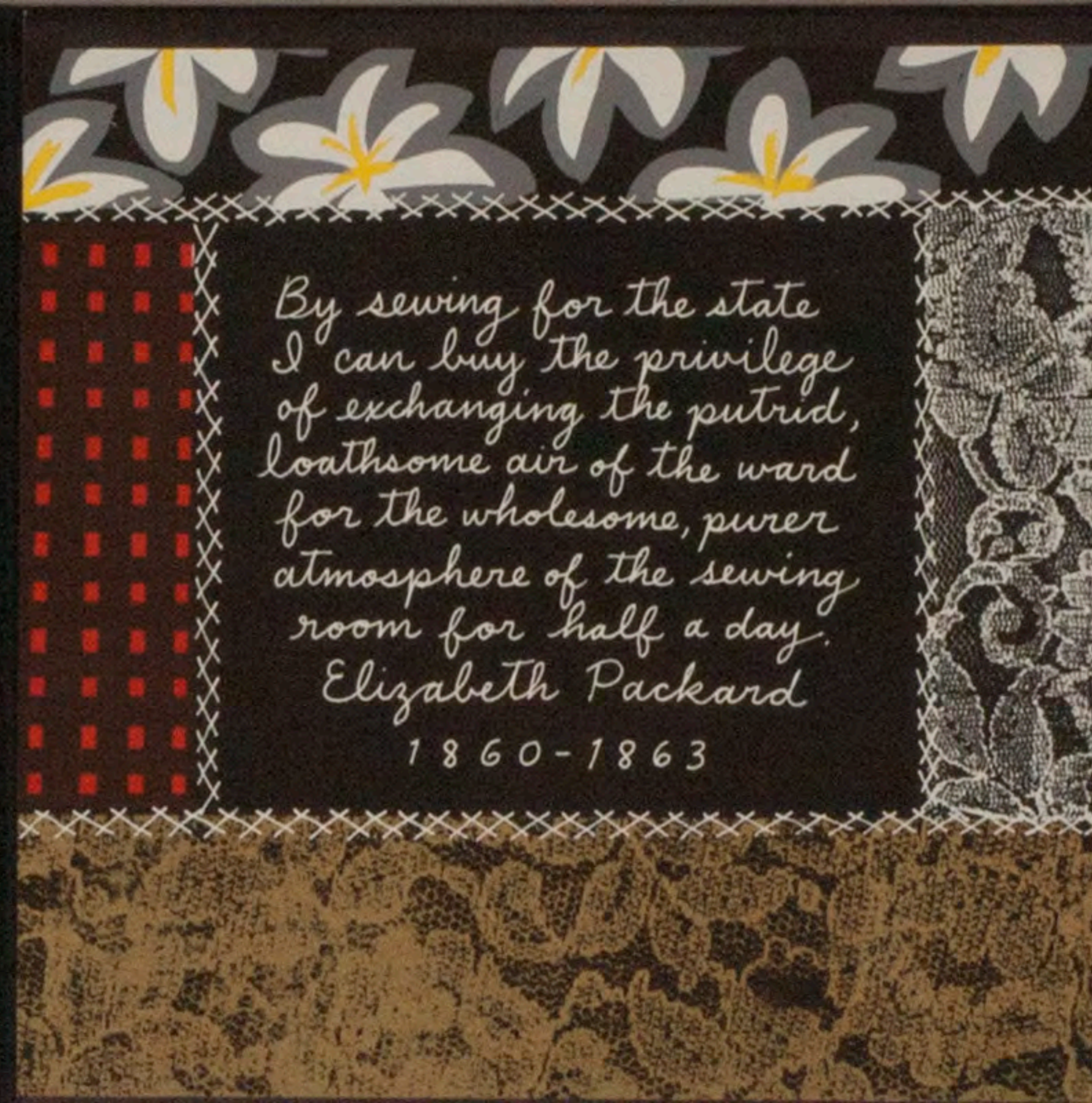


The
asylum itself
is a steel trap,
and I was not released
from its jaws alive and
victorious. I crawled out mutilated,
whimpering and terribly alone.
But I did survive.

