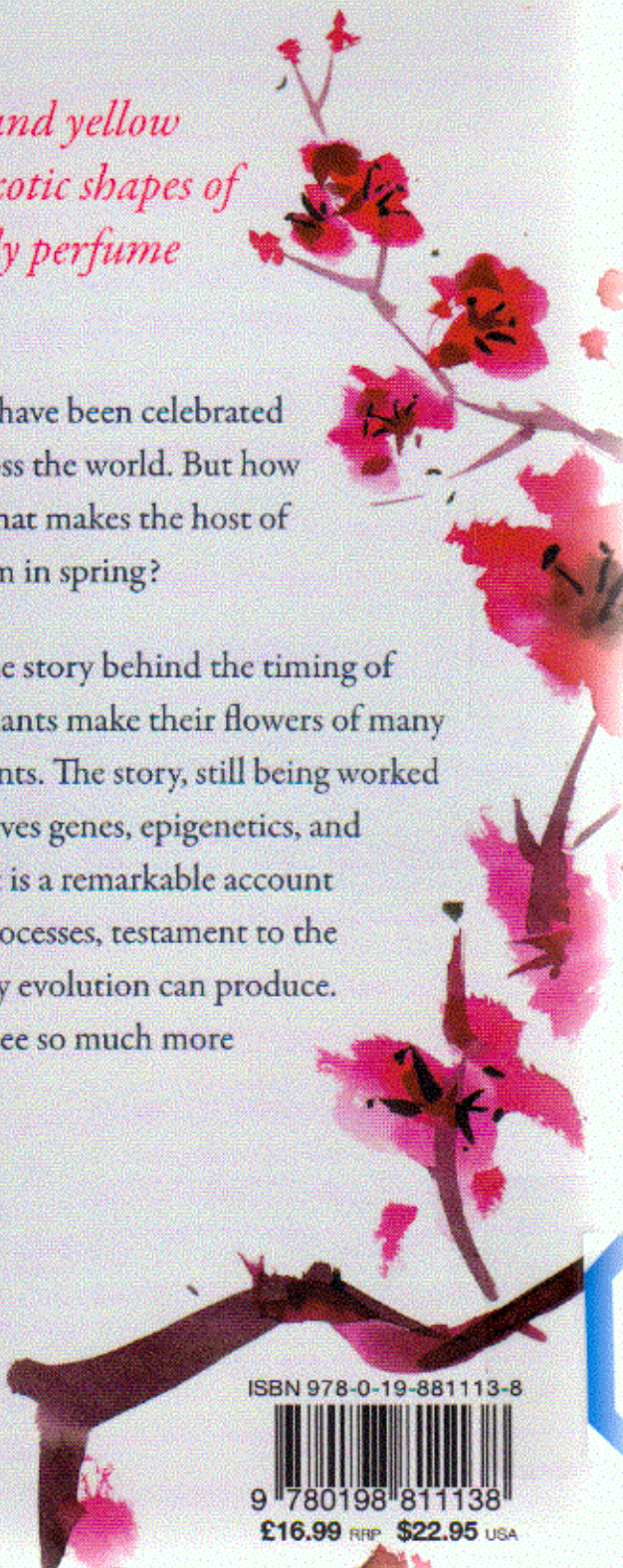


*The rich purple and yellow
of crocuses; the exotic shapes of
orchids; the heady perfume
of jasmine...*



For centuries, flowers have been celebrated in art and culture across the world. But how do red roses form? What makes the host of golden daffodils bloom in spring?

Maxine Singer tells the story behind the timing of flowering, and how plants make their flowers of many shapes, colors, and scents. The story, still being worked out by scientists, involves genes, epigenetics, and environmental cues. It is a remarkable account of nature's intricate processes, testament to the complexity and beauty evolution can produce. Read it, and you will see so much more in every blossom.

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