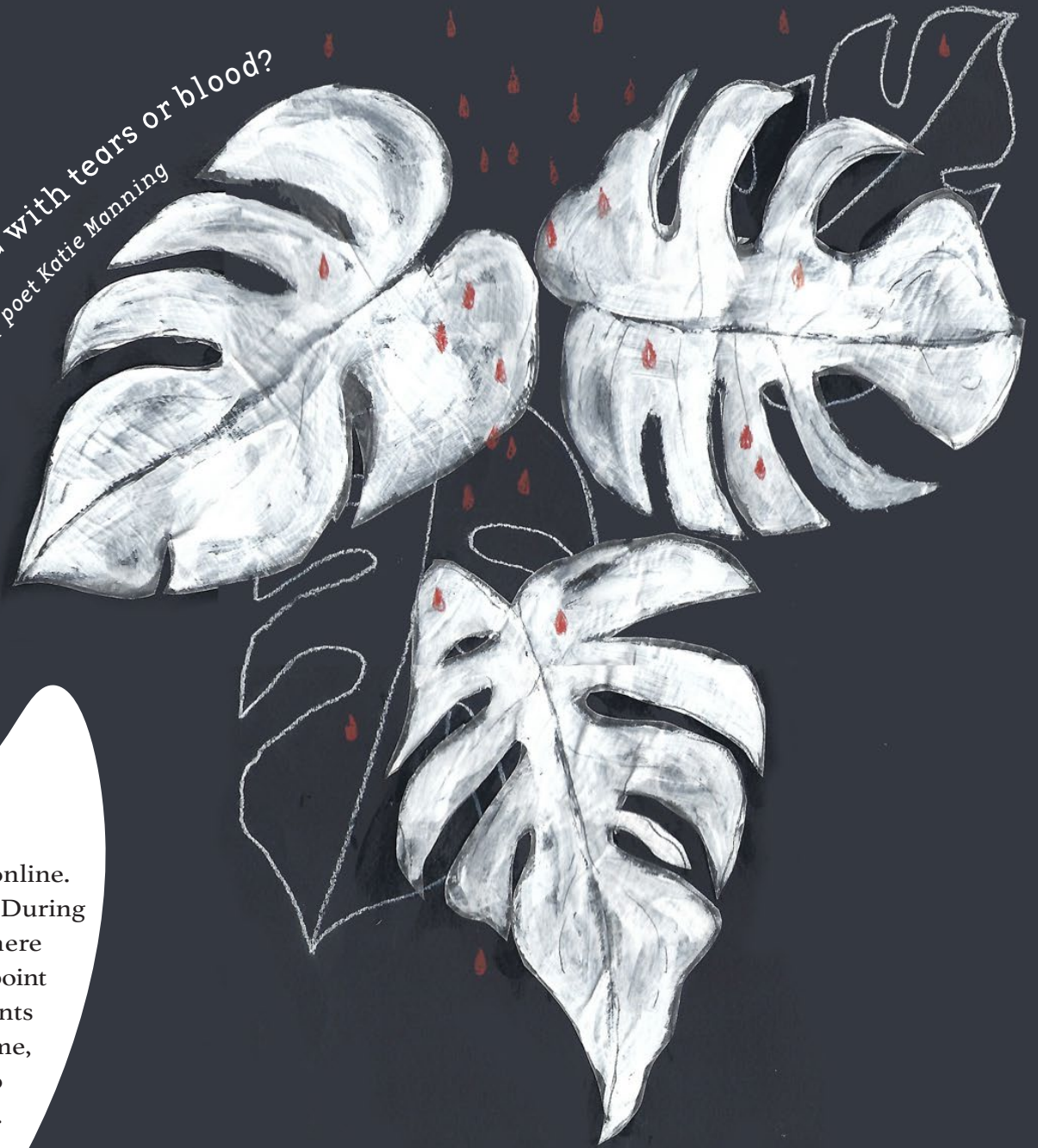


Will flowers grow if they're watered with tears or blood?
—From a question posed by poet Katie Manning



An Albo Monstera goes for about \$15,000 online. Its whiteness, even if a disease, brings in clients. During quarantine, I had a plant dealer. We'd meet where route 14 intersects the 5. Nurseries held-up at gunpoint required many hands for one sale. So many plants stolen from native soil—a response to death. Time, what you got for me? I'm willing to negotiate, so long as you don't shoot at the roots of the world. What I'm saying is, Love I want you even though wanting is the bullet.