



The Legend of Amaryllis Hippeastrum



Patty's Plants

Amaryllis was named after a shepherdess from Greek Mythology. Amaryllis means “Sparkling”. These flowers come in all sorts of colors from pink to orange to bi-colored. This is a Greek Legend that tells how it came to be and why the red one is so blood red.

The Story goes like this:

There once was a beautiful maiden. Her name was Amaryllis. Where she lived there was a very handsome young shepherd. All the young maidens in the village wanted his attention especially Amaryllis. He was not interested in any of them. He cared more about his plants and flowers. He would tell each of the young maidens to bring him a new flower that he has never seen. Then and only then will he give them his heart.

Now, Amaryllis wanted his attention more than any thing so she thought she would ask for some advice on how to win him, from a High Priestess. The High Priestess gave her some strange and usual advice but she must follow it to win the young shepherds love.

The priestess told her to take a golden arrow and pierce her heart with it. Then she must go to the young shepherds cottage every day and take the same path until the shepherd notices her. She did this for 29 days. On each day she shed more and more of her blood on the path to his cottage. She was turned down every time. The 30 day she felt her feet brush against some flowers she had never noticed on the path. They where the most beautiful blood red flowers she had ever seen. She picked an armful and rushed to the young shepherds cottage. When he opened the door he was stunned. They both were the most beautiful things he had ever seen. He asked her name and she told him. He said he would name the flowers Amaryllis. He fell in love with her and the flowers. They all lived happily ever after.

Oh, I almost forgot to say, her heart was healed instantly. Thank goodness.

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