Francis Farmer

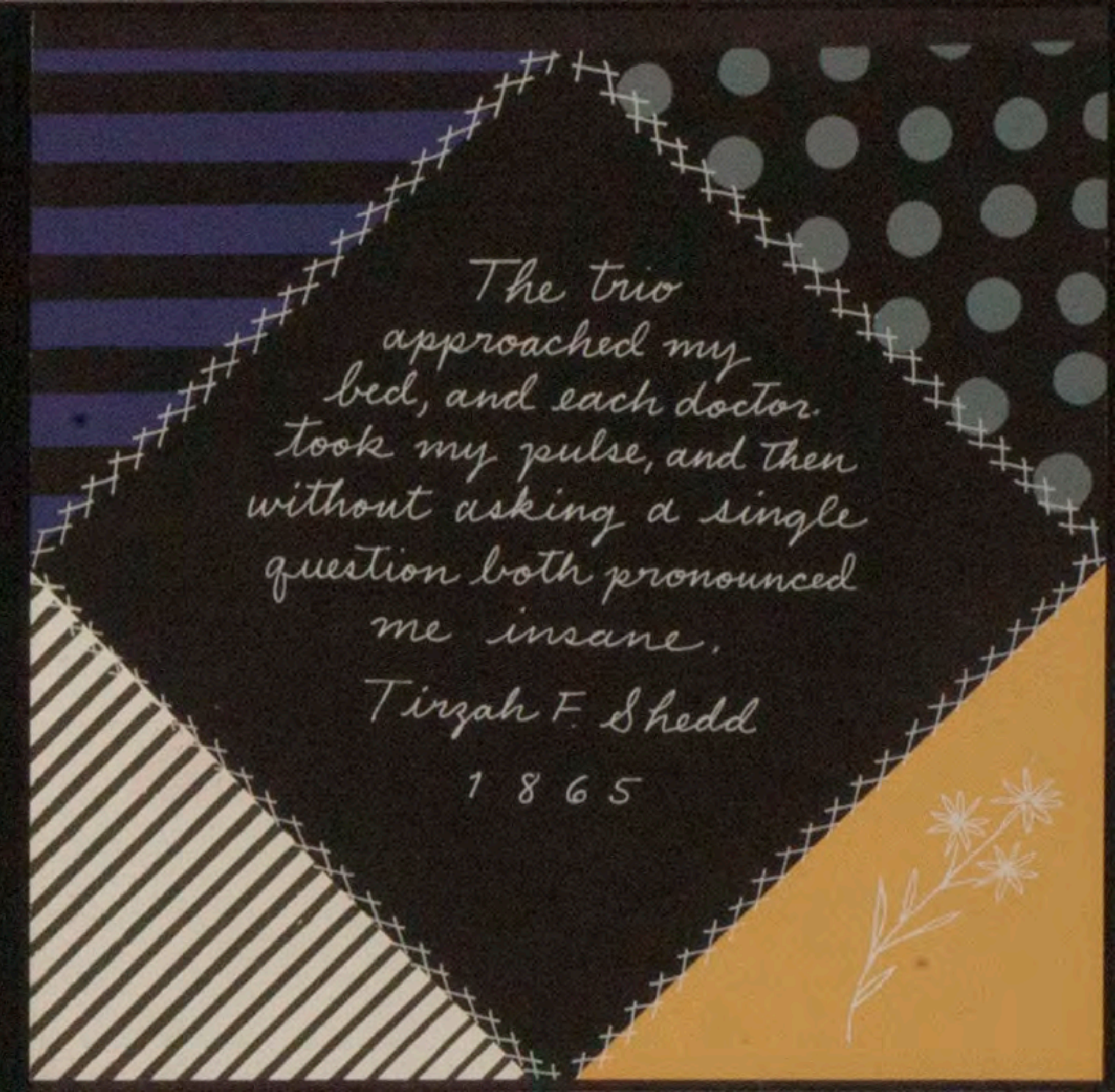
1943-1950



By sewing for the state
I can buy the privilege
of exchanging the putrid,
loathsome air of the ward
for the wholesome, purer
atmosphere of the sewing
room for half a day.

Elizabeth Packard

1860-1863



The trio
approached my
bed, and each doctor
took my pulse, and then
without asking a single
question both pronounced
me insane.

Tirzah F. Shedd

1865

The number forty-three was stamped onto the garment as a sort of twin. 1 4 9 1



Mary Jane Ward

The wedge was five or six inches long and was used to force the mouth open so that food could be forced down the throat.



