

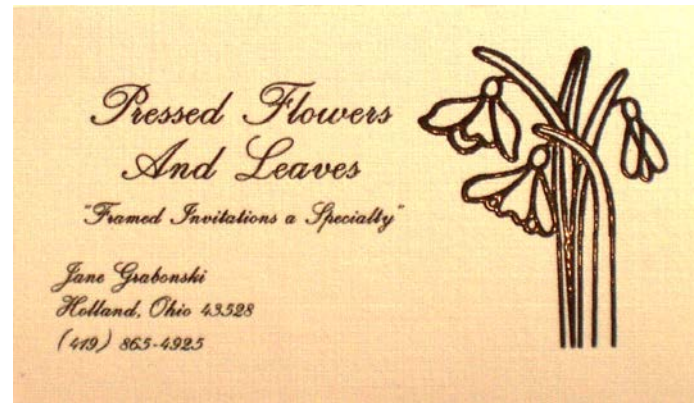
# The genius of each day

Using your camera to make memories during COVID-19

Tom Grabowski



Part 1  
After Mom passed  
Iowa, 2004





Sharon Center  
Johnson County  
Iowa

1.98 Acres,  
“More or Less”





November 2004













I set out to know the  
seasons that visited us,

to recognize the moments  
they are composed of.

to find and picture the  
genius of each day,

the seasonal moment that  
only occurs today.

















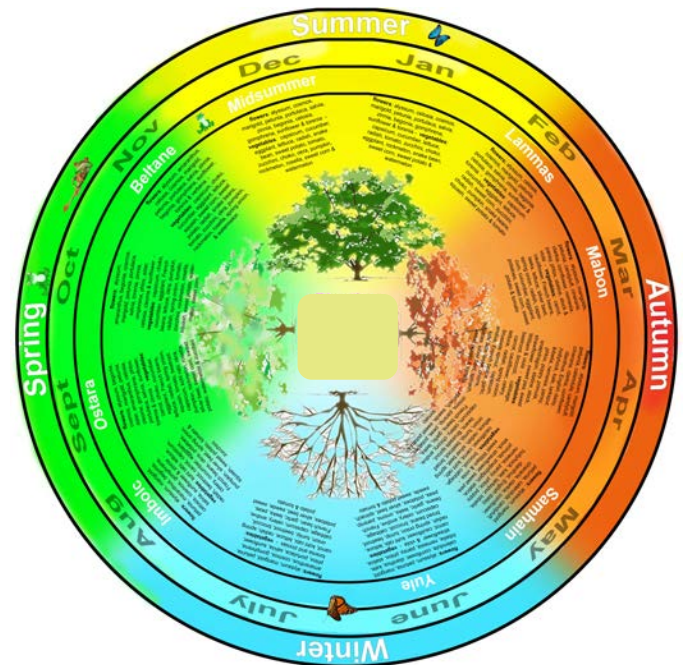




# Phenology

The study of cyclic and seasonal natural phenomena, especially in relation to climate and plant and animal life.

November			Thu	
Sun	Mon	Tue		
	Saw a coyote near Hwy 1 and 218,	1	<b>3 Indian summer, breezy, still some grasshoppers, a white cabbage butterfly, lady bugs flying in the lee, a few blue jays revisit the <u>pinoaks</u>, Diane saw two hawks in the walnut tree</b>	large und(1), r from pods down in up cove g peak, peak,
6 trees looking sparse, STM oak leaves have fallen, walk Williams Prairie: sedge dry, dried culver root, saw a heron, blackbirds streaming, starlings in a cherry, willows not turning yet, oaks looking dried	7 walk with D1 HHP loop, red osier dogwoods just past peak but still leafy, magenta plant shows drooping frost-burned leaves,	8 A very large flock of black birds lands in our trees and D1 calls me. Lilac leaves passed peak as they have, snapdragons still in bloom!		plants c, yellow g, some down, nall red s, lots of trees. I osage year... yard in IHP







# The Phenology Project 2004-2009

Celebrating a corner of an ordinary Iowa county,  
and dedicated to the idea that each place and  
each day has a genius of its own







Part 2  
Covid-19  
Washington, 2020



## North Seattle





































My genre: candid nature photography

catching nature being herself

exploring the world in the light of the moment

## Good for brain health !

practicing openness to the moment

expecting to find genius in the day -  
a habit of optimism

maintaining a record of your narrative

making the photo is problem-solving



Just start!  
no specific expectations  
every time and place, at every scale, has genius



