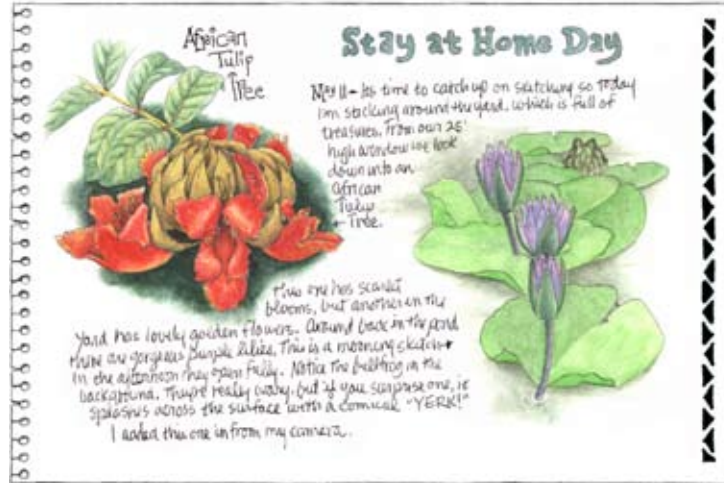


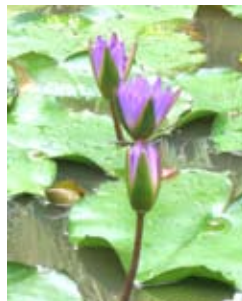
The Original Page



The Process



African Tulip Tree blossoms (an invasive species).



Pond lilies.



If you like to paint in bright colors, don't be misled by the "common knowledge" that you can't get deep, vibrant colors with watercolor pencils. This painting of African Tulip Tree blossoms is a good example of what kind of colors are possible.

It may take two or three applications, but there is no reason you can't keep applying color until you get the shade you want.

As usual, in creating this page, my writing crowded the art and tended to slant a bit. I think I know what I'll work on in my next sketch journal!

The individual flowers of African Tulip Trees fall to the ground, where you can pick them up to admire their details. But the blooming clusters are high in the trees, and the model for this drawing could only be seen from a high upstairs window, with no way to comfortably sketch.

So while I was able to examine and draw details from a flower I could pick up and hold, the big cluster and its leaves had to be drawn from a photo.

Since the photo didn't show a complete cluster, I added a flower from a second view of the one in my hand.

It was hard to NOT draw and paint the orchids in the yard, but if you

look at the two photos you'll see that the



Orchids

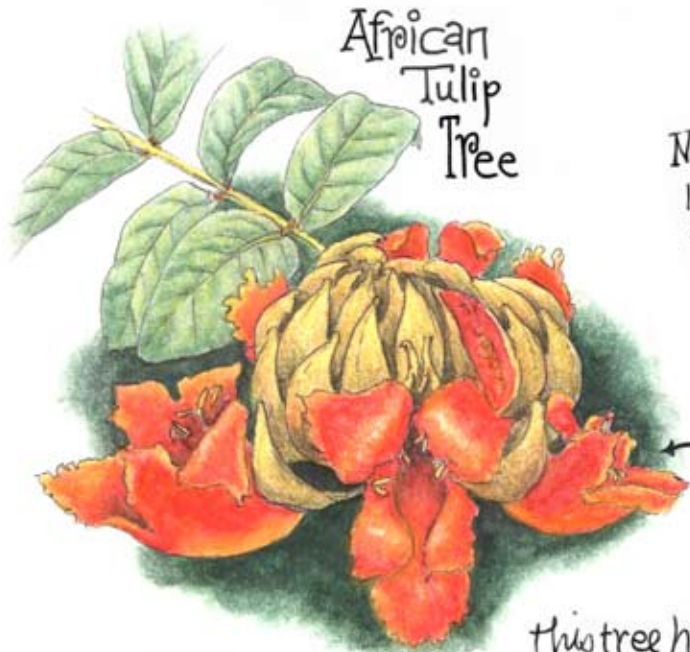
orchids and African Tulip flowers have very similar forms, and the right side of the page needed something different.

The pond lilies were a perfect fit, and to liven up the page I added the bullfrog at the far edge of the lily pads ~ I wanted a visual reminder of those bullfrogs, which sometimes "bronnknked" all night long!



Bullfrog in the pond

Stay at Home Day



African
Tulip
Tree

May 11 ~ Its time to catch up on sketching so today I'm sticking around the yard, which is full of treasures. From our 25' high window we look down into an African Tulip Tree.



this tree has scarlet blooms, but another in the yard has lovely golden flowers. Around back in the pond, there are gorgeous purple lilies. This is a morning sketch → In the afternoon they open fully. Notice the bullfrog in the background. They're really wary, but if you surprise one, it splashes across the surface with a comical "YERK!"

I added this one in from my camera.