



Extracts from

The Botanical Guide to BorderXing

by Kayle Brandon and Heath Bunting



Extracts from

The Botanical Guide to BorderXing

Kayle Brandon and Heath Bunting

Introduction



Extracts From The Botanical Guide to BorderXing is published in conjunction with the exhibition *Rules of Crime: Kayle Brandon and Heath Bunting*, September 18 - November 13, 2004, at the New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York.

Rules of Crime: Kayle Brandon and Heath Bunting is organized by Rachel Greene. The exhibition is supported in part by the British Council.

Media Lounge exhibitions and public programs are supported by the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, the Jerome Foundation and the New York State Council on the Arts.

The New Museum of Contemporary Art receives general operating support from the Carnegie Corporation, the New York State Council on the Arts, the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, JPMorgan Chase, and members of the New Museum.

This publication is made possible by the Penny McCall Publications Fund at the New Museum. Donors to the Penny McCall Publications Fund are James C. A. and Stephania McClennen, Jennifer McSweeney, Arthur and Carol Goldberg, Dorothy O. Mills, and the Mills Family Fund.

Design: Kstudio/Christiaan Kuypers, New York

EXTRACTS FROM *The Botanical Guide to BorderXing* is a pocket-sized aide, assisting all those who would like to become acquainted with wild plants and border crossing (“BorderXing”).

The guide can be used to identify plants, terrain and strategies across a broad range of crossing conditions. People border cross whether they are fleeing persecution or seeking change.

1 ~ The Common Buttercup *Ranunculus acris*



THE BUTTERCUP'S SIGNATURE is the glossy bright yellow flower which it produces all summer. It is mostly found in fields, meadows and unkempt urban areas, preferring well-drained soils. ~

THE BUTTERCUP may grow as high as 3 feet, but most are usually between 1 and 2 feet in height. ~

WARNING: Make your start and finishing points unpredictable, i.e. not nearest to the largest local town. Buttercups contain toxins that can cause poisoning in both humans and animals if ingested. ~

RESTRICTIONS AND LIMITS channel resources in the direction of predators.

2 ~ Mouse-ear Hawkweed *Hieracium pilosella*



MOUSE-EAR is a solitary, yellow dandelion-like flower; on a leafless stalk. The leaves are oblong and covered with stiff hairs that flower from June to September. ~

THE MOUSE-EAR HAWKWEED tolerates soil that is nutrient-poor and is drought tolerant. It is very good at stacking its own territory by creating a dense mat that other plants can't penetrate: Travel light. It can be found to inhabit car-parks and other low-level urban sites (crossing borders in such places can be fairly simple and risk free) such as railway sides (passing an active rail tunnel on foot requires the careful observation of traffic for safe passage), urban wastelands, poor meadows and open woodlands. ~

NOTE: borders have become more defined by economic movements than by the movement of persons. ~

FOR THE SAKE of elite power, human movement is restricted and information and money are mobilised.

3 ~ The Dandelion *Taraxacum officinale*



ONE OF THE FIRST flowers of spring, the Dandelion is both hardy and voracious in staking its territory. Blooming from May to October. ~

IT HAS A RECOGNISABLE bright yellow flower, jagged-lobed leaves, a hollow milky stem and the famous white seedball that disperses parachute seeds by wind. ~

IT ADAPTS to many terrains, soil conditions and to varied weather. The ability to be highly adaptable will aid you. It can be found in pastures, meadows, waste areas, roadsides, Urban Industrial, civil areas and all lines of drift: Assume lines of drift (road, railway) are patrolled either by uniformed or plain clothed security. ~

HAVE BACKUP ROUTES identified in case the way is un-passable. Avoid travel on lines of drift that are put in place to observe the movement of persons, i.e. check points. ~

ITS YELLOW HEAD and young leaves are edible.

4 ~ Wild Strawberry *Fragaria vesca*



A DELICATE, thin-leaved plant, has a white five petal flower, and then like jewels, scarlet berries, cone-shaped and studded with tiny, brown seeds. ~

THE ULTIMATE AIM of postmodern border management is above all the filtering of presumably useful from non-useful border crossers. Wild Strawberries tend to choose positions of shelter in open meadows, along streams, light woodland and some grasslands. ~

EDIBLE AND DELICIOUS; make use of food and water along the way. Obtain local currency before entering country.

6 ~ Red Campion *Silene dioica*



CAMPION FLOWER appears with various shades of pink petals or, rarely, with white petals. It has numerous flowers on upright stalks. ~

ENTIRE COUNTRIES have become border areas. They are dioecious (individual plants being either entirely male or entirely female, flowering from June to August. It grows in damp shady places, found around woodland edges and in hedgerows. Don't rely on signposts alone: take all navigation equipment. ~

BAD WEATHER provides better cover. It will also establish itself on screes and cliff edges.

7 ~ Field Pansy *Viola arvensis*



CREAM COLOURED flowers with a yellow tongue and black whiskers flowering from April to October. Can be found to inhabit meadows, pastures and cultivated ground. Be careful of electrical fences used for containment of cattle and be aware of land access rights. ~

READ A MANUAL on how to track or avoid being tracked. Pay attention to wind direction for hiding scent. ~

BORDER CROSSING can be done with almost no equipment. Borders are sometimes patrolled by police looking for smugglers, not necessarily border crossers.

