Wednesday, July 23, 2014

Habitat and Region

Dear Gardeners All,

You will recall a previous musing or admonition from the Dodo on plants and how to live happily ever after with them. Remember? I have just discovered another resource for making a happy habitat in your yard: PlantRight. It is a website devoted to helping an innocent gardener avoid disaster at the nursery.

Many years ago, I was employed to remove English Ivy. It makes me think of this Beatles song: A Day in the Life (although, to be sure, most things make me think of this song). The bit about counting all the holes comes to mind. I also think of Sisyphus. I have also had unpleasant experiences of removing Scotch Broom, Trees of Heaven, and Bamboo. So, when we first had a place to plant some things, I was shocked that nurseries would sell these plants, with nary a warning. I say, Goddamn the pusher man.

In the meantime, I will be outside, pulling and hacking out the last of one of my mistakes: Stipa Tenuissima. It was so beautiful, and the name so full of poetry: Mexican Feather Grass. Ought not the nursery I bought it from have mentioned the dangers of this plant in my climate and area?

PS If you cannot get enough data on what *not* to plant in California, wander around the website of the California Invasive Plant Council: www.cal-ipc.org.

In earnest, L. T. at 10:19 AM

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