Weird Plants Cards
Art from *Weird Plants* by Chris Thorogood
Rafflesia
*Rafflesia arnoldii*

**Category:** Vampire Plant  
**Location:** N. Borneo  
**Features:** Lacks leaves, roots and stems, and lives in tissue of a host plant. World’s largest flower.

**Pollinator:** Flies, attracted by stinky odor.

Hydnora
*Hydnora africana*

**Category:** Vampire Plant  
**Location:** Semi-deserts in S. Africa  
**Features:** No chlorophyll and takes nutrients from other plants’ roots. “World’s weirdest plant.”

**Pollinator:** Dung beetles attracted by feces-like odor.

Low’s Pitcher Plant
*Nepenthes lowii*

**Category:** Killer Plant  
**Location:** N. Borneo mountainside  
**Features:** Tree shrew excretes in pitcher giving plant nutrients.

**Pollinator:** Tree shrews attracted by nectar.

Trumpet Pitcher
*Sarracenia flava*

**Category:** Killer Plant  
**Location:** Swamps of S.E. US  
**Features:** Stuns insects to fall into pool of digestive juices.

**Pollinator:** Insects attracted by sweet nectar & colors.

Venus Flytrap
*Dionaea muscipula*

**Category:** Killer Plant  
**Location:** Wetlands of the Carolinas  
**Features:** Trap closes if hairs are touched more than once, or if multiple hairs are touched.

**Pollinator:** Insects, small amphibians & reptiles attracted by sweet nectar.

Rothschild’s Slipper Orchid
*Paphiopedilum rothschildianum*

**Category:** Fraudster Plant  
**Location:** Mt. Kinabalu in N. Borneo  
**Features:** Sepals covered with spots attracting wasps wanting to lay eggs. Extremely rare.

**Pollinator:** Parasitic wasps attracted by small green aphid-looking dots.

Flying Duck Orchid
*Caleana major*

**Category:** Fraudster Plant  
**Location:** S. and E. Australia  
**Features:** Flower looks like flying duck & fling sawflies into pollen-covered reproductive structures.

**Pollinator:** Male sawflies attracted by female sawfly-shaped flowers.

Monkey-Face Orchid
*Dracula simia*

**Category:** Fraudster Plant  
**Location:** Central and South America  
**Features:** Flower resembles a monkey and lower lip looks like a mushroom

**Pollinator:** Fungus gnats attracted by mushroom scent.

Dutchman’s Pipe
*Aristolochia spp.*

**Category:** Jailer Plant  
**Location:** Most continents  
**Features:** Hairs trap insects and then wither to release them — also known as birthworts.

**Pollinator:** Insects attracted by color & smell of flower.

Titan Arum
*Amorphophallus titanum*

**Category:** Jailer Plant  
**Location:** Forests of Sumatra  
**Features:** Inflorescence is a bunch of tiny flowers and takes 7-10 years to bloom.

**Pollinator:** Insects attracted by corpse-like smell.
**Bird Of Paradise**  
*Strelitzia reginae*  
**Category:** Accomplice Plant  
**Location:** Cape Provinces of S. Africa  
**Features:** Sunbird perches on petals which spring open revealing pollen. Perennial plant.  
**Pollinator:** Sunbird attracted by beak-like shape and colorful flower.

**Bat Pitcher Plant**  
*Nepenthes hemsleyana*  
**Category:** Accomplice Plant  
**Location:** Borneo  
**Features:** Provides roosting site for bats as they nourish plant with their guano.  
**Pollinator:** Woolly bats attracted by reflection of bat calls.

**Half-Mens**  
*Pachypodium namaquanum*  
**Category:** Survivor Plant  
**Location:** S. Africa’s northern cape and S. Namibia  
**Features:** Silhouette looks like a person. Stores large amounts of water and lives several hundred years. Succulent plant.  
**Pollinator:** Ants & bees attracted by sap.

**Coco De Mer**  
*Lodoicea maldivica*  
**Category:** Survivor Plant  
**Location:** Seychelles Islands  
**Features:** Largest seed in plant kingdom-only 3 populations left in world from limited seed dispersal.  
**Pollinator:** Unknown, suspected to be by bees & lizards, wind and water.

**Durian**  
*Durio zibethinus*  
**Category:** Hitch-hiker Plant  
**Location:** S.E. Asia  
**Features:** Strong, foul odor and sweet fruit.  
**Pollinator:** Mammals like orangutans spread seeds after eating fruit. Bats pollinate flowers.

**Traveller’s Palm**  
*Ravenala madagascariensis*  
**Category:** Hitch-hiker Plant  
**Location:** Madagascar  
**Features:** Flowering plant related to Bird of Paradise. Not a true palm.  
**Pollinator:** Lemurs attracted by blue seed pods.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>My stinky odor attracts flies. I live off a host plant and don’t have a stem, leaves or roots.</th>
<th>My sepals are covered with spots that look like aphids to attract my pollinator. I am extremely rare.</th>
<th>I live underground in the desert until I bloom. Dung beetles like me.</th>
<th>I trick my pollinator into thinking I’m a female sawfly. I can be found in Australia.</th>
<th>I can be found in North Borneo. I am known as a toilet for the tree shrew.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I can be found in Central and South America. I smell like a mushroom.</td>
<td>My bright colors and sweet nectar attract insects. I produce a paralyzing narcotic to stun insects.</td>
<td>I can be known as a birthwort. I’m found on most continents.</td>
<td>I can be found in North or South Carolina. I can catch small amphibians, reptiles or insects.</td>
<td>I smell like a corpse. It takes me 7-10 years to bloom.</td>
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<tr>
<td>I am like a diving board for a sunbird. I am a perennial.</td>
<td>I can be found in Madagascar. Lemurs like my large, blue seed pods.</td>
<td>I can be found in Borneo. I am nourished by bat guano.</td>
<td>I can live several hundred years by storing water in my trunk. I am a succulent.</td>
<td>I have the largest seed in the plant kingdom. No one knows exactly how I am pollinated.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Forest mammals spread my seeds after eating my sweet fruit. My fruit emits a foul odor.</td>
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