



The Amazing Inhalation

Ladies and gentlemen.
Boys and girls.
Humans of all ages.

Step right up.

Don't be shy.

Let us begin.

Sights you have never seen.
Feelings you have never felt.
Sounds you have never heard.

A feast for the senses.

Not for the faint of heart.
Not for the weak of mind.

All you need to do
Is breathe in.

Move in and
Watch closely
As I light it up.

Inhale.
Hold.
Exhale.

And let the journey begin.

The Henna Page® Calendar 2018



*She walked barefoot
through the snow
until she reached the castle,
her skirt a glass bell.*

*Her knees rang
against her petticoats
as she danced, the diamonds
of her toes tapping—*

*They wondered how she did it.
Her face frozen in serenity,
even after a finger broke away
into a suitor's hand.*

*She twirled to the next one
and the next—here a knuckle,
there an ear. Soon her toes
sparkled across the floor.*

*She left her feet with the prince,
dashed back into the storm.
They found no prints
and nothing to return.*

Missed Connections

She walked barefoot through the snow until she reached the castle, her skirt a glass bell.

Her knees rang against her petticoats as she danced, the diamonds of her toes tapping—

They wondered how she did it. Her face frozen in serenity, even after a finger broke away into a suitor's hand.

She twirled to the next one and the next – here a knuckle, there an ear. Soon her toes sparkled across the floor.

She left her feet with the prince, dashed back into the storm. They found no prints and nothing to return.

The Henna Page® Calendar 2018

January

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31



*When he saw he was naked,
he pushed the fruit
into my hands and told me,*

*"Eat this,
and we'll tell Him
it was your fault."*

*I should have eaten
the snake.*

The Henna Page® Calendar 2018

Eve's Lament

When he saw he was naked,
he pushed the fruit
into my hands and told me,

"Eat this,
and we'll tell Him
it was your fault."

The snake was draped
over his shoulders. The juice
still glistening on his chin.

"Obey me, for you
are my wife."

I raised a brow.

"Please, Eve.
Just do this for me."

And what's a girl to do
when she's one of two
people on this planet?

Damn those puppy-dog eyes.

I bit down, chewed,
swallowed.
"You owe me, big time."

Damn boys and their damn
snakes.

I should have eaten
the snake.

February

T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	1	2	3



Penumbra

I caught a flash
of moonlight
in a bucket of rain, so I
strained out the scum,
the wriggling nymphs,

and I drank it
with a lump of sugar.

And now the wolves
howl inside me.
My hands open--
desert flowers to the storm.
The glaciers of my lungs
slide and recede
in their slow, giant dance.

Every month I run
from the sun, and run again
to meet it.

I smile
from both sides of my face.

The Henna Page® Calendar 2018

March

T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31



A Girl I Knew

She was strong from a lifetime of hardship.

Beautiful.
Damaged.

(and isn't it the damage rather than the beauty that draws the eye?)

Muscular.
Scarred.

(she was stronger than whatever had tried to kill her)

Bright, cheap dress.
Golden, brown skin.

Laughed like she knew something about you.
Smiled like she'd never tell.

Smelled like sunshine.
Tasted like she could drink a man under the table.

And my GOD you should have seen her move.

She was strong from a lifetime of hardship. Beautiful. Damaged (and isn't it the damage rather than the beauty that draws the eye?) Muscular. Scarred. (she was stronger than whatever had tried to kill her) Bright, cheap dress. Golden, brown skin. Laughed like she knew something about you. Smiled like she'd never tell. Smelled like sunshine. Tasted like she could drink a man under the table. And my GOD you should have seen her move.

The Henna Page® Calendar 2018

April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1



The Henna Page® Calendar 2018

*When she was born
the size of a thimble,
her mother cradled her
in the dip of her collarbone.*

*Those calm eyes observed
the oscillating fan,
and I swore she could see
the air change colors
as it swooped in
and fanned out.*

*At three, she cried
when the snowflakes
melted on her hands,
the plates of lace
softening into droplets.*

*At five I caught her
dancing on a soap bubble,
riding the pearl of air
up and up over the plum tree.*

*Not so high, I called.
Her laugh was a silk thread
I could barely catch.*

Thumbelina's Ah-Ma

When she was born
the size of a thimble,
her mother cradled her
in the dip of her collarbone.

Those calm eyes observed
the oscillating fan,
and I swore she could see
the air change colors
as it swooped in
and fanned out.

At three, she cried
when the snowflakes
melted on her hands,
the plates of lace
softening into droplets.

At five I caught her
dancing on a soap bubble,
riding the pearl of air
up and up
over the plum tree.

Not so high, I called.
Her laugh was a silk thread
I could barely catch.

