

The Botanical Deck
Black Light Edition



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1. SEEDPOD

Purpose, spreading, scatter.

Spread. Grow. Multiply. Take over the world!

2. SUNDEW

Capture, clutch, seize.

Sundews catch their prey, wrap themselves around it, and suck the life out of it. Do that. But not to bugs. Unless you really want to, I guess, but I will judge you for that.

3. KING PROTEA

Excess, narcissist, extra.

There is absolutely no need for a flower to be this large. Totally unnecessary.

Much like your ego; you're going to need to shrink that back down.

4. POPPY

Poison, subdue, control.

If you want something, you must take it. How? I recommend something with poison in it, but attractive to the eye and soothing smell. Poppies will put them to sleep. Sleeeep.

5. BASIL

Strength, flavour, boost.

Delicious and versatile, it's the perfect flavour. You can add that shit to *everything*.

6. COFFEE

Anxiety, jittery, shaking.

Is something terrible about to happen? Are you going to die?! No, you've just had too much coffee and now you can't think straight.

7. YEW

Gamble, chance, risk.

The entire tree is poisonous, except for one part. Which part? We can never remember. Have fun figuring that out!

8. VANILLA

Common, underlying, basic.

Is vanilla actually boring, or are you just jealous of how widespread and popular it is? I bet you're just resentful that no one likes you as much as they like vanilla scented candles.

9. TURNIP

Boring, traditional, history.

What do turnips taste like? No one knows anymore, we've moved on to better and tastier (probably) things.

10. CARDAMOM

Beauty, exotic, alluring.

You know that woman, who is stunningly beautiful, and you just want to sit and admire her for hours? Yeah, her. Sorry, what was I saying? I can't remember I got distracted.

11. CLOVE

Strength, overpower, conquer.

You want to add some cloves to your homemade chai. Sure! Great idea! Until you add too many and then your tongue goes numb while you drink it. Way to go, cloves.

12. PINEAPPLE

Nonsense, hazard, bite.

Is it pine? No. Apple? Also no. Is it a fruit that will eat you while you eat it? Absolutely, have fun with your mouth eating fruit.

13. PALM

Relax, holiday, chill.

What's better than going to the beach and relaxing under a palm tree? Not much. Just you, the sand, and a warm, gentle breeze. Just watch out for coconuts, they can kill.

14. CACAO

Craving, indulge, entice.

Sometimes you just need a pick-me-up. Of happiness. That happiness is chocolate.

15. CORN

Solitary, individual, isolation.

A decent vegetable when eaten by itself at a barbeque. Once you mix it with something else however, instant disgust. Utterly revolting. Should never be added to anything else ever.

16. DRAGONFRUIT

Costume, appearance, illusion.

Fabulous on the outside, tasteless on the inside. Just like your boyfriend.

17. PEA

Grab, hold, tangle.

Grab it and hold on tight! Does it matter what it is? Probably. You should probably check that first, actually, now that I think about it.

18. STRAWBERRY

Sweet, temptation, desire.

Mmm, look at that yummy strawberry. So plump, and ripe, but you waited too long and now it's covered in mold! Nasty, don't eat moldy strawberries.

19. HAWTHORN

Warning, red flags, ignorance.

It hurt you because it has thorns. Don't ignore them just because the flowers are pretty.

20. TEA

Gossip, news, information.

Yasss girl, spill that tea!

21. CAYENNE

Burn, defence, weakling.

Peppers produce capsaicin for protection; humans use peppers to make delicious spicy food. Unless you're a weakling who can't handle a little bit of tasty fire.

22. KING PITCHER PLANT

Devour, hoard, ownership.

It's yours now. What is, you ask? Oh, everything. Anything you want. Go buy that new plant I know you want it.

23. NIGHTLIGHT

Magic, mystery, fantasy.

It's a mushroom that glows in the dark. What more do you need?

24. ROSEMARY

Reliable, dependable, practical.

Apparently, rosemary is the herb that can replace any other herb in a spell. It's also a key ingredient for stuffing a turkey.

25. PEPPERMINT

Prolific, virility, copious.

There are roughly five million types of mint, and they just love to hybridize. As any gardener can tell you, it will also spread like crazy and take over the whole place. You have to keep them contained or all you'll have is mint.

26. SWEETGRASS

Special, distinguished, prestigious.

This isn't normal grass that you wipe your feet on, this is *special* grass. Fancy grass. Grass you do want to keep off of. It also smells pretty which is always a plus.

27. DANDELION

Overpower, take over, tough.

