

Digging Deep with Cynthia Brian

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Wine barrel is converted to save rain run off.

Photos Cynthia Brian

8. Gazing balls evoke images of magic, séances, and the supernatural. Reflecting the wardrobe of blooming azaleas, the garden sparkles in the dappled sunshine. He loves me, he loves me not ... he loves me.

9. When someone special has died, creating a memory garden to commemorate the life of your loved one helps with the healing. When my beloved Daddy died, I planted a garden with seedlings from the farm he had so carefully tended and added statuary that reflected his journey on this earth.

10. Looking for architecture that serves flying architects? Birdhouses beckon new life to our sanctuaries. Search for unique perches to provide our feathered friends with a love nest worth inhabiting. Our gardens will reap the benefits many times over from their nesting.

11. Small spaces come alive with fun, fanciful furniture. A vintage iron monkey chair shares the stage in an apart-

ment yard with the screen lovers, Gnomeo and Juliet, mooning under a birdbath.

12. What is a garden without a water feature? The sound of a babbling brook or gurgling fountain relaxes and soothes souls overdosed on technology.

13. Put a smile on the faces of your visitors when they encounter your happy tree!

14. If you want to play it safe with fresh Valentine colors that will ignite bright light in your February, pick up a flat of heart-shaped ruby red cyclamen at your favorite nursery or garden center. Pair the red plants with white and you'll have a vibrant display with staying power.

A dull lackluster winter garden turns into second chances and new romances with a little imagination, ingenuity, and a shovel of soil. Lift your spirits and steep your landscape with love potion frivolity. Happy Valentine's Day!



Add a splash of white to brighten the night skies.



A water feature is a must for every romantic interlude.