May

T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31



WHERE DID YOUR EYES LAND
 WHAT DID YOU SEE
 WHAT DID YOU THINK
 WHAT DID YOU WANT TO SAY

MY COURTESIES ARE MY WEAPONS
 AND THEY CUT JUST AS DEEPLY

DO YOU SEE RESTRAINT
 DO YOU SEE ELEGANCE
 DO YOU SEE FEMINITY
 DO YOU SEE SOMETHING TRIVIAL

MY COURTESIES ARE MY WEAPONS
 AND I WILL MAKE YOU BLEED

The Henna Page® Calendar 2018

Etiquette and Blood

Where did your eyes land?
 What did you see?
 What did you think?
 What did you WANT to say?

My courtesies
 are my weapons
 And they cut just as deeply.

Do you see restraint?
 Do you see elegance?
 Do you see femininity?
 Do you see something trivial?

My courtesies
 are my weapons
 And I will make you bleed.

June

F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1



**Jehu's riding up, now,
and I'm oiling my hair,
rouging my cheeks, my lips.**

**Jehu's breaking
down the door, now,
and I'm lining my eyes,
darkening those
perfect eyes.**

**Jehu's storming
up the stairs,
still got time to fix
stray hairs, dab on
the best perfume.**

**Yes I'm Queen,
going out as one.
Jehu's caught me red
handed, red
headed, red
soled...**

**Jehu's sent me flying
But I'll slay my way
down, fingers twisting,
red locks on fire.**

**Hounds growling, now,
licking dripping jowls.
Come, meet your Queen.
Eat my heart,
but leave those
prettiest parts be.**

Jezebel

Jehu's riding up, now,
and I'm oiling my hair,
rouging my cheeks, my lips.

Jehu's breaking
down the door, now,
and I'm lining my eyes,
darkening those
perfect eyes.

Jehu's storming
up the stairs,
still got time to fix
stray hairs, dab on
the best perfume.

Yes I'm Queen,
going out as one.
Jehu's caught me red
handed, red
headed, red
soled...

Jehu's sent me flying
But I'll slay my way
down, fingers twisting,
red locks on fire.

Hounds growling, now,
licking dripping jowls.
Come, meet your Queen.
Eat my heart,
but leave those
prettiest parts be.

The Henna Page® Calendar 2018

July

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31



THESE DARK EYES
SLANTED EYES
WEREN'T MADE
TO GAZE SUBMISSIVELY
BLINK SWEETLY.

THEY GLARE AND DARE YOU TO
SAY THAT AGAIN. GO AHEAD,
I HEARD YOU.
HEY, ASIAN PERSUASION
HEY, CHINA DOLL
(WHAT?)

I'M NOT HERE
TO BE THE BALM FOR YOUR
YELLOW FEVER, NOT HERE TO
SAY "HELLO" IN CHINESE,
TELL YOU WHAT KIND OF
FOOD I EAT,
OR WHERE I'M "REALLY"
FROM. (CLEVELAND.)

STRANGERS THINK OF ME
UNDRESSED— AN OBSESSION
WITH THE SWEET EXOTIC FLOWERS
OF THE EAST. YELLING "CHING-CHONG"
(YEAH, THAT'S SEXY.)

THE SH*T I GO THROUGH
FOR A SODA AND TEN DOLLARS
ON PUMP TWO.

Unnecessary

These dark eyes
slanted eyes
weren't made
to gaze submissively
blink sweetly.

They glare and dare you to
say that again. Go ahead,
I heard you.
Hey, Asian Persuasion
Hey, China doll
(What?)

I'm not here
to be the balm for your
Yellow Fever, not here to
say "Hello" in Chinese,
tell you what kind of
food I eat,
or where I'm "really"
from. (Cleveland.)

Strangers think of me
undressed— an obsession
with the sweet exotic flowers
of the East.
Yelling "ching-chong"
(Yeah, that's sexy.)

The sh*t I go through
for a soda and ten dollars
on pump two.

The Henna Page® Calendar 2018

August

W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31



Laments & Considerations
Five Minutes to Curtain

I am seven feet tall
 and weigh ten pounds.
 My bones are hollow.
 (birdlike)

My elbows are imperceptible
 And you will
 never see my palms.
 (beauty of line)

I have bled.
 I have starved.
 I have neglected all
 other spheres of my life.
 (romance is for the lazy)

The entirety of my
 mathematical knowledge is
 Counting to eight.

And for now,
 That's okay.

One day I may move on.
 Meet a man.
 Eat something?
 Have a child.

But not now.

Because, now,
 Just for now,
 All I have is all I need.

And just for now,
 Just for this moment,
 I am sharp,
 Weightless,
 And perfect.

The Henna Page® Calendar 2018

September

S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1



Sucrose Overdose

FOR ME?!?!

Wheeeeeeeeeee
 33333333!!!!!!!
 Oh, you humans
 are brilliant!

I have discovered
 compound $C_{12}H_{22}O_{11}$
 And I truly understand
 its addictive properties!