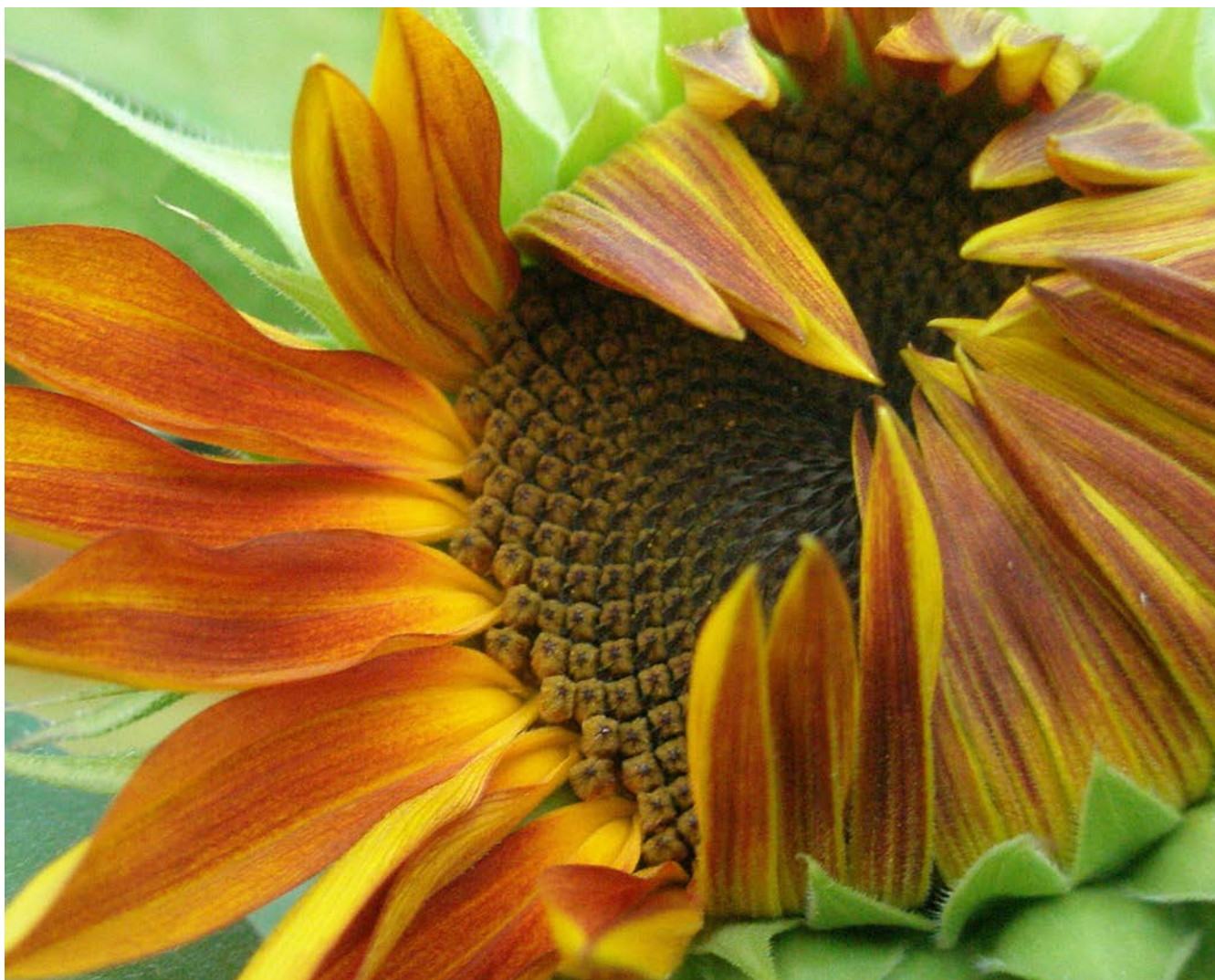




Your camera is not as important  
as your subject and approach













The light is subtle and passing.  
Learn to recognize and appreciate it.





A good picture is one to  
which you have an emotional reaction









Choose your “keepers” well.  
They become the narrative.







Questions?