



Landscape Lore: Cherry Blossoms

📅 Date

Topic #1: *The Plant*

- Ornamental + fruit bearing there are
 - We are talking about the ornamental one, you cannot eat these fruits, but people so make tea out of the petals. One of my favorite teas has this from (Miro Tea)
 - Sakura, Japanese - viewing of the flowers but also of these blossoms is a cultural event known as hanami (ha- na-mee)
 - Prunus subgenus cerasus, also known as the prunus serulatta -
 - botanical name Prunus, the latin word for plum, cherry resembling fruit

- serrulata latin for sawlike-referring the tiny petals that drape the ground in various shades of pink confetti.
- Endemic to Japan. Restricted to or native to.....
 - But some researchers suggest that they originated in the himalayan region
 - Controversial remarks were made by the China Cherry Association about 10 years ago on the origin of the Cherry Tree. Japan, Korea, and China made claims to their origin
 - "In a word, the cherry blossom originated in China, thrived in Japan, and has nothing to do with Korea."
- The cherry blossoms in Washington D.C. have a history with US and Japan relations.
- If you're in the Cleveland Area, they will be blooming soon at the Brookside Reservation, Wade Oval in University Circle, Public Square, and the science center.

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Topic #2: *Stories for blossom gazing*

- Cherry Blossoms symbolize new beginnings, prosperity, and the ultimate ephemerality. They are beautiful but they don't last long, but they arrive and depart in the most spectacular way!
 - Much like a popular mythological creature, the flaming phoenix.
 - In some chinese folklore the phoenix is said to have made it's bed out of cherry blossom petals, representing everlasting life.
- But they also symbolize love and affection.
 - Mt. Fuji Goddess and her love turning into flames
- Bonus: Fairies partying cherry blossoms, you might be able to see one, make a wish if you offer them honey. (ALWAYS be cautious when dealing with faeries, they make try to trick you, its not necessarily to be mean, but rather to be unexpected)