

I need you to do something, one simple thing that can be done quickly and easily, since most simple things are indeed easy and quick, they don't take much to do, they don't require much: simply go back outside, go back out through the door that led you in here, exit this room where you are standing now, go back into nature, back to where the plants are, go to the outside world, step through that door and walk outside, and find the plant that is growing there by the door, find the small vine growing by the doorway that led you into this room, it's a tiny plant with small stubs of vines growing from it, and once you've found this little plant, and once you find it you'll know you've found the right one because the right one won't be like any other plant around here because it grows very differently than the other plants growing around this building even though there are so many, find it and study it, look at it closely, examine every detail, notice how the little vines look like newborn snakes, look for the brown root crown from where the little snakes are growing, isn't the color of the newly growing vines a pleasing light green color?, and once you've grown tired of studying the details and characteristics of the plant, once you've fully appreciated it, find a rock, take out your pocketknife, look for a splintered shard of a board, a pair of scissors in your bag, perhaps your fingernails alone will be good enough, regardless find something sharp, something that will make a clean slice, and cut back those tiny little vines, cut every single one of those tiny little vines, sever the small snake-like growths of that pleasing green hue from the tuberous root, like a professional quickly and cleanly remove those aspiring fresh vines of the plant that are now beginning to grow outside near the doorway that led you into this room, standing in this spot, and do it without emotion. Cut the new stems of the vine, destroy the new leaves as they grow from the vines of the plant growing by the door. And take all of the severed limbs with you and burn them, and make sure they are completely dead when you dispose of them. Cut the new stems and the new leaves of the plant growing outside by the doorway that led you into this room, but once you've cut them away, once you've cleared the plant of all of its new growth, all of its ambitious new vines, they will grow back again the next day twice as strong and with more vigor. In fact, remove them more than just once a day, that might not be enough, cut back the leaves and the stems as often as you can, just in case, cut them back whenever you think of it. Simply cut back the new growth of the vines from the plant outside the door, you'll need to prevent the plant from growing, you cannot allow any new growth from the plant outside this room, please. You need to cut every vine and every leaf and you need to cut them by the root, you need to cut them as close to the root as possible. You say, 'Why not uproot the plant, killing it for good?' but that would only work if it didn't regenerate from the small roots left in the soil when you ripped it out, give it two months and it will be here again, staring you in the eyes. Perhaps completely digging up the surrounding area insuring you get everything, but how could you be so sure that you got all of the roots? how big would the hole have to be? how sure could you be that you actually truly eradicated it? your overconfidence might be the best thing for it. So don't even bother, you cannot kill the plant, don't even try to kill it, killing it is much harder than you think, you'll think you've killed it because it's just a plant and killing a plant is easy, but your self-assurance will betray you, you can't kill the plant no matter how hard you try. The environment here is more than perfect for it, it will grow faster than you could ever imagine. That is why you must try to prevent the new growth from happening by cutting back the new stems and the new vines and the new leaves of the plant that is growing out there. That is why you need to prevent it from growing any more, because you can't kill it, you can only slow it down, there's nothing you can do to kill it, it's worthless to even try, even though you think you are absolutely sure that you can kill it. You're confident but you don't even know how the plant grows, and if you don't know how it grows then how can you kill it? how can you be so sure? You'll think you are killing it in the right way, the surest way, the way that will forever annihilate the plant, but you'll be wrong. There is no way to kill the plant, the plant grows and propagates in more ways than you can imagine, in more ways than even science can figure out, and that is why you won't be able to kill it, that is why there is no way to actually kill the plant, it outgrows you, countless people have tried for centuries to discover a way to kill this plant, all with no avail, no insight, they just keep cutting back the new vines, that's all they can do. It's not worth your time to try to kill it. You'll think, 'Why does it matter if you cut back the plant or not? It's just a plant.' But it's not just a plant, would I be warning you if this were just a plant? if it was just a plant then you wouldn't need to worry about killing it or cutting it back preventing the new growth from occurring, preventing the new vines and the new leaves from full developing and sending out more vines and more leaves and spreading new roots, until it smothers this landscape in a thick green blanket, it's not like other plants. It may look like a plant that you've seen before, or you'll believe it to be just like any other plant, but it certainly isn't. It grows faster than imaginable and it grows faster than all other plants, that's what makes it important to destroy the new vines and leaves, because if you don't come back here every day and cut the new growth away, if you don't come as often as you can, in fact you shouldn't really leave this place now, you should stay and tend to the plant that is growing here, stop reading and go cut the plant, but if you don't come and don't take care of it, then it will grow to completely cover this entire