholy
 Geranium (Nutmeg) An expected meeting
 Geranium (Oak leafed) Lady, deign to smile; friendship
 Geranium (Pencil leafed) Ingenuity
 Geranium (Rose or Pink) Preference
 Geranium (Scarlet) Comforting
 Geranium (Scented) Preference, melancholy; stupidity; folly
 Geranium (Silver leafed) Recall
 Geranium (Wild) Steadfast piety
 Gillyflower Bonds of affection
 Gladiolus Love at first sight; ready-armed; strength of character; generosity; bonds of affection
 Gloxinia Love at first sight
 Goat's Rue Reason



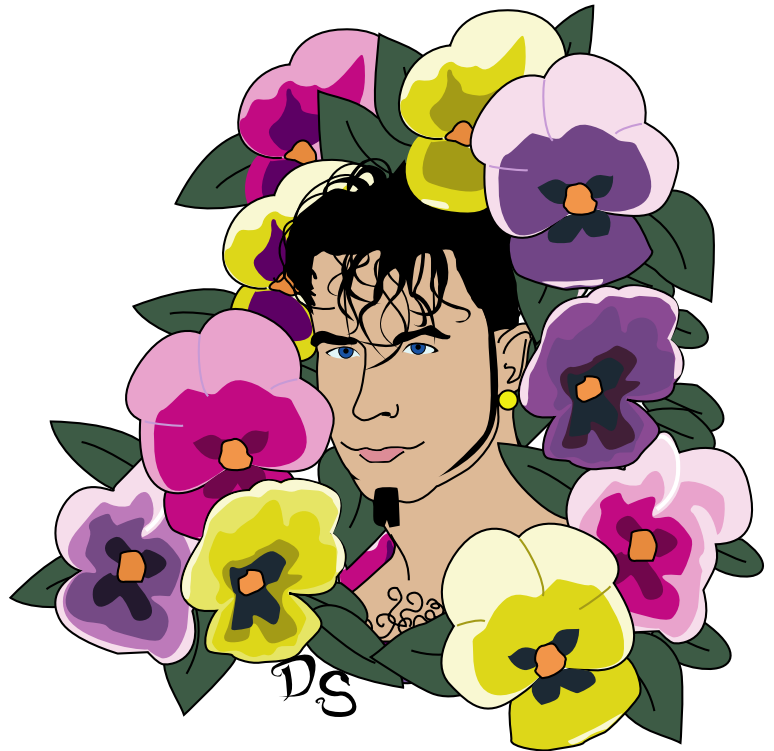
Golden Rod	Precaution	Lemon	Zest
Gorse (Furze or Whin)	Anger	Lemon Balm	Brings love
Grass	Submission; utility	Lemon verbena	Attracts opposite sex
Harbell	Happy Retirement	Lilac	First love
Hawthorn	Hope	Lilac (purple)	The first emotions of love
Hazel	Reconciliation	Lilac (white)	Purity; modesty; youth
Heather (lavender)	Admiration; solitude	Lily (calla)	Beauty
Heather (pink)	Good luck	Lily (day)	Coquetry
Heather (white)	Protection; wishes will come true; good luck	Lily (eucharis)	Maidenly charms
Heliotrope	Devotion; eternal love; faithfulness	Lily (general)	Purity, Keeps unwanted visitors away
Hellebore	Scandal; calumny	Lily (imperial)	Majesty
Henbane	Defect	Lily (orange)	Hatred
Hepatica	Confidence	Lily (tiger)	Wealth; pride
Hibiscus	Delicate beauty	Lily (white)	Virginity; purity; majesty; it's heavenly to be with you
Holly	Good will; defence; domestic happiness; foresight	Lily (yellow)	I'm walking on air; falsehood; gay
Hollyhock	Female ambition; fecundity	Lily of the valley	Sweetness; return to happiness; humility; perfect purity
Honesty	Honesty; fascination	Lobelia	Malevolence
Honeysuckle	Generous and devoted affection; sweetness of disposition	London Pride	Frivolity
Hortensia	You are cold	Love-in-a-mist	Perplexity
Hyacinth (purple)	I'm sorry; please forgive me; sorrow	Love-Lies-Bleeding	Hopeless, not heartless
Hyacinth (blue)	Constancy	Lucerne	Life
Hyacinth (general)	Games and sports; rashness; flower dedicated to Apollo	Lupin	Voraciousness; imagination
Hyacinth (red or pink)	Play	Magnolia	Sweetness; beauty; love of nature; nobility; dignity; splendid beauty
Hyacinth (white)	Loveliness; I'll pray for you	Mallow	Mildness
Hyacinth (yellow)	Jealousy	Mallow (Marsh)	Mild disposition; beneficence
Hydrangea	Thank you for understanding; frigidity; heartlessness; vanity	Mallow (Syrian)	Consumed by love
Hyssop	Wards away evil spirits		
Ice Plant	Rejected; your looks freeze me		
Iris	I have a message for you; faith; hope; wisdom and valour; my compliments; eloquence		
Ivy	Fidelity; friendship; affection; matrimony		
Ivy (sprig of white tendrils)	Anxious to please; affection		
Jasmine	Amiability; wealth; grace and elegance		
Jasmine (Cape)	Transport of joy		
Jasmine (Indian)	I attach myself to you		
Jasmine (Spanish)	Sensuality		
Jasmine (White)	Amiability		
Jasmine (Yellow)	Grace and elegance		
Jonquil	Love me; affection returned; desire; sympathy; desire for a return of affection		
Juniper	Protection; succour		
Kingscup	I wish I was rich		
Laburnum	Forsaken; pensive beauty		
Larkspur	Lightness; levity		
Larkspur (pink)	Fickleness; levity		
Larkspur (purple)	Haughtiness		
Laurel	Glory		
Laurel (mountain)	Ambition		
Laurestinus	A token; I die if neglected		
Lavender	Devotion, distrust		



