HOLLY SCHMIDT FORECAST, FALL/WINTER 2021-22

BELKIN CLERESTORY WINDOWS

Gritty ash will accumulate in our throats. Warning: Do not stare at the incandescent sun or move too quickly.

Distorted shadows will appear on sidewalks. Coyotes are likely to track the scent of fermenting apples in the fug of twilight.

Unsettled conditions will disrupt wasps scavenging in a stupor, while maples shiver with impending dormancy. Worms can expect to float across sidewalks, while mushrooms anticipate a soggy revival.

Clover shoots will surge, pushing aside the earthy crust. Counting threes, hoping for lucky fours.

Periods of drying bark reveal lichen patinas, while ghost berries signal eddies of leaves and shorter days.

Fragile leaves will blacken and turn inward. Viscous microbes will belch the gas of decay, producing a nostalgic effect. As nights lengthen, racoons prepare to tenderly unpeel garbage. Expect huffs of warm breath to form rapidly dissipating clouds.

Despite periods of unrest, milky grubs will grow round under a blanket of turf. Roots reach for dampness deep underground.

Noses will drip, despite woolen scarves. Prepare to shake your coat.

Ivy will obscure illustrious names while setting buildings alight. Gulls will toss clusters of calls into the air. Above average seed drift will settle on crumbling cliffs. Below, a tuberous network of cattails will hoard its energy.

Mildew will awaken in damp recesses. There will be periods of spiny umbrellas protruding from trash cans.

Competition for space under the eaves is expected to continue while a dull light penetrates office interiors.

Piles of mushy paper will accumulate. Meanwhile, twitchy whiskers will seek warm openings in the dark. Crows will plunge their sharp beaks into the ground, overturning the lawn. Anticipate a shift in the tides.

Indoor plants will press their leaves against windowpanes dripping with condensation.

Meanwhile, spiders can anticipate snapping webs to cling wetly to doorways, while needles the colour of rust coat the ground.

ARCHIVE WINDOW

Fragrant pine sap will be subdued while cones drop with a hollow thwack. This is part of a larger trend that will trigger a retreat indoors.

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CIRS WINDOWS

Stinging eyes and aching foreheads will occur during this unprecedented period. Remain indoors and away from hazy skylines.

Stars will not be visible for extended stretches. Expect stillness under a dome of reflected city lights.

The grasses will rustle and seed pods rattle for extended periods, occasionally accompanied by sparrows' chatter.

Sidewalk plantains will grow stringy with age while leaf blowers expel noisy fumes. We should see steam rise from coffee cups as patio furniture is unchained. This is the start of warmth on our hair and a coolness in the ribs.

Moss tufts will envelop branche while minor puddles accumulate in empty fountains.

Licorice ferns will drape their fronds over branches, while the dried veins of leaves scrape underfoot.

Bullseye snail shells will bob on leafy Stalks while ornamental fruit stains the walk deep purple. Cedar roots will loosen their grip on the soil while their tops sway. Brace for future nurse logs.