

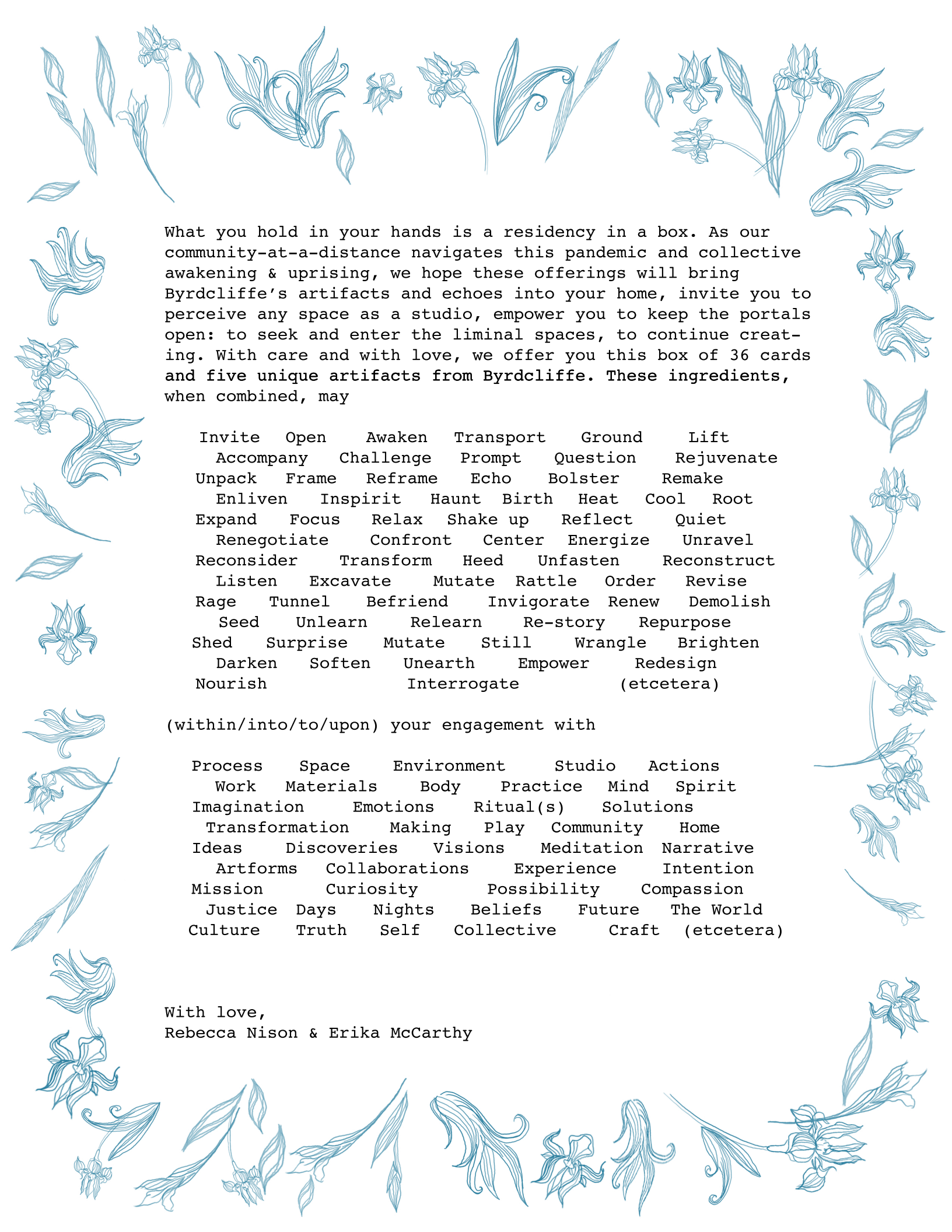
Dear Friends,

As creators, we devote ourselves to transformation.
Existing materials, blended with imagination and time and
energy and insight, become new artifacts:

clay becomes a vessel;
a blank page becomes a story;
voice becomes music;
breath becomes sculpture;
shadow becomes puppet;
the stage becomes a wilderness;
the wilderness becomes a stage;
a gathering of individuals becomes a chorus;
pauses become rhythms;
walls become portals.

The studio itself may be a defined physical structure--but it's
also a portal. When we enter the studio, we enter the liminal
space between what could be and what is. On our best days, we
abandon the nouns by which we limit and define ourselves; we
become verbs as we offer up our energy and attention and bodies
and time to transmogrify the possible into the actual.
In making, we are remade.

Arundhati Roy wrote an essay in April called, "The Pandemic Is
a Portal." The title alone strikes me as vital and true; while
the pandemic is many things--more verb than noun--it's held us
in a state of limbo, causing us to hover in the space of the
inbetween. You might say that it's opened a collective door
where we encounter amplified versions of what meets us in the
studio: revelation; solitude; possibility; uncertainty; anxiety;
the call to transform and be transformed, and to make of
our present a more just, compassionate, and beautiful future.



What you hold in your hands is a residency in a box. As our community-at-a-distance navigates this pandemic and collective awakening & uprising, we hope these offerings will bring Byrdcliffe's artifacts and echoes into your home, invite you to perceive any space as a studio, empower you to keep the portals open: to seek and enter the liminal spaces, to continue creating. With care and with love, we offer you this box of 36 cards and five unique artifacts from Byrdcliffe. These ingredients, when combined, may

Invite	Open	Awaken	Transport	Ground	Lift
Accompany	Challenge	Prompt	Question	Rejuvenate	
Unpack	Frame	Reframe	Echo	Bolster	Remake
Enliven	Inspire	Haunt	Birth	Heat	Cool
Expand	Focus	Relax	Shake up	Reflect	Quiet
Renegotiate	Confront	Center	Energize	Unravel	
Reconsider	Transform	Heed	Unfasten	Reconstruct	
Listen	Excavate	Mutate	Rattle	Order	Revise
Rage	Tunnel	Befriend	Invigorate	Renew	Demolish
Seed	Unlearn	Relearn	Re-story	Repurpose	
Shed	Surprise	Mutate	Still	Wrangle	Brighten
Darken	Soften	Unearth	Empower	Redesign	
Nourish		Interrogate		(etcetera)	

(within/into/to/upon) your engagement with

Process	Space	Environment	Studio	Actions	
Work	Materials	Body	Practice	Mind	Spirit
Imagination	Emotions	Ritual(s)	Solutions		
Transformation	Making	Play	Community	Home	
Ideas	Discoveries	Visions	Meditation	Narrative	
Artforms	Collaborations	Experience	Intention		
Mission	Curiosity	Possibility	Compassion		
Justice	Days	Nights	Beliefs	Future	The World
Culture	Truth	Self	Collective	Craft	(etcetera)

With love,
Rebecca Nison & Erika McCarthy