Fkdlsjgorpwjtvkmwop
 Awkoeujgvwpkawefj
 3925oufjioncjr90
 [-qMYBRAINISONFIRE

I can hear colors!
 I can see sounds!
 And everything is so
 beautiful and bright!
 Disaccharides are
 EVERYTHING.

I want to run
 up a mountain!

FOR ME?!?!
 Wheeeeeeeeeee33333333333333!!!!!!!
 Oh, you humans are brilliant!
 I have discovered compound $C_{12}H_{22}O_{11}$
 And I truly understand its addictive properties!
 Fkdlsjgorpwjtvkmwopawkoeujgvwpkawefj3925oufjioncjr90 [-qMYBRAINISONFIRE
 I can hear colors!
 I can see sounds!
 And everything is so beautiful and bright!
 Disaccharides are EVERYTHING.
 I want to run up a mountain!

The Henna Page® Calendar 2018

October

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31



On Early Revelations of Emotional Labor

Everyone.
Please.
Just.
Leave.
Me.
Alone.

I understand that I am a Person in Authority.
I understand that each one of you needs something.

But, seriously . . .

I need a minute.

I often have vivid hallucinations
In which
I cut parts of my body off one at a time,
Handing each to one of you
And giving consideration to the meaning of
One's pound of flesh.
I would bleed for you all until
There is nothing left of me
For what but that is expected?

I must help.
I must be kind.
I cannot right now.

I have given so much of myself.
It wasn't enough.

Fetch my knife.

The Henna Page® Calendar 2018

November

T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1



When the king came
for the first sister,
she turned herself into stone
and he could not break her.

And he cast her aside.

And when he came
for the second sister
and she turned herself into water
and he could not hold her.

And he flung her away
with the first
and they held each other
water and stone.

When he came for the third,
she turned herself into steel
and he could not bend her.

And she sharpened herself
on stone and water
until her edge
sang with light

and then they came for him.

Three Sisters

When the king came
for the first sister,
she turned herself into stone
and he could not break her.

And he cast her aside.

And when he came
for the second sister,
she turned herself into water
and he could not hold her.

And he flung her away
with the first
and they held each other,
water and stone.

When he came for the third,
she turned herself into steel
and he could not bend her.

And she sharpened herself
on stone and water
until her edge
sang with light

and then they came for him.

The Henna Page® Calendar 2018

December

S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Image Credits



Cover Bodyart by Robin Jaeckel
Photography by Roy Jones
Montage by Alex Morgan
Words by Gwyneddh Jones



April By Catherine Cartwright-Jones PhD
Photography by Roy Jones
Montage by Alex Morgan
Words by Gwyneddh Jones



August Bodyart by Rebecca Chou
Photography by Roy Jones
Montage by Alex Morgan
Words by Rebecca Chou



December Bodyart by Alexander Limbach
Photography by Roy Jones
Montage by Alex Morgan
Words by Rebecca Chou



January By Catherine Cartwright-Jones PhD
Photography by Roy Jones
Montage by Alex Morgan
Words by Rebecca Chou



May Bodyart by Alexander Limbach
Photography by Roy Jones
Montage by Alex Morgan
Words by Rebecca Chou



September By Catherine Cartwright-Jones PhD
Photography by Roy Jones
Montage by Alex Morgan
Words by Gwyneddh Jones



February By Catherine Cartwright-Jones PhD
Photography by Roy Jones
Montage by Alex Morgan
Words by Rebecca Chou



June Bodyart by Alexander Limbach
Photography by Roy Jones
Montage by Alex Morgan
Words by Gwyneddh Jones



October Bodyart by Rebecca Chou
Photography by Roy Jones
Montage by Alex Morgan
Words by Gwyneddh Jones



March Bodyart by Rebecca Chou
Photography by Roy Jones
Montage by Alex Morgan
Words by Rebecca Chou



July Bodyart by Noam Sienna
Photography by Roy Jones
Montage by Alex Morgan
Words by Rebecca Chou



November Bodyart by Wendy Rover
Photography by Roy Jones
Montage by Alex Morgan
Words by Gwyneddh Jones



Body Art Materials
Mehandi.com

Contributors

Catherine Cartwright-Jones, PhD. TapDancing Lizard LLC. Kent, Ohio

Rebecca Chou. Henna Vendetta. Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Robin Jaeckel. Henna Rising. Rochester, New York

Gwyneddh Jones. Bittersweet's. Stow, Ohio

Roy Jones. StreetLevel Technologies. Stow, Ohio

Alexander Limbach. Empire. Kent, Ohio.

Alex Morgan. Spellstone Studio. UK

Wendy Rover. Roving Horse Henna. Portland, Oregon

Noam Sienna. Sienna Arts. Minneapolis, Minnesota



Sponsors



[Henna Page®](#)



[Empire](#)



[Mehandi.com](#)



[Bittersweet's](#)