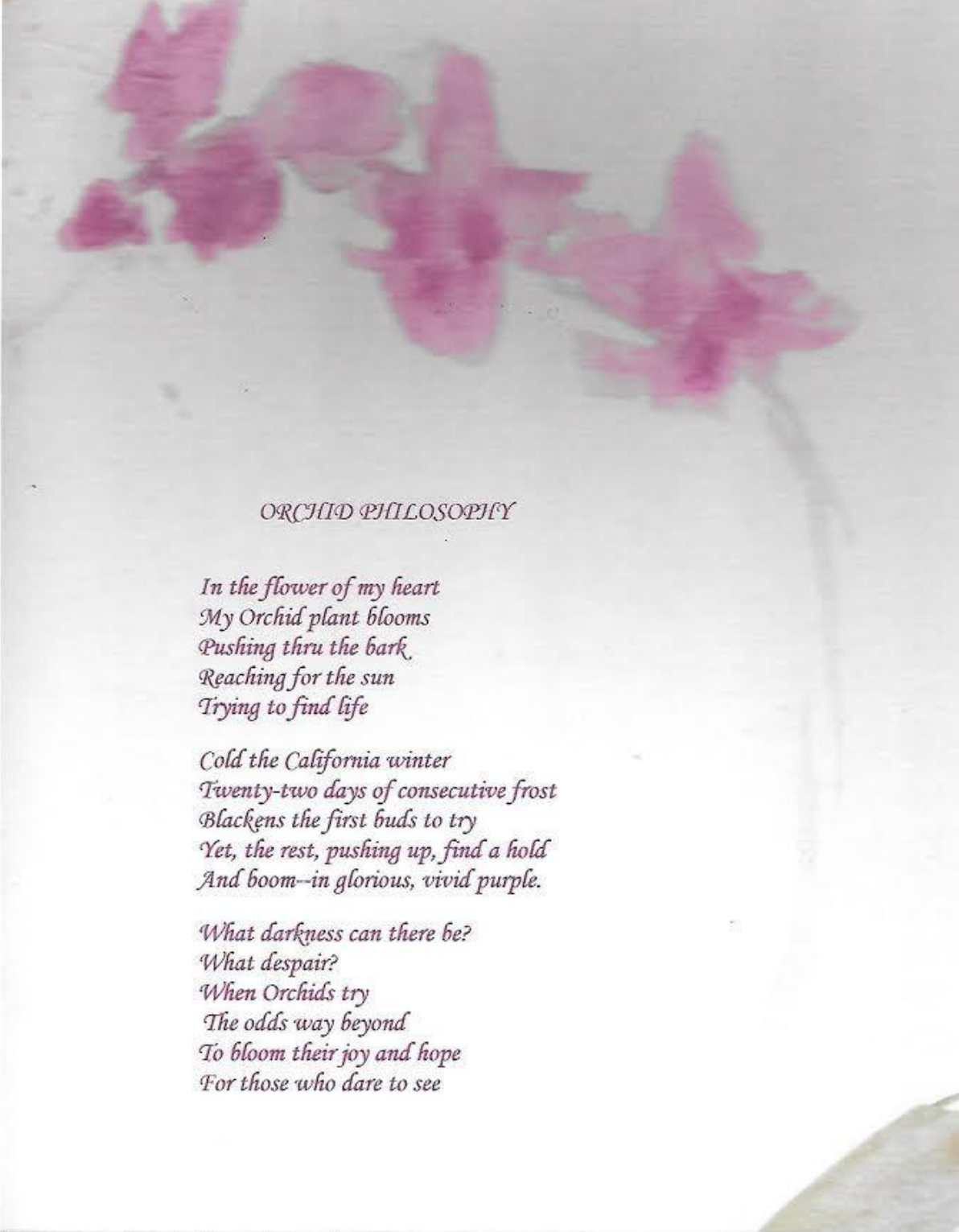


Orchid Philosophy by Mary Morrison



ORCHID PHILOSOPHY

*In the flower of my heart
My Orchid plant blooms
Pushing thru the bark,
Reaching for the sun
Trying to find life*

*Cold the California winter
Twenty-two days of consecutive frost
Blackens the first buds to try
Yet, the rest, pushing up, find a hold
And boom—in glorious, vivid purple.*

*What darkness can there be?
What despair?
When Orchids try
The odds way beyond
To bloom their joy and hope
For those who dare to see*