8 ~ Mealy Primrose *Primula farinosa*



THE COMMON Mealy Primrose grows freely in the marshy meadows where it flowers from May to July. ~

IT CAN ALSO be found on the stony tracts and in dry basic soils, don't run if seen, as you will probably be shot. It ranges up to altitudes of about 8,700 feet. ~

NETWORK TECHNOLOGIES have replaced traditional forms of asserting authority on national borders. ~

PROTECTED in Germany.

9 ~ Yellow Anemone *Pulsatilla sulphurea*



IN JUNE we often meet with the yellow Anemone. The undersides of the petal are delicately tinged with blue, forming a striking contrast to the sulphur-yellow face of the flower. ~

FOUND AT HEIGHTS of about 4,200 - 10,000 feet. Lowlanders, be prepared to be breathless. Make use of refuge network. It prefers crystalline rocks, acidulous Alpine pastures and grassland. Take plenty of water. ~

POISONOUS. Protected in Germany and in some Swiss Cantons, and several Austrian provinces. ~

PEOPLE BORDER CROSS whether they are fleeing persecution or seeking change.

10 ~ Stemless Gentain *Gentiana clusii*



WE MEET the wonder of the Stemless Gentain on Chalk-land and in Alpine pastures. It prefers to grow among the Mountain Avens and Dwarf Willows, and can be found in the valleys as well as the mountains sides. ~

SOCIETIES ARE CHANGING under the pressures of formalisation and globalisation. It flowers from May to August, and occasionally a second time, in the late Autumn. Weather is a large factor in the difficulty of mountain crossings. They are best attempted in the mild months. ~

FOUND IN ALTITUDES of about 9,400 feet. Protected in Germany, only partially in Austria and Switzerland.

11 ~ Alpine Soldanella *Soldanella alpina*



THE DELICATE Soldanella may be seen springing up in the track of the melting snow. There are, as a rule, two or three nodding violet heads on each stem. ~

THE IMMATERIAL is encouraged to move and the flow of humans restricted. It does well in basic and neutral soils, and open growing mountain forests, consider taking the less beaten tracks. ~

IT BLOOMS from May to August, ranging from 1,600 to 10,000 feet. Surrounding towns are expensive and ugly.

12 ~ Mountain Anemone *Pulsatilla montana*

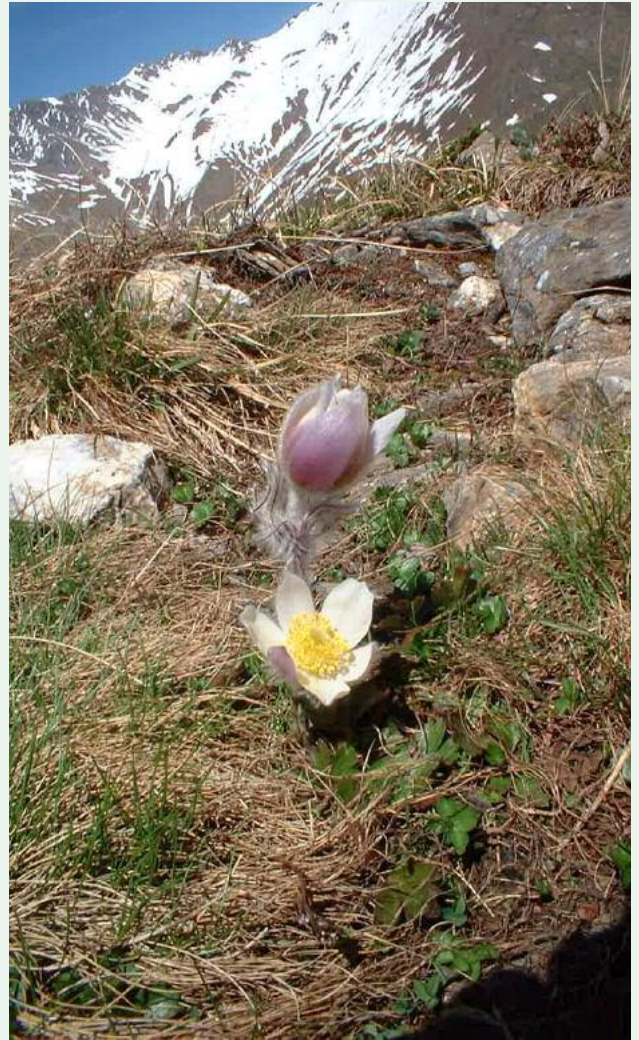
IN THE SPRING TIME, a good time to cross is late June, the dark-violet Mountain Anemone may be seen, especially in the southern Alpine Valleys. ~

LIKE SEVERAL other Anemone-varieties, the outer sides of the buds are covered with thick hairs that protect them from both intense cold and heat. Boots required for snow walking and sunglasses to prevent sun burnt eyes. Call to check if mountain huts are open. Be prepared to give up. ~

ITS FINELY SHAPED leaves do not develop fully, until after the flower has formed. Like several other related types, it thrives well in chalky soil on dry Southern slopes. ~

IT IS FOUND up to altitudes of 7,000 feet. BorderXing is sometimes beautiful, sometimes not. Protected in Germany, and in the Swiss Canton of St.Gallen. Only partially in Austria. ~

VERY POISONOUS. The next step is information-based borders.





Note:

When out walking do not drop litter, start fires, or plunder the area.

For more information see:

<http://www.irational.org/borderxing/>

To see [The Botanical Guide to BorderXing](#), visit:

http://duo.irational.org/botanical_guide

Authors:

Kayle Brandon and Heath Bunting



2004



Published in conjunction with the exhibition
Rules of Crime: Kayle Brandon and Heath Bunting