

## Digging Deep with Cynthia Brian

# Love Potions for the Garden

By Cynthia Brian

*"Where there's love and inspiration, I don't think you can go wrong." Ella Fitzgerald*

Thank goodness Valentine's Day is celebrated in February otherwise these could be considered the most miserable 28 days of the year in the Northern Hemisphere. Statistically in our area, the month of February is cold, wet, grey, damp, and dreary, sporadically warmed by welcome surprise eruptions of fragrant narcissus and cautious crocus. Of course if we had no winter, spring would not be so delicious. With optimism as our guide this annum, I've mixed a love potion of ideas to inspire and fan the flames of your February fatigue.

Planning a landscape demands patience yet the wait is worth the struggle. With a cup of hot cocoa in hand, push your pencil from your project, unplug the tech toys, and let your dreams design. Create flowerbeds with a diverse cast of edibles, fragrance, bouquets, creepers, and climbers. Cast offs become playful art, trash turns into treasure, and simple embellishments develop into eye candy for the garden. If you are ready for a romp with romance and an infusion of fab from drab, adopt or adapt any of the Baker's dozen-plus one of Cupid potions.

1. Have your kids flown the coop yet the swing set sways rusting in the side yard? Turn it into a hanging basket arbor with your favorite fragrant flowers.

2. Is that claw foot tub you pulled out of the remodel taking up space in the garage? Paint it a vibrant hue and fill with your favorite annuals or perennials for a splash of color.

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Claw foot tub becomes a container garden.

Photo Cynthia Brian

## DON'T JUST TAKE OUR WORD FOR IT...

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Lance Swanson

Managing Partner & Fund Manager, Diablo Vista Capital Partners



Ron and Susan Rothenberg

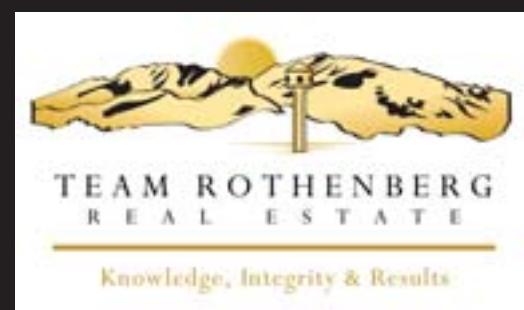
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