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“Terra-cotta—or puce?”

Terra-cotta—or puce? That I must decide.

First, I’ll consider the terra-cotta. A nice color. But...No. Can’t go with the terra-cotta. Every time I looked at it, it would remind me of my first boyfriend, my first love, Steve.

Steve, with the beach house. In Greece. A sparse but elegant home. With a beautiful tiled roof. The terra-cotta roof that we jumped from, splashing down like lithesome frogs, into the sparkling Aegean. The water the color of his eyes.

The water the consistency of his constancy—that man couldn’t commit to a dinner reservation, much less a relationship.

So, no. not the terra-cotta.

If not the terra-cotta, though, then—the puce? A subtle red. And red means stop. Like that stop sign I ran that time when I was so distracted, fretting over Steve, that I got pulled over and got a ticket, well, and yes, a phone number, too, from a cop. That was Devin.

Ah, Devin.

He called me Nathaniel. All my life, I’ve been a Nat. Nat Nat Nat Nat Nat. Like I was some kind of tedious little bug. But not to Devin. “My Nathaniel,” he’d say, “how was your day?” “My Nathaniel, should we go to a movie Saturday night?”

“My Nathaniel, we’re out of milk.” “My Nathaniel this, My Nathaniel that.” Yes, it did get annoying. Had to show My Devin to My Door...

Okay, then, not the puce.

And not the terra-cotta. Ah...but there are so many more choices! Cornflower! Periwinkle.

Aubergine! Violet, kelly, sapphire. Colors that are flowers, jewels...even vegetables.

I have to decide.

Not purple. Not green. I guess I’m going to have to go with the yellow. Traditional, original. It’s the color, really, a Post-It should be. Yes. I’ve decided: yellow.

I will buy the yellow Post-Its.

That feels good. I’ve made a decision.

But, now.

Tiny square, large rectangle...or the ones shaped like hearts, animals...letters of the alphabet.

No, not the letters of the alphabet—D for Devin, S for Steve—no, definitely not the alphabet.

But what?

There are simply too many choices! How can I possibly know which shape is the optimal shape for all my temporary note-writing needs??

How can anyone know anything in this world?