Mallow (Venetian)	Delicate beauty	Phlox	Agreement; unanimity; sweet dreams
Mandrake	Horror	Pimpernel (scarlet)	Assignation; change
Maple	Reserve	Pine	Hope; pity
Marigold	Comforts the heart; grief; cruelty; jealousy; sacred affection	Pine (pitch)	Philosophy
Marjoram	Blushes	Pine (spruce)	Hope in adversity
Marjoram (sweet)	Joy and happiness	Pink	Boldness
Meadowsweet	Neglected beauty	Pink (carnation)	Women's love
Mesembryanthemum	Laziness	Pink (Indian double)	Always lovely
Mignonette	Your qualities surpass your charm	Pink (Indian single)	Aversion
Mimosa	Sensitivity; Courtesy	Pink (mountain)	Aspiring
Mint	Protection from illness; warmth of feeling; virtue	Pink (red double)	Pure and ardent love
Mistletoe	Kiss me; affection; to surmount difficulties; sacred plant of India, magic plant of the Druids	Pink (variegated)	Refusal
Monkshood	Beware, a deadly foe is near; chivalry	Pink (white)	You are fair and fascinating
Moonwort	Forgetfulness	Poinsettia	Be of good cheer
Moschatel	Weakness	Polyanthus	Pride of riches
Moss	Maternal love; charity	Polyanthus (crimson)	The heart's mystery
Mouse-eared Chickweed	Ingenuous simplicity	Polyanthus (lilac)	Confidence
Mullein	Good nature	Poppy (general)	Eternal sleep; oblivion; imagination; extravagance
Myrrh	Gladness	Poppy (red)	Pleasure; consolation
Myrtle	Love; love in absence; remembrance; Hebrew emblem of marriage	Poppy (white)	Consolation; sleep
Myrtle (wax)	Discipline; instruction	Poppy (yellow)	Wealth; success
Narcissus	Egotism; formality; stay as sweet as you are	Prickly Pear	Satire
Nasturtium	Conquest; victory in battle; maternal love; charity; patriotism	Primrose	I can't live without you; early youth; young love; forsaken
Nettle, Stinging	Cruelty	Primrose (evening)	Inconstancy
Oleander	Caution; beware	Primula	Diffidence
Olive Branch	Peace		
Orange	Generosity		
Orange (mock)	Counterfeit; deceit		
Orange Blossom	Wisdom; purity; eternal love; chastity; your purity equals your loveliness		
Orchid	Love; beauty; refinement; beautiful lady; Chinese symbol for many children		
Orchid (Cattleya)	Mature charm		
Orchid (Lady's Slipper)	Fickleness; capricious beauty		
Orchis (Bee)	Industry		
Orchis (Butterfly)	Gaiety		
Orchis (Fly)	Error		
Palm leaves	Victory and success		
Pansy	Thoughts; love		
Pasque Flower	You are without pretention		
Passion Flower	Belief		
Peach blossom	Longevity; I am your captive		
Pennyroyal	Flee away		
Peony	Shame; bashfulness; anger; indignation		
Peppermint	Warmth of feelings; cordiality		
Periwinkle (blue)	Early friendship; pleasures of memory		
Periwinkle (red)	Early friendship		
Periwinkle (white)	Pleasures of memory, pleasant recollections		
Petunia	Resentment; anger; your presence soothes me; never despairing		