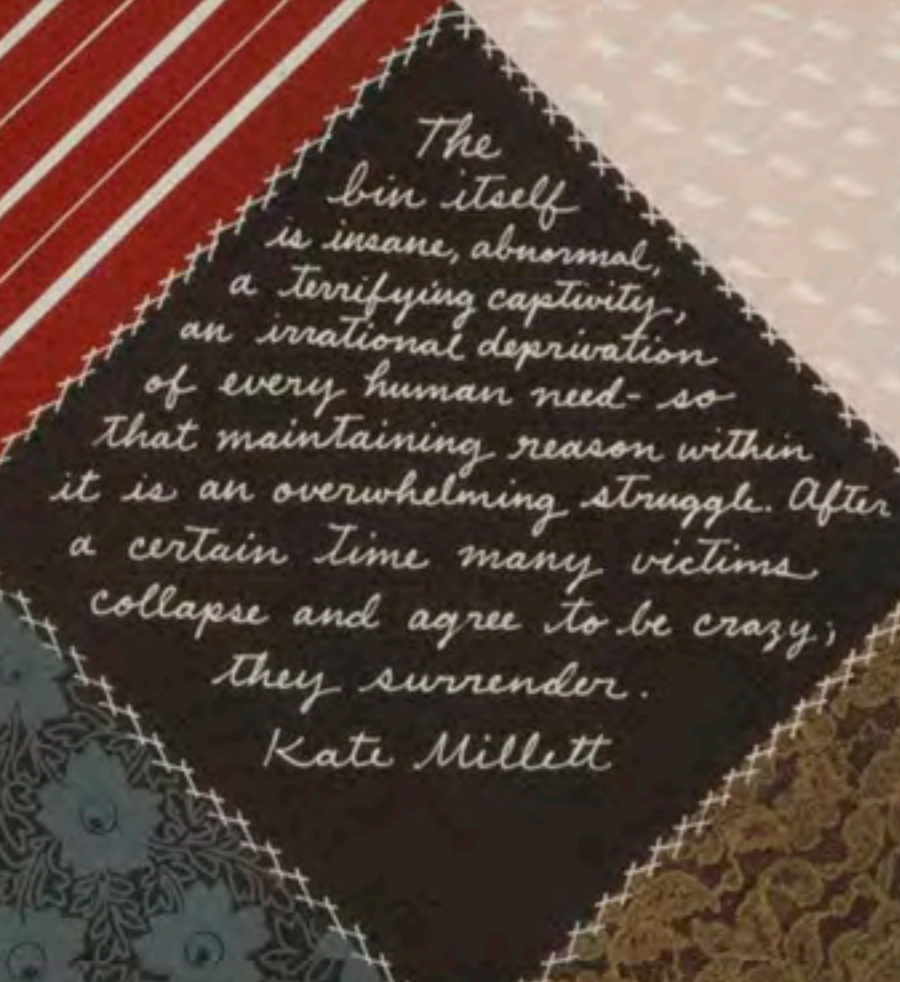
Lydia A Smith 1861-1871

Some of the doctors there did not wish me discharged as my cooking suited them. Alice Birmingham Russell 1883, 1903-1906.



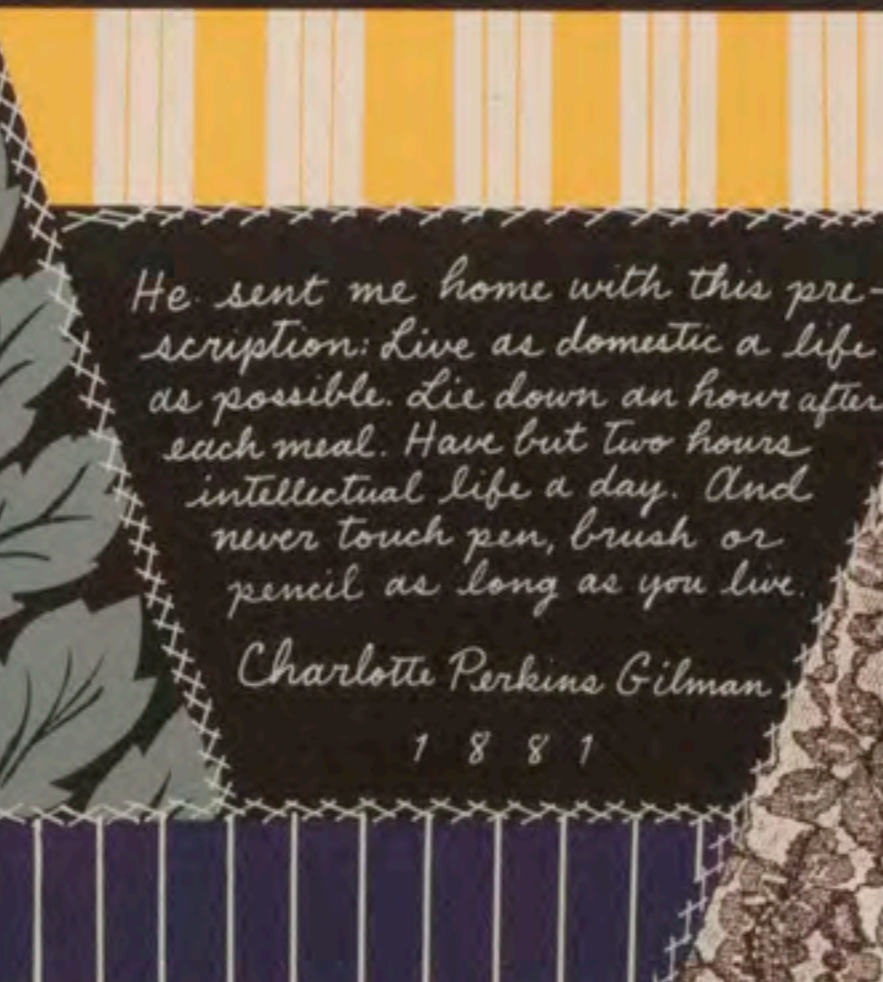
The bin itself is insane, abnormal, a terrifying captivity, an irrational deprivation of every human need- so that maintaining reason within it is an overwhelming struggle. After a certain time many victims collapse and agree to be crazy, they surrender.

