

(6) list #68
spider plant (or ribbon)

(Spider <or ribbon> plant) (page 10)

chlorophytum

elatum - Taylor

[Draft 1]

(Gk = green plant

Called exalted green ~~spring~~ <leap> spider

pg 222. (lily family) (#42 / see list)

or ribbon leaf multiply rootstock ~~on~~ear

propagated by division

~~stem~~ underground <earth> eyes buds ~~growth~~

tr. / elated green of rootstock which / bud

~~onearth~~

exalted + by its runners

runners familial-lily not-of-the-valley

begin Called i.e. shoots that

[Draft 4] [b. Mar 10 - f. Mar 29/75

(continue root at the

anticipating Apr. 11]

use of greater joints,

1

celandine w. the as in the

2

thyme: g. celan-/dine strawberry

3

~~dine~~ flowers very where / they

4 familial-lily not fathers' song / -of-the-valley

small stalked may be

5

umbels, 2 sepals detached

6

4 petals, fruit

7

a slender pod

under earth 8

splits from the base up)

L.Z.'s "idea"

but Nashe

chlorophytum

used in

elatum - <grown

Pierce

leaves flat indoors in the

Penillesse

green or white greenhouse> [Draft 2] (6) [Title] (↑ Spider or Ribbon plant)

marginated, variegated

1 Call exalted green leap spider

or yellow banded

2 or ribbon leaf multiply rootstock

Flowering stem 2-3 ft

~~stem~~ under-earth eyes buds on-earth ^

long, sprawls

3 (runners) ↑ familial-lily

flowers white

familial-lily not fathers' Canticles called? <song>

about 1/2 in long

4 -of-the-valley so shown perhaps < unknown / unknown >

hangs down

5 narcissus <the?> king's rose 4-petal wisdom's

a bell 6 petal

6 sightwort horsethyme spur who knows

7 greenhouse <glasses> spider-found <lone-> narrow-foot

"undercreep"

lily-of-the-valley

long-green nor braided

ribbon -

Wycliff ← underdelve

6 petals recurved lobes

joint-rooted

Deut. XV.9 (to dig down

8 white 6-petal clusters recurved / bells

creep secretly Rom XI.3)

[Draft 3]

Canticles

4 familial-lily not fathers' S song-of-the-valley

undercroft

?? shone far gun's argued

(vault under

5 So ~~shone~~ unknown <?> narcissus king's-rose

ground

6 rose 4-petal sightwort-horsethyme-spur who know

join - L. jungere

7 <knows> (axis-white) yellow <spider> or ribbon plant green joined

via Gk. yoked

8 Joined 6-petal <bells> white clusters

housed

clustered 6-petal bells' white recurved

joined

(8) pussy willow
(7) sprengeri - See #75 list (9) pivet see list #60 / olive family
W.S. winter's Tale Autolycus / sings?

* * *

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Sources

Taylor, *Taylor's Encyclopedia of Gardening*, ***Chelidonium**, **Chlorophytum**, ***Liliaceae**, **Lily-of-the-Valley**, **Runner**

Century Dictionary (CD), **join**, **undercreep**, **undercroft**, **underdelve**, **under-earth**

The Five Megilloth, *The Song of Songs II* (ed. A. Cohen, Sonico Press)

Textual notes

line 4 the extra spaces preceding “-of-the-valley” are probably an error introduced at the typescript stage, most likely to make certain the printer did not close this unorthodox leading hyphen. LZ’s holograph fair copies clearly indicate a single space. See #25 *Coleus*, line 4 for a similar instance.

LZ’s draft and fair copies italicize: *-of-the-valley*. The italics disappear with the typescript and are probably an error.

line 5 “*king’s rose*” should be “*king’s-rose*”. Error introduced at the typescript stage (see Leggott dissertation 593).

line 5: 6 words (but see previous note)

line 1: **Call exalted green leap spider**
 line 2: **or ribbon leaf multiply rootstock**
 line 3: **under-earth eyes buds on-earth runners**
 line 4: **familial-lily not fathers' song -of-the-valley**
 line 5: **so shone argued narcissus king's-rose**
 line 6: **sightwort-horsethyme-spur who knows axis-white footage**
 line 7: **spider or ribbon green housed**
 line 8: **clustered 6-petal bells' white recurved**

March 10-29/75

anticipating April 11 {LZ's father died April 11, 1950.}

line 1: **Call exalted green leap spider**

Taylor, **Chlorophytum** (clow-ro-fy'tum). A group of 60 species of perennial, tropical herbs of the lily family, one very commonly grown in the greenhouse for its numerous, bright green leaves and for its long-stalked, branched flower cluster. {...} (*Chlorophytum* is from the Greek for green plant.)

