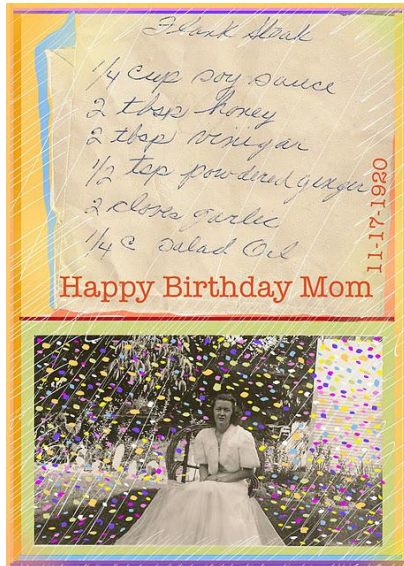


365 - A Sense of Place, A Sense of Home - Fall (Poems 21-40)



Who Took This Picture?

who took this picture, was it aunt marion?

I know you two were inseparable

the recipe on this envelope, (*you always wrote on scraps of paper*)

you gave that to me many, many years after this picture was taken

-- though you would have not known you would do that back then

I would have liked to have seen you walk into this photograph

sit in that chair, straighten you gown, aunt marion fluffing it out at the bottom,

looking all pretty, smiling, buzzing with anticipation

what were you and my aunt gabbing about?

was grandma and aunt barb watching all this,

what about uncle jack and uncle bill, where were they?

I pretty sure grandpa had left you all by then

I bet this was exciting night for you all?

Just waiting for that knock at the front door so your night could begin.

Isn't it funny how dad was just getting to know you and the family

but when "we" came into being years later, that step really doesn't happen,

no knock at the front door

aunt barb told me about this dress in the picture that you had made

and how you would take it apart five more times,

to re-make five more different dresses to “re-wow” dad on five more different dates
she said you all had no money, the depression, I know
but you told me many times you still found ways to enjoy that time
even though it was difficult
you often said to me we didn’t need things we made our own fun

she also told me about that “fake rabbit” fur coat in the picture
and that aunt marion loaned it to you for this dance
was this the night, it must have been that night
were most of that fur ended up on dad’s suit
she told me how devastated you were,
this was not the impression you were planning on leaving with him that night
... we laugh now, funny when your young the way you think about these *divined miss-haps*
“I” ... was wonder what aunt marion was thinking when you gave back her coat, minus the fur?

anyway, (*you always used this word*) before dad knew he would be wearing rabbit fur
what did he say when he came to pick you up that night?
what did he say when he saw the beautiful girl he would be taking to the dance?
you in your finished, flowing and glowing hand-made gown,
lovingly made, especially with him in mind
... well I think we pretty much know this answer -- no matter what was going to happen that night

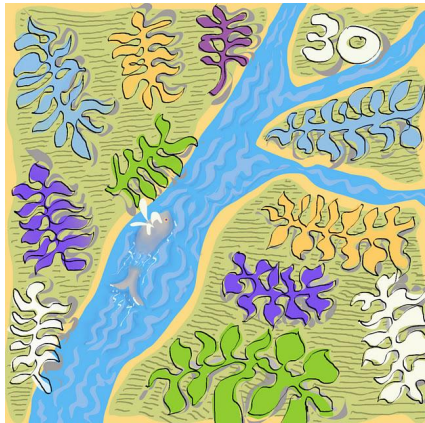
there is one thing that was hard for me to image--the both of you dancing
because I have never seen you both dancing together
though when I think about this ... it’s really not that difficult to imagine
since we saw you both dance beautifully
through your long lives together and luckily with all of us
aunt barb said dad was a fine dancer, I wish I could have seen that

aah ... why the envelope, with the recipe, with this photograph? ...
it not the recipe that matters so much here, though it is wonderful
it’s your handwriting, the calligraphy, your marks, your-own-hand
silly as this may seem, for some reason
your handwriting helps me stay connected
to this picture, to that day, to the dance, to those memories, to this moment
and most important of all ... to you