Kate Millett



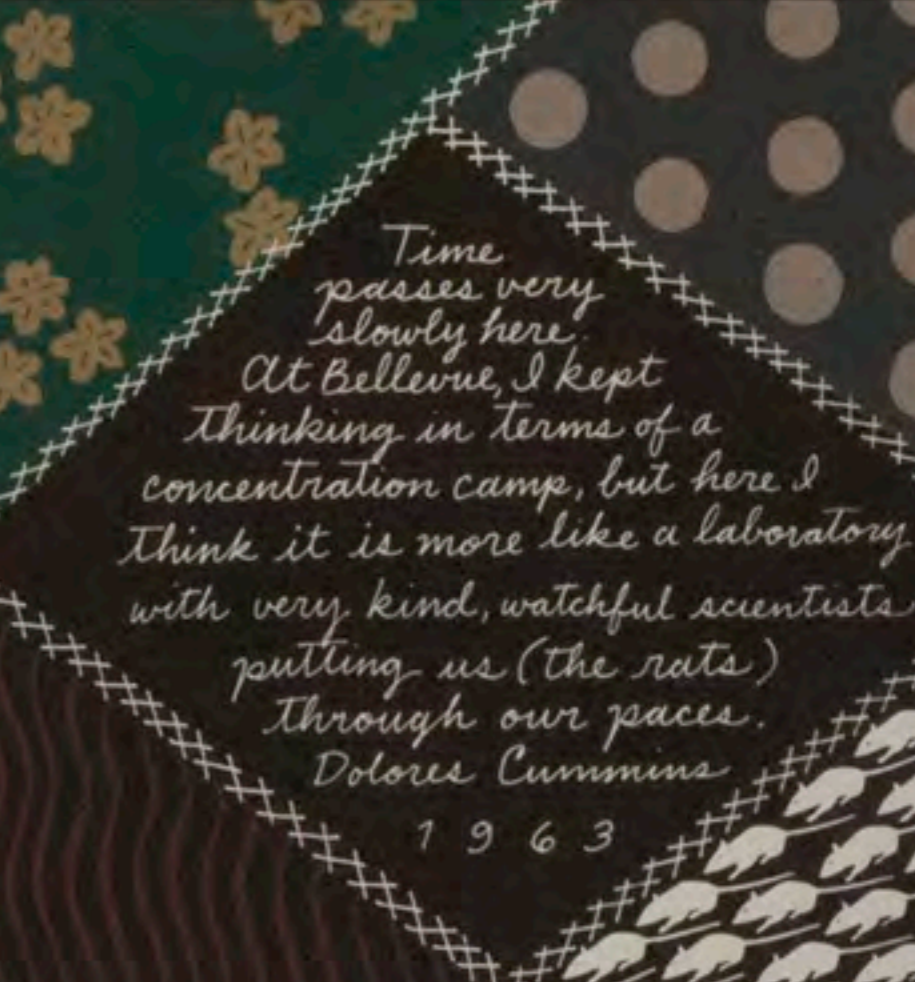
He sent me home with this prescription: Live as domestic a life as possible. Lie down an hour after each meal. Have but two hours intellectual life a day. And never touch pen, brush or pencil as long as you live.

Charlotte Perkins Gilman
1881



Time passes very slowly here. At Bellevue, I kept thinking in terms of a concentration camp, but here I think it is more like a laboratory with very kind, watchful scientists putting us (the rats) through our paces.

