

GHOST IVY

Mike Marks

After several years of perfect weather,
The English ivy planted on the edge
Of our foundation, growing up together
With nightshade and myrtle, bloomed above the hedge.
By rooting the flowering stem, a tiny tree
Evolved from the ivy. The child of the vine
Has its own personality,
But the parent traits intertwine.
The rare *Hedera helix* autumn blossom
Of *ghost ivy* was the result of love
And luck. The patience of cultivation so awesome
That we knew we had assistance from above.
Like the ivy, the child of our womb
Was nurtured in hopes of an elusive bloom.

“Ghost Ivy” © 2006 by Mike Marks