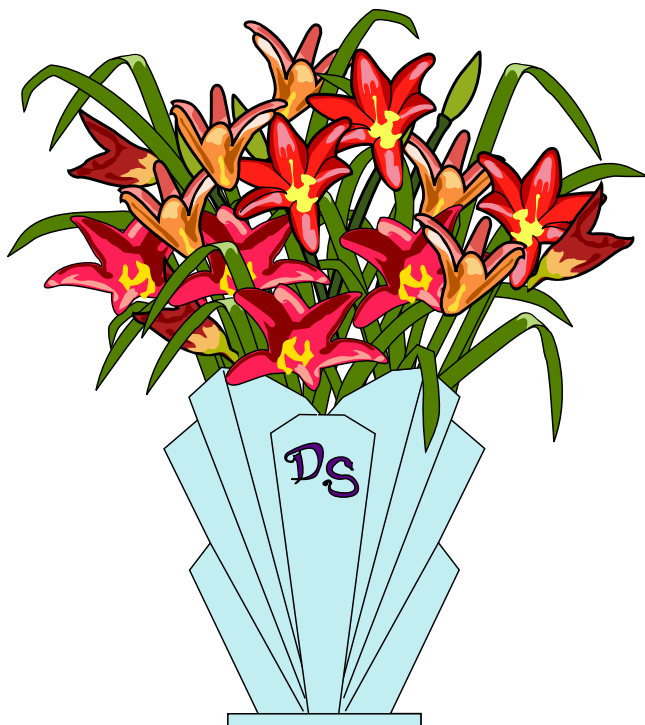


Privet	Defence
Quaking Grass	Agitation
Queen Anne's Lace	Fantasy
Queen's Rocket	Fashionable; You are the queen of coquettes
Ragged Robin	Wit
Ranunculus	I am dazzled by your charms
Reeds	Music
Rest harrow	Obstacle
Rhododendron	Danger
Rose	Beauty
Rose (Austrian)	Thou art all that is lovely
Rose (black)	Death
Rose (bridal)	Happy love
Rose (burgundy)	Unconscious beauty
Rose (cabbage)	Ambassador of love
Rose (campion)	Only deserve my love
Rose (Carolina)	Love is dangerous
Rose (China)	Grace
Rose (Christmas)	Tranquilize my anxiety; anxiety
Rose (daily)	Thy smile I aspire to
Rose (damask)	Brilliant complexion
Rose (dark crimson)	Mourning
Rose (deep red)	Bashful shame
Rose (dog)	Pleasure and pain
Rose (general) (Red)	Love ; I love you
Rose (Guelder)	Winter; age
Rose (hibiscus)	Delicate beauty
Rose (hundred-leaved)	Pride
Rose (Japan)	Pity
Rose (maiden blush)	If you love me, you will find it out
Rose (Mundi)	Variety
Rose (musk)	Capricious beauty
Rose (pink)	Perfect happiness; please believe me
Rose (red and white)	Together; unity
Rose (single, full bloom)	I love you; I still love you
Rose (tea)	I'll always remember
Rose (thornless)	Love at first sight
Rose (white)	Eternal Love; innocence; heavenly; secrecy and silence
Rose (yellow)	Friendship; jealousy; try to care; decrease of love
Rose (York and Lancaster)	War
Rosebud	Beauty and youth; a heart innocent of love
Rosebud (moss)	Confessions of love
Rosebud (red)	Pure and lovely
Rosebud (white)	Girlhood; a heart ignorant of love
Rose leaf	You may hope
Roses	
(bouquet of full bloom)	Gratitude
Roses	Beware of virtue; reward of merit;
(garland or crown of)	crown ; symbol of superior merit
Roses (musk cluster)	Charming
Rosemary	Remembrance; commitment; fidelity
Rudbeckia	
(Black-Eyed Susan)	Justice
Rue	Disdain
Saffron	Do not abuse; beware of excess
Saffron Crocus	Mirth