It is odd that this very common greenhouse plant has no common name, although it is locally sometimes called spider plant and ribbon plant. It is of easy, almost rampant growth in the cool greenhouse in potting mixture 3, and is easily propagated by division of its rootstocks, and by its runners.

C. elatum {> Tall}. Leaves lone, flat, often 1 in. wide, green in the typical form, but white-margined, variegated, or yellow-banded in some of the hort. forms. Flowering stem 2-3 ft. long, lax and inclined to sprawl. Flowers white, about ½ in. long. S. Af.

line 2: **or ribbon leaf multiply rootstock**

See Taylor line 1.

line 3: **under-earth eyes buds on-earth runners**

CD, **under-earth**†, *a*. Under the earth; subterranean. *Nashe*, Pierce Penilesse, p. 79.

See Taylor line 1.

Taylor, **Runner**. A weak, usually prostrate shoot that roots at the joints, as in the strawberry. Runners afford a very easy method of propagation in those plants that produce them; all that is necessary for propagation is to detach the rooted joints.

line 4: **familial-lily not fathers' song -of-the-valley**

See Taylor line 1.

*Taylor, **Liliaceae**. The lily family is of more garden importance than even its 240 genera and over 3600 species might suggest. It is sometimes called the aloe, hyacinth, or tulip family, and it has been split by botanists into four families:

1. Lily family proper (Liliceae)
2. Lily-of-the-valley family (Convallariaceae), often called Solomon's-seal or wakerobin family.
3. Bunchflower family (Melanthaceae)
4. Smilax family (Smilaceae)

{LZ mentions the three flowers named in the Hebrew Bible: the white lily (*Lilium candidum*), the lily-of-the-valley (narcissus) and the Rose of Sharon, also referred to as the “King’s rose” (see note from *Five Megilloth* line 5)}

Taylor, **Lily-of-the-Valley**. A single species of very fragrant perennial herbs, constituting the genus **Convallaria** of the lily family, found wild in Eurasia and in the higher mountains from Va. to S. Car. The only species, **C. majalis**, is cult. throughout the temperate world for its fine, persistent, but not evergreen foliage, but especially for its delicately scented, white, nodding flowers. Leaves all basal, from a horizontal rootstock, the blades oblong-oval, usually forming dense mats. Stalk of the flower cluster arising from the ground, 5-8 in. high, the cluster a loose, often somewhat 1-sided raceme of bell-shaped, white nodding flowers, the tips of the corolla recurved {> bent downward}. Stamens 6, not protruding. Fruit a red berry about ¼ in. in diameter. {...} (*Convallaria* is from the Latin for a valley.)

line 5: **so shone argued narcissus king’s-rose**

The Five Megilloth, The Song of Songs II:

I am a rose of Sharon,

A lily {shoshana} of the valleys. {with Hebrew text}

1. *I am a rose of Sharon*. {...} The word *chabatsleth* {translated as “rose”} occurs again only in Isa. xxxv I. The LXX and Vulgate understand it as ‘lily,’ the Targum and Saadia as ‘narcissus,’ Ibn Ezra and Kimchi as ‘rose.’ The narcissus is plentiful in Palestine and beloved by the natives. {LZ copied the gist of this note into NBk. The precise identification of these flowers is a matter of much debate, as this note indicates, which apparently is what interests LZ here}.

so shone a- < shoshana = Hebrew for lily

king’s-rose {what is translated as the rose of Sharon in *Song of Songs* is also referred to as the “king’s rose” elsewhere in the Hebrew Bible}

line 6: **sightwort-horsethyme-spur who knows axis-white footage**

Taylor, **Chelidonium** (kelly-dō’ni-um). A single, perennial, somewhat weedy, Eurasian herb of the poppy family, commonly called celandine, killwort, or sightwort. This plant, **C. majus**, is of secondary hort. importance, but frequently escapes from old gardens. It is 12-30 in. high, and has deeply divided or cleft leaves, distinctly pale bluish-green beneath. Flowers yellow, in small, stalked clusters (umbels). Sepals 2. Petals 4, the flower not over ⅔ in. long. Fruit a slender pod, splitting from the base upward. (*Chelidonium* is from the Greek for swallow in allusion to the plant blooming when swallows arrive.)

{On **horsethyme**, see Epigraph.}

line 7: **spider or ribbon green housed**

See Taylor line 1.

line 8: **clustered 6-petal bells’ white recurved**

See Taylor, **Lily-of-the-Valley** line 4.