Can you get rid of dandelions? No. Once you have one dandelion, you have a million dandelions, everywhere. In your grass. In your garden. In your sidewalk. They will be there, forever.

28. MONEY TREE

Superstition, placebo, wishful thinking.

If you place a money tree in the southeast area of your home, you will attract money and prosperity! As long as that's where the sun shines, otherwise the tree will just die. Kind of the opposite of what you're looking for.

29. HEMLOCK

Look-alike, deceiving, pay attention.

You see a plant with small, frilly white flowers. Is it a carrot? Maybe! Is it a medicine like yarrow? Also maybe! Is it a potent poison that could easily kill you? Once again, *maybe*.

30. QUEEN OF THE NIGHT

One-hit wonder, swan song, fad.

You were popular in high school, good for you! Enjoy living off that high while you learn that you will never be remarkable ever again.

31. BOTTLE TREE

Unique, alien, eccentric.

It looks like a plant from another world, a little alien tree. So cute! So cool! Why be normal when you can be interesting?

32. RED CAGE

Death, rotting, stink.

People ask if they can eat this mushroom, which is clearly a misguided question. The real question would be, what situation could you be in that would possibly desire to eat something that smells revolting?

33. GINGER

Powerhouse, overachiever, show-off.

You know those people who seem to have an unnatural amount of energy; their houses are always clean, they work out at 5 in the morning even on a Saturday, and their hair somehow always manages to look good? That's ginger. Like calm down, you know what I mean?

34. BAOBAB

Improvise, adapt, overcome.

Baobabs are so big because they hold so much water. They're basically living water bottles in the middle of the desert.

35. VENUS FLYTRAP

Fight, assertive, snappy.

A bug crawls in and SNAP! Snack time. No waiting, no trying to decide, no deliberating...just bam, done. Hurry up and decide already.

36. ARBUTUS

Danger, risk-taking, haphazard.

These trees like to grow off the side of cliffs where they don't have to face competition from other trees for the sun. Work smarter not harder.

37. PEONY

Acceptance, happiness, pride.

One of the symbolic meanings ascribed to peonies is "gay", and I took that to mean gay in the homosexual way. So go out, have fun, be gay.

38. SAFFRON

Tedious, redundant, boredom.

To sell the spice you have to go through *thousands* of flowers, just pulling out these tiny little threads. Can you imagine? The same thing over, and over, and over again. So boring.

39. CORPSE FINDER

Hint, clue, sign.

Hint hint, nudge nudge, there's a body here. Literally, there is a corpse I'm not being metaphorical.

40. CARROT

Misguided, confused, lacking.

Carrots are one of those foods that people say taste sweet, but come on, they don't. They taste like vegetables. Unless they're cooked with maple syrup or added to cake but that's it.

41. ANEMONE

Prejudice, bias, rumor.

I heard a rumor that a goddess's tears mixed with her dead lover's blood to

create anemone flowers. Probably not true, but like, do you want to risk that kind of energy in your life? You should stay away from them. Just to be safe.

42. MARIJUANA

Perceptions, off kilter, notion.

It's not really that funny—you're just high.

43. LAVENDER

Peer pressure, recognized, trust.

You're beginning to feel sleepy. Your eyes start to close. Soon, you will fall fast asleep. Or at least you're supposed to, does lavender even work?

44. DEWY PINE

Weird, outlier, anomaly.

The dewy pine is a weirdo who, for some reason, doesn't grow in a swamp like all its friends. No peer pressure for this guy.

45. OLIVE

Transform, versatility, adaptable.

You can't eat olives raw, but what you *can* do is add them to almost anything. Or skip the cooking and just eat them by the jar.

46. WILLOW

Dark timeline, alternate, contrary.

Something's wrong. Everything is...off. Oh no, that mistake you made has transported you and now you're trapped in the darkest timeline! Oh well, whatever. Bored now.

47. TOBACCO

Dated, passé, dumb.

Didn't anyone tell you? Smoking isn't cool anymore. You're not one of the cool kids, you're just the one that's going to die early.

48. BIRCH

Double-check, accident, mistake.

I add a "T" to the word "birch" every time I write it. Every time. I don't know why, this tree is a bitch I guess. This is your important sign to re-read what you just wrote.

49. SKELETON FLOWER

Invisible, fading, disappear.

When someone is called a "wallflower", it means they blend into the background. This flower literally disappears. Little over dramatic.

50. PURPLE PITCHER PLANT

Passive, waiting, patience.

This plant just sits there and waits for its food to crawl in. Kind of like you on your day off.