



Alice's prized garden ornaments were the vintage characters of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.

When we outgrew our swing set, it was turned into a hanging pot canopy accessed by a wooden bridge over a dry creek flanked by palm trees. Gazing balls, clay piglets and hummingbird feeders dotted the landscape. Her favorite garden ornaments, a vintage bargain purchase bought for her by my brother decades ago, have always been Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. She decorates the garden for all of the holidays with Christmas being the grand finale — an extravaganza of sound and light rivaling Disneyland.

As an adult, our main conversations revolve around plants. We stroll together through our mutual playgrounds admiring, trading and consulting. I am grateful for the horticultural acumen that she liberally passed along to us. Although there wasn't a kindergarten where I grew up, I learned everything I needed to know about life in my Mother's Garden.

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