

HENRIETTA

Henry! Henry! Henry! Henry! Henry!
Henry!

HENRY

Easy, Henrietta. I'll be right down.

HENRIETTA

- Henry?

HENRY

I'm here. Relax. Just easy. Catch your
breath. That's it. Relax. Calm down.
Here we are. Sit down. That's it.
That's it, now. Catch your breath.
What is it?

HENRIETTA

It's been accepted. My Alsophila
ignocardium grahami. They've accepted
it.

HENRY

Try to speak calmly, my dear. What is
it they have accepted?

HENRIETTA

It's a tropical tree-fern. And I
discovered it during our honeymoon.
And when I couldn't classify it, I
thought it might be a true species.
But I couldn't believe it, so I sent
it to Wagner at the University of
Michigan. And Henry, it is. It's a
true species. I've discovered a true
species.

HENRY

Well. That's very nice. Very nice.
Well, well. Now you'll be able to name
a whole species, won't you? Just like
what's his name? - Louis de
Bougainville.

HENRIETTA

That's right. Or James Parkinson.

HENRY/HENRIETTA

Or Brussels sprouts.

HENRY

Well, well, well. You've achieved the kind of immortality after all, haven't you? Now you'll be in all the atlases under L right before Morgan, Muller and Mendel.

HENRIETTA

It would be cross-indexed under G. *Alsophila grahami*, for Graham.

HENRY

For Graham? You mean that you've discovered a new species and have named it for Graham after doing all your work as Lowell? You fool. That's not the way to name a species. Can't you do anything right?

HENRIETTA

I didn't name it for me, Henry, I named it for you. *Alsophila grahami*, for Henry Graham.

HENRY

Alsophila grahami, for Henry Graham. Well, are you sure that they'll know I mean, that it's me? Will they have my name in the atlas under under G? For Henry Graham?

HENRIETTA

Yes, and they'll have you in all the textbooks, Henry, as a footnote. As a footnote and in the atlases under G.

HENRY

Well, I've achieved a small slice of immortality myself, haven't I? As a footnote and under G.

HENRIETTA

Are you pleased, Henry?

HENRY

Oh yes, it was very thoughtful of you, Henrietta. I believe I am pleased.

HENRIETTA

- I put a tip of one frond into a plastic token - so that you can wear

it always. If you want to.

She hands him the present.

HENRY

Oh yes. Well, why not? I mean it will be a wonderful conversation piece. "What frond is in your token, Henry?" "Oh, my own frond. An Alsophila grahami. Why do you ask?"

HENRIETTA

You like it?

HENRY

Yes, yes. Very attractive, isn't it? Good lines. I mean, for a frond. Don't you, don't you think it should be under under L? I mean Alsophila lowellia or something? I feel as though you've given me your place in the atlases.

HENRIETTA

Henry, I don't think I could have ever discovered it without you. You gave me confidence. You remember? You said, that if being with you was going to give me confidence, I was going to be a very confident botanist. Well, you were right.

HENRY

Alsophila grahami. Well, well, well.