Dolores Cummins
1963



The number forty-three was stamped onto the garment as a sort of trim. 1 to 6 1



Mary Jane Ward

That food could be forced down the throat was used to force the mouth open so the wedge was five or six inches long and



Lydia A. Smith 1865-1871

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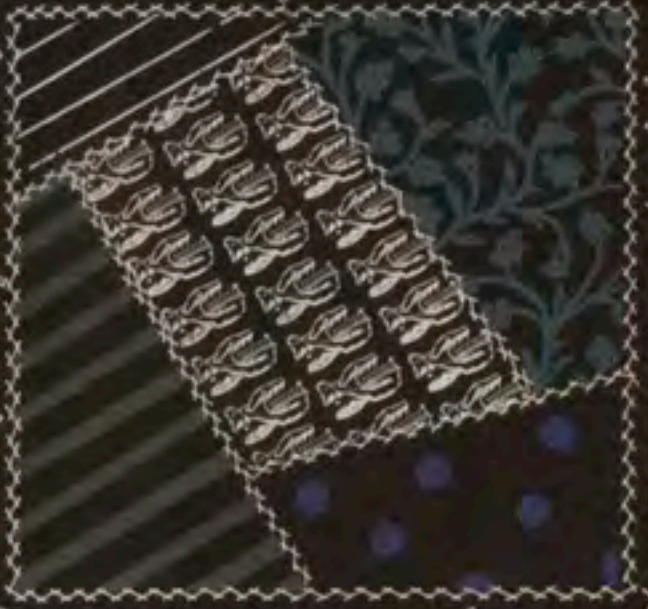


She claimed that she was sent to Elgin by a son-in-law who wanted her out of the house so that his family could live in it. Kate Lee 1899-1900



Kate Lee 1899-1900

By means of lacing down the front, and strapping the arms across the body of the patient, she became helpless



Margaret & Jane 1901-1902

There is one married woman there who has been imprisoned seven times by her husband and yet is perfectly sane. Taryah F. Shedd 1865.



We hardly recognized her, as she was a mere skeleton, and her face was beaten black by her husband. 90



Alice Bingham Russell 1883, 1903

To work and was taken into a dark closet and the door closed. A few days later she again declined



Kate Lee 1899-1900

I was thrown into a 'cub', a square box on which is a cover, made to close and lock, with hump posts, separated for ventilation. Lydia A. Smith 1865-1871



