

## Botany for the Artist

Let's draw a generic flower to help remember and understand the different parts.

Create a new page for each flower you are studying. Include:

- ❖ Today's date
- ❖ The name of the Family, Genus, and Species (look it up.)

Before you get to dissecting your own flower, get to know it. Look at it from different angles, hold it, touch it, smell it.

Next do a rough sketch (3 minute), with some measuring, of the flower and maybe show its "habit," that is how it grows.

Dissection:

- ❖ Count the parts. Botanists use what is called the floral formula. You can note these in any way that will make sense to you. The important part is to observe and count.
- ❖ For the clarkia:

Family - Onagraceae, Genus, Clarkia, Species Amoena

K- (calyx)-4 sepals.

C- (corolla) - 4 Petals

A- (androecium)- 4 Stamen

G- (gynoecium)- Pistil 1/4

- ❖ Save a petal or two for drawing and color.
- ❖ Draw the stamen and pistil.
  - Use a magnifying glass or microscope and enlarge these little parts and draw them enlarged if that is helpful.
- ❖ If possible, do a cross section of the ovary
- ❖ Draw the parts you do not understand. Often drawing them will help you understand them and understanding them will help you draw them.
- ❖ Note any other interesting details. Make lots of notes.



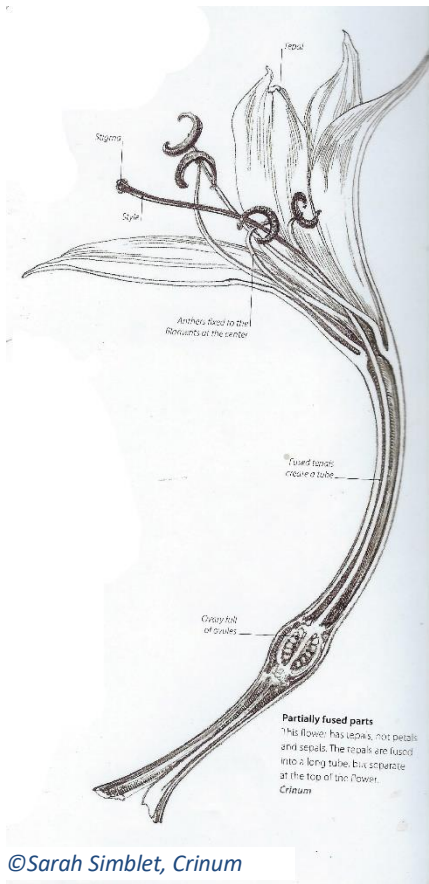
# Botany Book List

Botany for the Artist by Sarah Simblet.

Botany in a Day, The Patterns Method Plant Identification by Thomas Elpel.

Botany Illustrated- Introduction to Plants, Glimn-Lacy and Kaufman

Arthur Harry Church, The Anatomy of Flowers by David Mabberley, biography of early 20<sup>th</sup> century botanist who painted beautiful dissections of flowers.

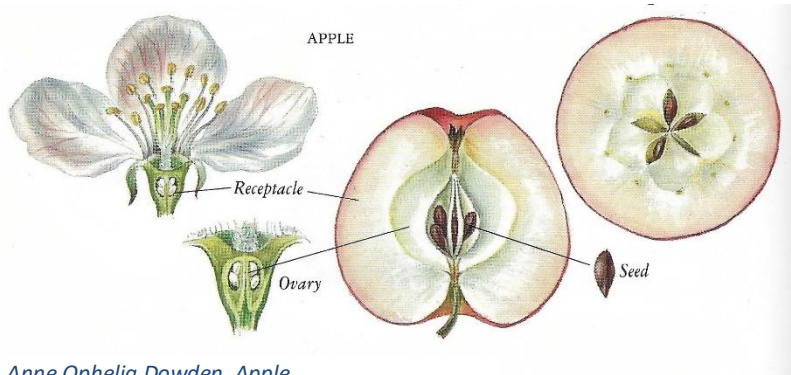


@Sarah Simblet, *Crinum*



Arthur Harry Church, *Salvia*

Drawing from Life, Maud H. Purdy and 90 Years of Women Artists at Brooklyn Botanic Garden by Patricia Jonas- features Maud Purdy's spectacular painted dissections used in her teaching.



Anne Ophelia Dowden, *Apple*

From Flower to Fruit and The Clover and the Bee by Anne Ophelia Dowden-



Maud Purdy, *Morning Glory*

The Science Behind Flowers by Dick Rauh

*"Flowers changed the face of the planet. Without them, the world we know –even man himself–would never have existed."*

Loren Eiseley, The Immense Journey