

DESTINY'S GARDEN



by
CURTIS GROPP

Illustrated by
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Destiny's Garden

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and Illustrated by Berangere Toulet



The Larry Czerwonka Company, LLC
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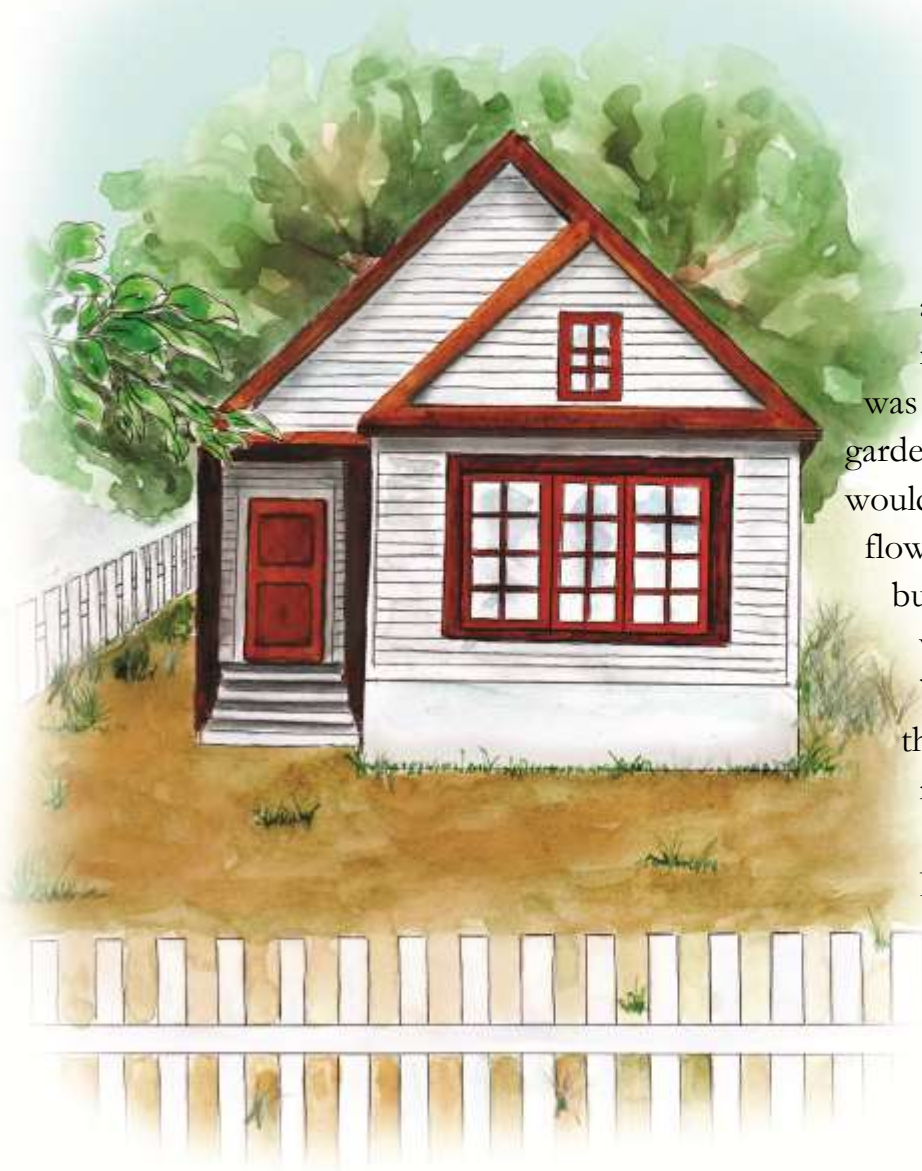
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To my wife Lisa.

Thanks for your love and support.