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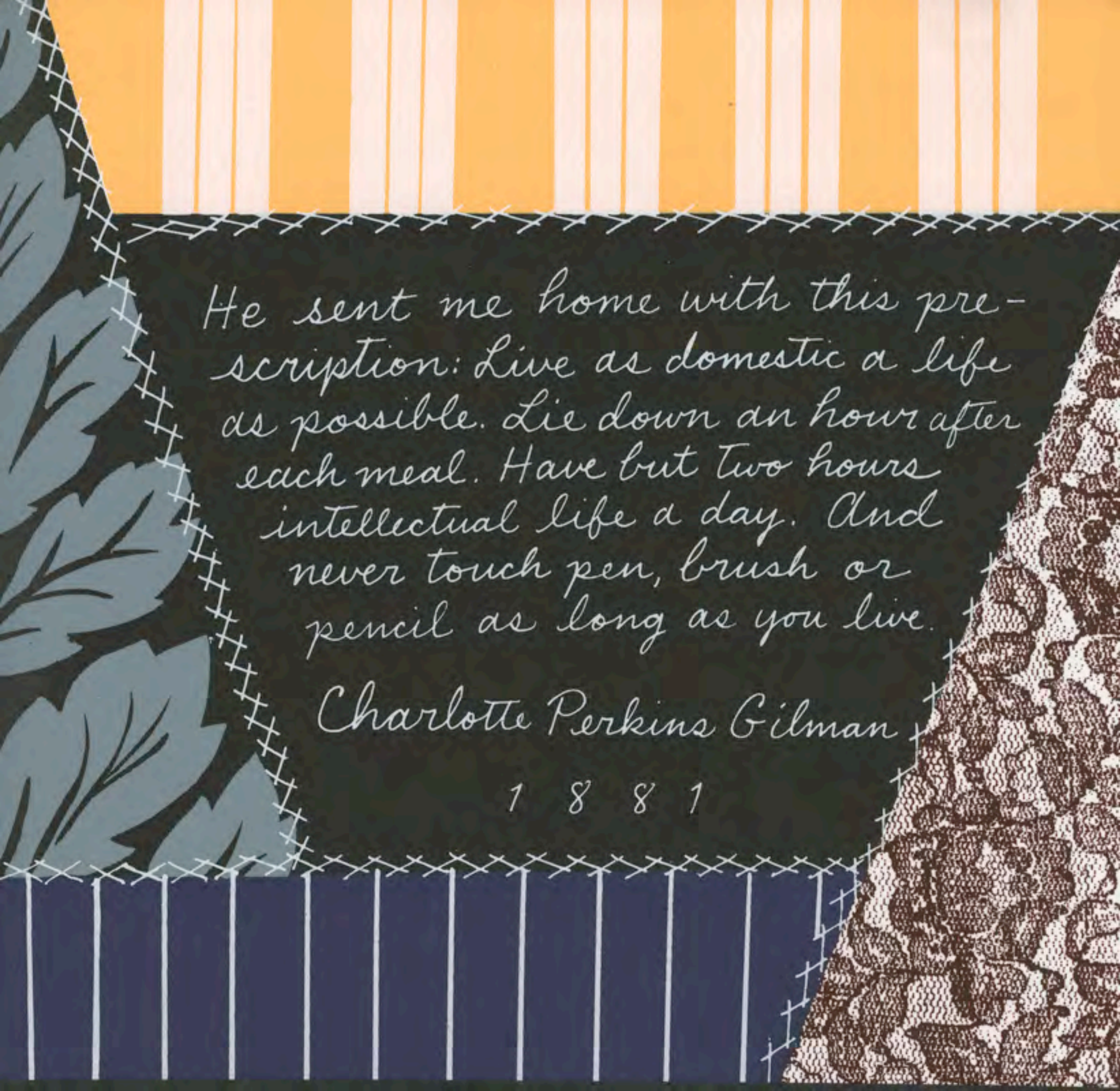
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