field in one season, and that is just in one season, from one plant, from a plant like any other plant, like every other plant, a plant that is easy to kill and a plant that is not threatening, or so you think. Or maybe it is threatening, maybe you need to stay here and keep an eye on the plant, cutting the new growth, because if you don't it will be your fault that this entire field was covered by the plant, they'll say that you let the plant cover this entire field, you should have taken care of the plant while you still could, but it will be too late if you don't destroy the new growth. If you leave here without cutting back the plant it will be your fault. Because once you've brushed off the importance of destroying the new growth, you won't be able to catch up with the plant, the plant will grow faster than you can kill it. There will be too many new leaves and too many new vines for you to cut back and if you start then, the ones you cut first will regenerate by the time you're done cutting the rest of them, there isn't enough time in the day for that. It will have enough time to take over this entire field, it will choke out the other plants growing here, it will smother the trees and the bushes and especially the grasses, the grasses have no defense against the plant. The plant will grow up the walls of this building, the plant will find small cracks in the walls and it will grow through the walls into this room, and it will cover the roof and it will eventually come in under the weight of the vines, all because you didn't take care of it like you should have. You should have never left the plant to be on its own, you should have never let the new growth happen at all. You should have destroyed the new growth while you still had the chance, before it got out of control. And after you've understood your responsibility that you have to stay here to take care of the plant, take up the responsibility like a good citizen, perhaps you'll come to be quite fond of the plant, perhaps you'll grow to even like the plant. Spending all of this time watching over and cutting back the new vines and the new leaves, being its caretaker, you will begin paying more attention to the plant. You think that it's just another plant, but it is unlike every other plant, and you'll recognize that, you'll see how unique it is. You'll agree how handsome it is, appreciating the delicate curves of its leaves, that shape of the asymmetrical outer leaves as they harmoniously balance with the symmetry of the central leaf, the graceful lines of the vines as they stretch outward into the air, feeling that the soft verdant hue of the leaves is quite pleasing to the eyes, you'll marvel at the fact that it is indeed unlike any other plant, you'll likely come to find this plant to be quite special, you think it's unique and pleasant to be around. How is it that you've never grown to like a plant as much as this one? is it because you've never noticed so many nuances and characteristics of a plant before, never really took the time to examine it, to fully appreciate how it grows, how it behaves as it grows, how beautiful nature can be? Is it because you've forgotten how wonderful nature can be if you just stop and look at it? And when you're cutting the leaves and the vine and stems you notice things about the plant you didn't see before, you find things that you like about the plant, you find things that truly make this plant unique, you'll admire it for what it is, you'll admire it for trying to grow so quickly and for trying to cover so much. You'll find it admirable that a plant would want to grow into and over a building decorating it with the natural elegance of ornamental ivy, think of the ivy-shrouded brick buildings embraced and enraptured by nature, nature living harmoniously with our buildings. You'll begin to admire the ambition the plant, you'll think to yourself that this plant is truly special, you'll admire parts of the plant of the plant that you thought you should kill or thought that it wouldn't matter if you killed it or not, you'll find things you enjoy in this plant that was once like any other plant. You'll see these things about the plant, you'll think about these things often, you'll see them and you'll think about them, you'll see the plant and you'll think to yourself about the plant, you'll think of yourself as the caretaker of the plant, and you think about yourself and the plant, just the plant and you, and you'll find qualities in it that remind you of yourself. You'll think about the plant as being more than just a plant, but as something that has ambitions, something that has passions as you once had, passions like you once had when you were younger that you no longer have now that you've lived and worked for so many years and that your old dreams never really did seem realistic. You'll look at the plant and you'll remember how strong and convicted you were about those dreams of the future, how excited you were for all that was to come, how bright the future used to be, you'll look at the plant as if it was your own child, you'll look at the plant you'll see pure enthusiasm for life, for growing, for thriving, with the will to become something great, you'll see these things in the plant. You'll see that it grows with the vigor of conviction, you'll see that it simply wants to spread itself across the landscape, to fully and deeply inhabit this place, to spread like all good ideas spread and disperse and become a part of the landscape in their own way. You'll look at the plant that you once thought you could kill but that you could never kill now, how could you even want to? just keep taking care of it, it needs your care just like a child, and you would never kill something you cared for this much, something that you truly respect and adore, something that embodies your aspirations, or is it in your nature to still be able to kill it? You'll have a hard time not seeing that plant growing by that door of this building as something more than just a plant, how could it be just a plant, the plant has so much more to it. It is not an ordinary plant, and you'll know that and respect it. You'll find in thinking