

Madrigal (Italian)

*From out of the garden where I am just a midwife, I step into My Invented Life.
Andrea Palframan*

Midwife to My Invented Life

A midwife to a garden
will need a fertile green thumb
My thumb is inky black and numb

My invented words harden.
flowing from my playful mind,
harvest on page, joy I find.

Outside my garden withers, chills.
Inside my mind, censor kills

A midwife delivers births
My words await their lined berths.

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1. Originated as an Italian form, a pastoral song.
2. Lines have either 7 or 11 syllables
3. Two or three tercets followed by one or two rhyming couplets
4. Rhyme Scheme: variable
5. Example has 7 syllable lines and rhyme experiment. a-b-b a-c-c d-d e-e