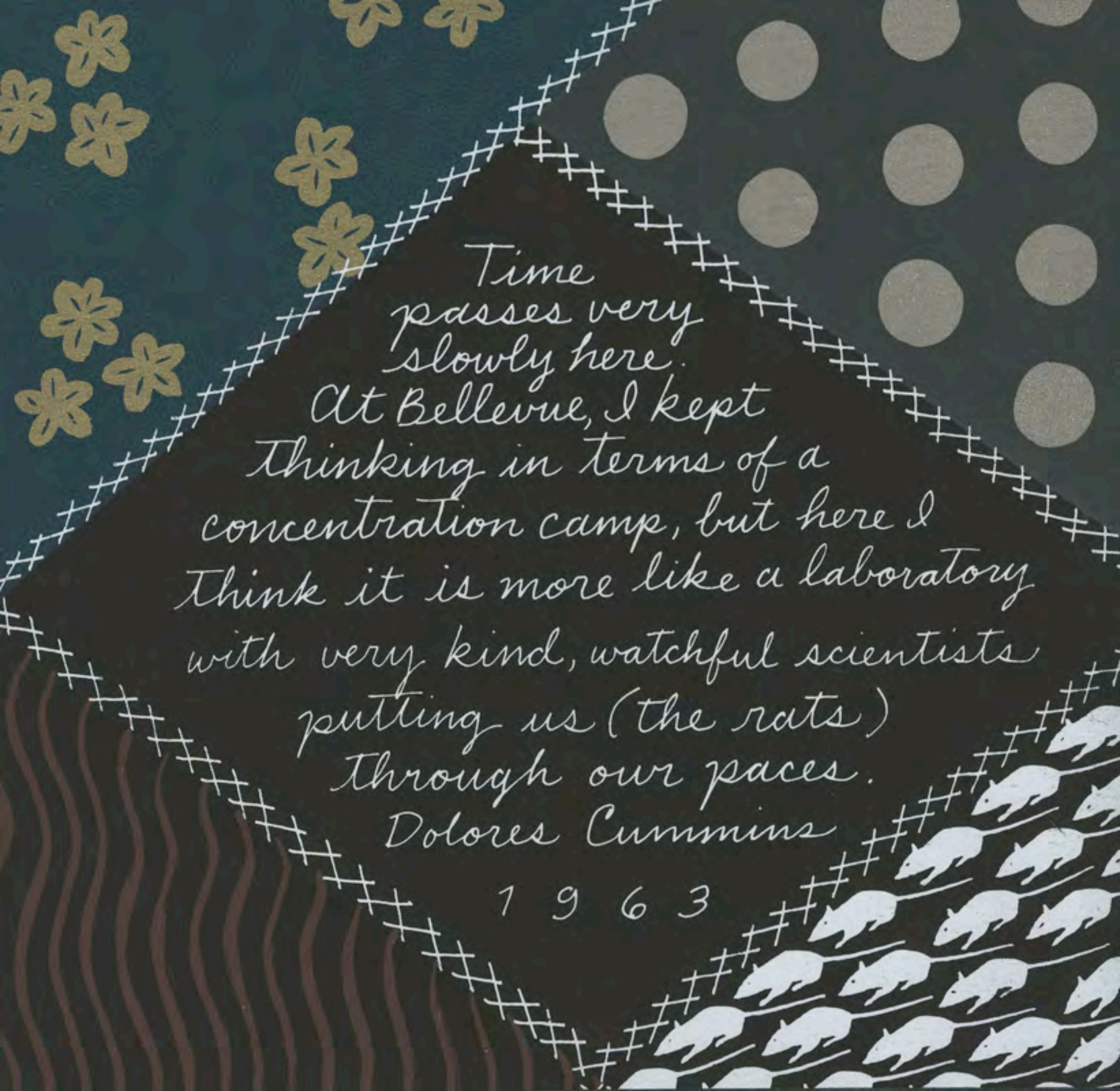
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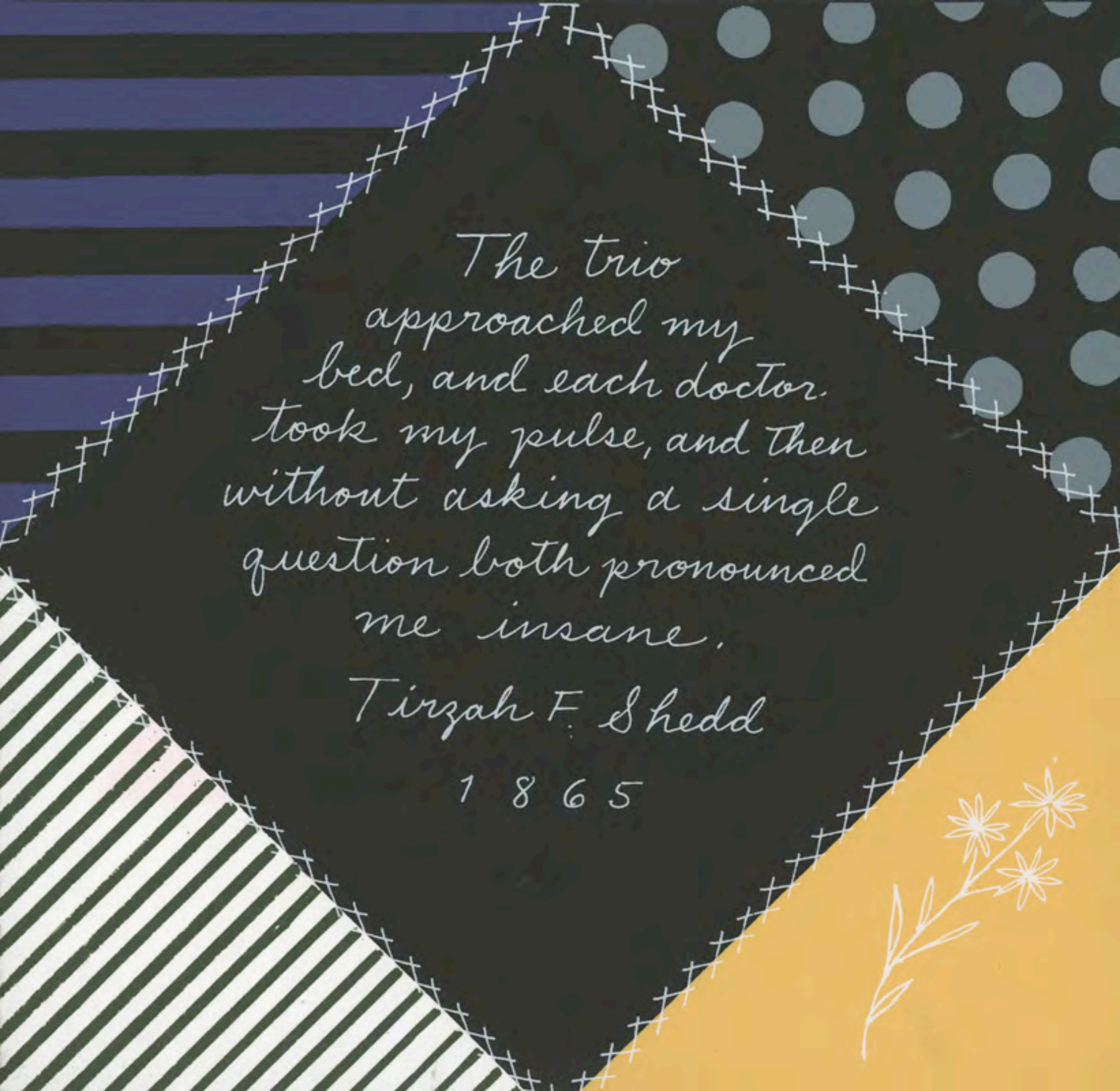