about the plant, taking care of the plant, watching the plant grow, you'll find yourself thinking about other things in relation to the plant too, you'll find that just by looking at how the plant grows, by thinking about how it is unique, you'll realize that you can think about other things and that the plant can give you advice about those other things or that the plant can be insightful about those other things, that simply by comparing the plant to those other things you'll find guidance, you'll realize that if you are careful enough and truly care for the plant and truly respect the plant you'll see that it cares for you too. That the reason it is insightful and gives good advice is that it cares for you in return, that by caring for the plant by tending to its needs, making sure that it gets enough water, making sure that it gets a healthy amount of sunshine each day, maybe every now and again you'll talk to it too, and plants like to be talked to, or so they say, that by showing that you care about the plant, it will show you that it cares about you. It's a mutual relationship. And you'll become curious to why you used to be so strict about pruning back the new leaves, and question why you even thought of killing it in the first place, why you thought that might be the easiest thing to do, why always do the easy thing? You'll come to realize that the vines have a certain character about them, that they remind you of innocent new growth, pure potential, that the leaves have elegant shapes, that the color is one of the richest greens you've ever seen, you'll think once again that this plant is truly unique and elegant. You'll be proud to be taking care of the plant, proud that you found yourself as its caretaker, proud that you could nurture something this beautiful, you'll be proud of your plant, you'll think of how much you enjoy spending time with the plant, you won't have to wonder if the plant enjoys spending time with you too, you'll know in your heart that it does. And the plant will provide you with nourishment too, you can eat the leaves and the little new vine sprouts, and, as a matter of fact, they're quite tasty. And the thought will cross your mind after deeply admiring it, why didn't you initially question the need to destroy the new leaves and the new stems in the first place? Why would anyone want to rid the world of such a fascinating and beautiful plant? Does it matter if the plant grows quickly, if the plant will grow over the trees, shading the sun from their leaves, would it matter if the grass or the other plants subsided and let this gorgeous and intriguing and charming and ultimately wise plant grow all over them? And would it really matter if we had one less barn in this part of the county, in this part of the state, or for that matter would it really matter if any of these other buildings in the area were here? Wouldn't it be nice to see this part of the country look a bit more like it did before the settlers came, more like the older version of the American landscape, that beautiful untouched and antiquated type of nature? Maybe other people long to see such a place too and that they would flock from all over to see it, maybe you could charge them a small fee to see it? maybe make a little money while you're at it, showing people something you love. And if the plant grew too close to someone else's property then they too could take care of the plant, that they too could decide if they wanted to cut back the new growth or perhaps they too could come to appreciate the plant as you do, come to find the qualities in it that make it the way it is, the qualities that make it so beautiful, that make it so fascinating, so elegant. Would that really be so bad? It wouldn't be up to just you anymore, it would be up to them to decide if they too want to take care of the plant that you are also taking care of, it would be a small community of sorts. And wouldn't it be nice to see this plant growing over the rolling hills, over trees, over entire landscapes, to see the wind blow through its beautiful green leaves rippling like the surface of a lake. Maybe it would be nice to see pure nature sprawled out over the landscape like that. Maybe it would be nice just to let the plant grown on its own, maybe you don't even need to take care of it, maybe you don't need to cut back the new stems and the new vines and the new leaves, maybe you don't need to worry about killing it or not, maybe it's not really a threat at all, maybe it's not so bad at all, maybe in fact it's quite good, maybe it would be nice to see the plant growing all over, maybe it would be nice to be driving down the highway and be driving over the unfortunate vines trying to cross the road and looking out and in every direction seeing the plant completely covering everything in the horizon. Maybe it would be nice to live like that, maybe that's what it should be doing, if it grows like that then who are we to question what nature wants to do? Maybe things would be better that way. Maybe there is something more to the plant than just being beautiful and interesting and being unique, all of those things you would come to appreciate when you are taking care of it, maybe it would be nice to see a reminder of those things for as far as the eye can see. And maybe it would in fact just be easier to do nothing, to walk across the room, walk out that door, walk straight past that small plant growing outside this building, and without even looking for it go straight to your car and go on with your life, go back to your job, go back to your family, go back to your home, go back to living like you've always lived, and maybe one day you'll be driving down the expressway and it'll dawn on you that all you see is completely covered by a beautiful green blanket, and you'll think to yourself that perhaps you could grow to like that plant, that maybe there is something in that plant that reminds you of yourself, you can't quite put your finger on what exactly, but for some strange reason, the plant growing like it does, there is something affirming about that. Maybe you'll smile. So maybe you don't need to do anything at all, maybe you can just go home.