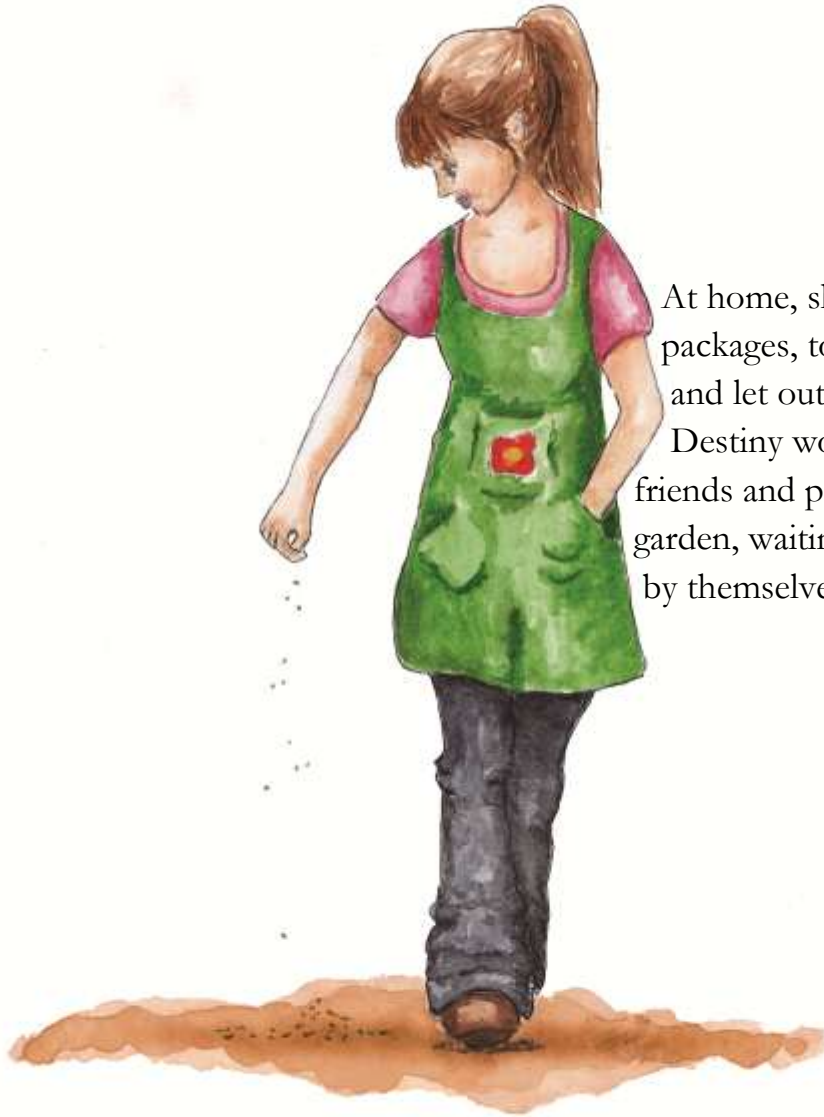
Our garden is small and challenging but ever rewarding.



Destiny lived in a cute little house with a white picket fence. Although she had nearly everything she wanted, one thing was missing: Destiny did not have a flower garden. It was true that she had what you would call a *garden*, and she had tried to grow flowers in the garden, but nothing ever grew but weeds. Destiny did not understand why flowers would not grow. She believed that they should grow by themselves, without her help. “If it’s meant to be,” Destiny would say, “the flowers will grow.” But Destiny’s garden did not grow.

Whenever Destiny wanted to try to grow flowers in her garden, she would go to the store and search for seeds. Sometimes she would buy seeds she had never tried before; other times she would buy seeds that she had tried without success. “Well,” she would say, “these seeds will grow if it’s meant to be.”