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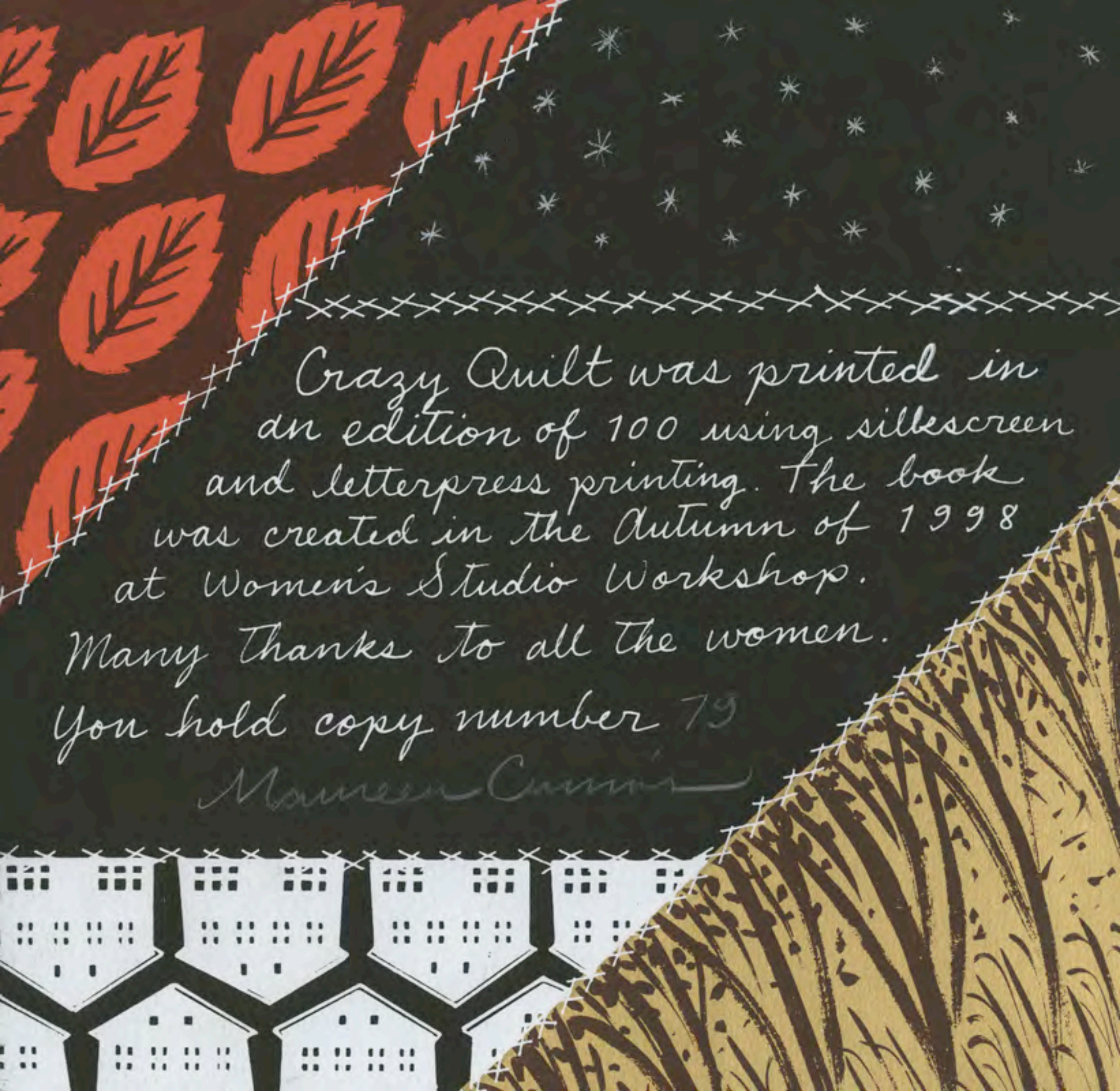




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1865



Crazy Quilt was printed in
an edition of 100 using silkscreen
and letterpress printing. The book
was created in the Autumn of 1998
at Women's Studio Workshop.

Many Thanks to all the women.

You hold copy number 79

Margaret Curran