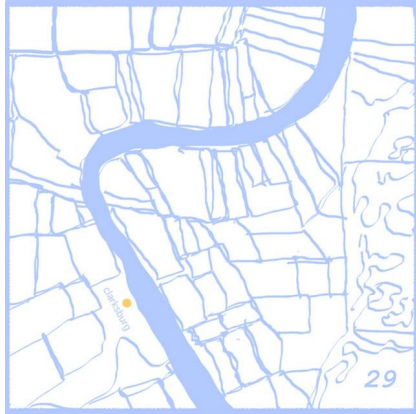
Happy Birthday! Mom - We Love You and Miss You



31. Sacramento “River Goddess”



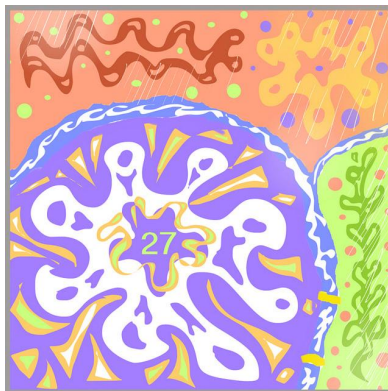
30. Sacramento River - Rio Vista
-- Humphrey the Whale



29. Sacramento River - Clarksburg



28. Sacramento River - City of Sacramento - Garcia Bend



Sacramento & American River Merging just above Downtown Sacramento

27. Sacramento & American River



Sacramento River near Sacramento Intl Airport

26. Sacramento River



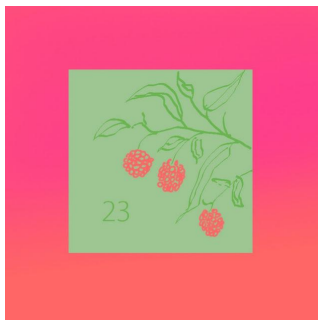
Sacramento River near the towns of Knights landing & Robbins

25. Sacramento River



Sacramento River near the towns of Knights landing & Robbins

24. Sacramento River



23. Advice

raspberries planted

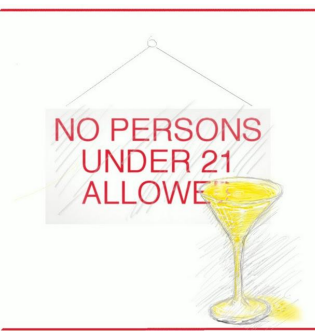
in the raised bed
have some new 4 foot canes
do I cut these to the ground
in september or october?
or can I maintain the vines
at four feet?
plants now one year old
I did not get any fruit this year
thanks for your advice



22. Fishing on the Sacramento River

the fishing is heating up
on the sacramento river
Salmon are being
caught at various places
best if you use
a trolling flatfish or silvertron spinners
a good place to start

the long pool under
the fair oaks bridge
at the lower end of the river
but if going to sailor bar
or nimbus basin
drifting beads, roe or spinners
that would be a good choice
if you want steelhead
then head to watt av and sailor bar
i would use
flies, spinners or night-crawlers
but if your are near liberty island
mudsuckers, sardines or frozen shad
they are working really well
near prospect slough?
a good **eel/pile worm** combination
seems to be getting the job done
though you could go *a la carte* I suppose
and some strip bass are being
caught between grist mill & sailor bar
there i would use
soft swim bait, topwater plugs or
or how about ... maybe just some
good old ... **plain bait?**



21. The Golden Cadillac

take the oldest distilled
spirits in the world

to the small town of el dorado
it's vivid yellows
and harmonious blending
of over 30 herbs and plants
... star anise from china, anise as well *from the mediterranean*,
add to that list ginger, citrus, lavender and vanilla ...
the list goes on and on
this liqueur is an aria of aromas and flavors
but it's acclaim is to the character it brings
blending with other ingredients
so then it's more opera than an aria
it's classic formulation makes for the ideal union
with a classic & original drink of this region
just blend this historic liqueur with half & half
white cream de cocoa and ice
now you were just served the deliciously frothy, acclaimed
and the original since 1953 ... a "*golden cadillac*"