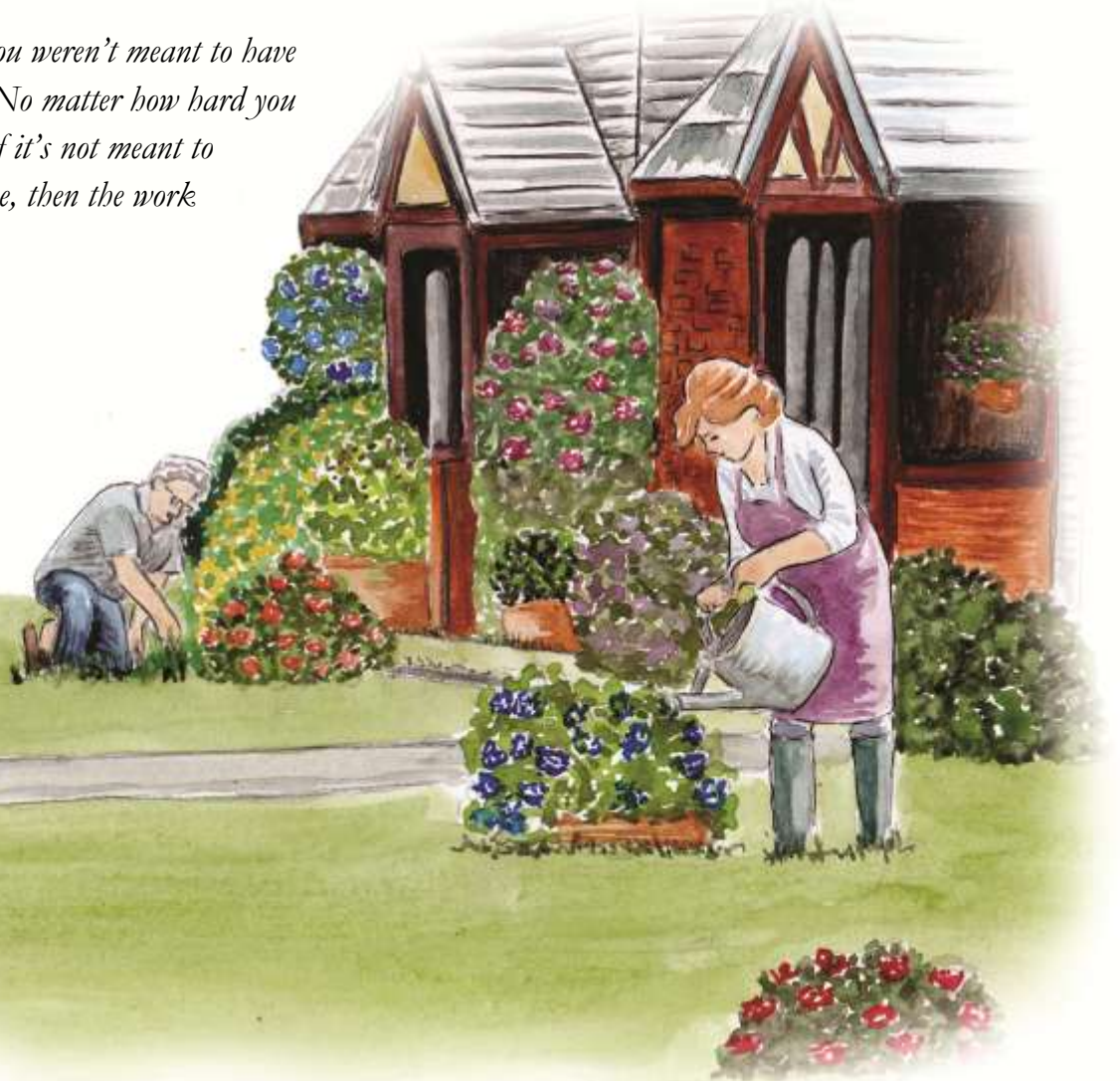




At home, she would open the seed packages, toss the seeds upon the dirt, and let out a small sigh of joy. Then Destiny would go away to visit with her friends and pay no more attention to the garden, waiting for the flowers to grow all by themselves.

Destiny could not help but notice that her neighbors spent much of their time in their own gardens, watering the flowers and pulling weeds, pruning and trimming—sometimes even just watching the plants grow. Destiny could not understand this.

Why do all that work if you weren't meant to have a garden? she thought. No matter how hard you work, the garden will die if it's not meant to be. And if it is meant to be, then the work won't matter.



Curtis Gropp

AUTHOR



Currently a federal law enforcement officer, Curtis has had a long and varied employment history, including stints as editor of a reptile magazine, proofreader, and advertising copywriter. He has been writing as a hobby since elementary school. He has written numerous short stories and several feature-length screenplays and is working on a novel. (Aren't we all?) He lives in Huntington Beach, California, with his wife Lisa, his son Logan, and their dog Jaxson, who sometimes makes the gardening difficult. This is his first published book.

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Berangere Toulet

ILLUSTRATOR



Berangere comes from Brittany, France, where she worked as a croupier until 2004 when she moved herself (and profession) to Glasgow. In no time at all she had fallen in love with Scotland but being a croupier was not her dream job. So In 2010, she went back to college to study Art, Design, Visual Communication— her true love. While studying, she won a competition to design a deck of tarot cards for a well known author and psychic columnist. (Joan Charles). College and winning the competition led to a career working as a graphic illustrator and heraldic artist. You can contact Berangere at berangeretoulet@hotmail.com.

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