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Dear Friends,

This week I mailed an unabashedly gushing fan letter to [Piet Oudolf](#), a Dutch landscape designer. When I was introduced to his gardens recently, I felt a sharp, deep sense of *recognition*. That's the only way I know to describe it. So I wrote to thank him for his work in the world.

I'm now reading one of his books, [Planting: A New Perspective](#), and I feel comforted and energized by the gorgeous gardens featured in it. I am madly scribbling notes to myself in the margins, without the expectation of replicating his work but more deeply finding my own. This time calls for re-evaluation, it seems.

What re-evaluation are you doing in these weeks of the pandemic? What of your life during the pause would you like to retain? What are your rituals for meaning-making in these days? We have such expansive choices in front of us if we slow down to consider all that is, and could be. The kind of mindfulness these days have engendered doesn't need to dissolve into mindlessness again. Re-create your life. Plant new things in different combinations. Enjoy your garden.

### **A link you might enjoy**

[Octavia Butler](#) gave us a few rules for predicting the future.

### Coming Up



#### ONLINE FREE WEEKLY GATHERINGS:

During this pandemic, I will host a weekly tea-time on Zoom for whoever would like to show up with a cup of tea, a quote, or poem to share, or just a need for conversation. You can join me on **Thursdays from 4-4:45 pm Eastern** in [this Zoom room](#). We have an innate need for community, and the technology to create community spaces... Bring paper and pen in case we start writing.

**ONLINE CLASS: Hard Conversations: Whiteness, Race, and Social Justice - Began May 12 - it's not too late to join us.** Focuses on white racial identity, hallmarks of white supremacy culture, what it means to be white in a racist world, and how to create a positive white identity. Taught by social justice educators Patti Digh and Victor Lee Lewis. [Go here](#) for info.



Thanks for reading. If you like this newsletter and want to support it, forward it to someone who'd like it. If you're seeing this newsletter for the first time, [you can subscribe here](#).

Pause,

Patti

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