

## VINE OF LIFE

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SHORT HORTiculturaLIST LISTENS, TENSE: ENSEmBLE'S BLESSING SINGers.

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SHORTHORTICULTURALI|STLISTENSTENSENSEM|BLESBLESSINGSINGERS-|
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TUOHSRUOHCIRTRATILL|ETSTNEMITNESSSELESN|ESSLLEBGNIRSSEBGNIS<|
-|
HOUTTEREDEREDIVINEV|INEYARDYARDMASTERST|ERNVISAGEDAGEDELAYS-|
ddeeeehiinorrrttuvv|aaaddeeimnrrrssttvy|aaaddeeeeggilnrssvy|
HORETTUEREEDIVIDNEV|IRDENMADRATSSEYYART|SADAEDREVEEGASGNIYL<|

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In this poem, short-life's gardener vies with death's pruning. Word chains embedded in the poem have been highlighted by capitalization. The underlying structure of the poem is diagrammed above: each 57-letter vine segment (with spaces and punctuation removed) folds back upon its predecessor in boustrophedonic form. Each alphabetized set of 19 lower-case letters sandwiched in the fold has been anagrammed into those letters of the poem located above and below it.

Sing, Bess! Ring, bells! Senseless sentiments tell it. Art rich! Our shout:

-Lying sage, ever dead, astray. Yes, star-damned riven dividee, re-utter OH!

HO! UTTERED ERE DIVINE VINEYARD YARDMASTER, STERN-VISAGED AGE, Delays