Sage	Wisdom; long life; domestic virtue; esteem
Salvia (blue)	I think of you
Scabious	Unfortunate love
Sensitive Plant	Timidity; delicate feelings
Shamrock	Light heartedness
Smilax	Loveliness
Snapdragon	No; deception; gracious lady; presumption
Snowball	Thoughts of heaven; purity
Snowdrop	Hope
Sorrel	Affection
Sorrel (Wild)	Wit ill-timed
Sorrel (Wood)	Joy
Southernwood	Jest, bantering
Sowbread	Diffidence
Spearmint	Warmth of sentiment
Speedwell (Germander)	Facility
Spider Wort	Esteem, but not love
Spiderflower	Elope with me
Star of Bethlehem	Atonement; guidance; purity
Statice	Lasting beauty
Stephanotis	Happiness in marriage; desire to travel; come to me
Stock	Lasting beauty; promptness
Stock (ten-week)	Promptness
Stonecrop	Tranquility
Strawberry	Perfect goodness
Strawberry (Wild)	Perfection
Strawberry Tree (Arbutus)	Esteem and love
Sunflower	Loyalty; wishes; you are splendid
Sunflower (dwarf)	Adoration
Sunflower (tall)	Haughtiness
Sweet Basil	Good luck

Sweet pea	Good-bye; departure; blissful pleasure; Thank you for a lovely time	Vervain	Enchantment
Sweet William	Grant me one smile; perfection; gallantry	Vetch	Shyness
Syringa	Memory	Vine	Intoxication
Syringa (Carolina)	Disappointment	Violet	Modesty; faithfulness, calms tempers; induces sleep
Tansy	I declare against you	Violet (blue)	Watchfulness; faithfulness; I'll always be true
Teasel	Misanthropy	Violet (white)	Let's take a chance on happiness
Tendrils		Virginia Creeper	Ever changing
of Climbing Plants	Ties of love	Viscaria	Will you dance with me?
Thistle (common)	Austerity)	Wallflower	Fidelity in misfortune
Thistle (Scotch)	Retaliation	Water Lily	Purity of heart
Thrift	Sympathy	Weigela	Accept a faithful heart
Thyme	Strength and courage; ensures restful sleep	Wistaria	I cling to you
Tiger Flower	For once may pride befriend me	Woodbine	Fraternal love
Traveler's Joy	Safety	Woodruff	Sweet humility; modest worth
Tuberose	Dangerous pleasure	Xeranthemum	Cheerfulness under adversity
Tulip (general)	Fame; charity; declaration of love;	Yarrow	Health; healing
Tulip (red)	Believe me; declaration of love	Yew	Sorrow
Tulip (variegated)	Beautiful eyes	Zephyr Flower	Expectation
Tulip (yellow)	Hopeless love	Zinnia	Thoughts of friends
Valerian (red)	Accommodating disposition	Zinnia (magenta)	Lasting affection
Venus's Looking Glass	Flattery	Zinnia (mixed)	Thinking of an absent friend
Vernal Grass	Poor, but happy	Zinnia (scarlet)	Constancy
Veronica	Fidelity in friendship	Zinnia (white)	Goodness
		Zinnia (yellow)	Daily remembrance



The Airy Faerie (Special Edition) is a publication of the Denver Radical Faerie Tribe.

For more information you can contact us at:
 Denver Radical Faeries
 PO Box 631
 Denver, CO 80201-0631

or send an email to:
DenverRadicalFaeries@yahoo.com

or visit us at:
www.geocities.com/denverfae

or leave a message at:
 720-855-8447