

## Painting White Flowers with the Use of Color



Here you can see white flowers reflect the colors around them. They are not really white at all. I see some blue some violet and some yellow in this reference photo. What do you see?

The blue from the cloudless sky also is reflected and makes this a good contrast to the yellow orange center with a bit of a green pistil in the center.

This type of Poppy is called a prickly poppy and is considered a weed here in Texas.



*On the left you see a First fire of an open white rose. I used Mixing Yellow, Deep Blue Green and Soft Pink for the tints of color on the first fire and then wipe out the petal shapes. You can see how much color is left on the flower and it still looks white. The center is Mixing Yellow, Pecan and a small amount of Yellow Red.*

*On right you see a photo of a white rose. Do you see how the colors I have used above on the open rose are more exciting than what you see here. Edgar Whitney once wrote tell me a beautiful lie. I say make it prettier than it really is.*



First step is to draw the outline of the flower you are painting I use a scroller usually loaded with Deep Blue Green. Paint 3 shapes of each color, I start with Mixing Yellow, in what I call an unequal triangle of motion. Next is Soft Pink, finally Deep Blue Green, (this blue green needs to be more blue than green), Baby Blue will also work, these shapes, need to be unequal in size and an interesting shape. No twins, no triplets. Nothing alike, alike is the key to better painting.

Lightly blend. No straight lines and you should be able to see the color without it all being muddy. You will get a natural gray in some areas. It's so much better than using a pre-made gray. Paint in center with Mixing yellow, Pecan and Yellow red. Wipe out flowers and don't forget that blast of light (there is no detail in it)

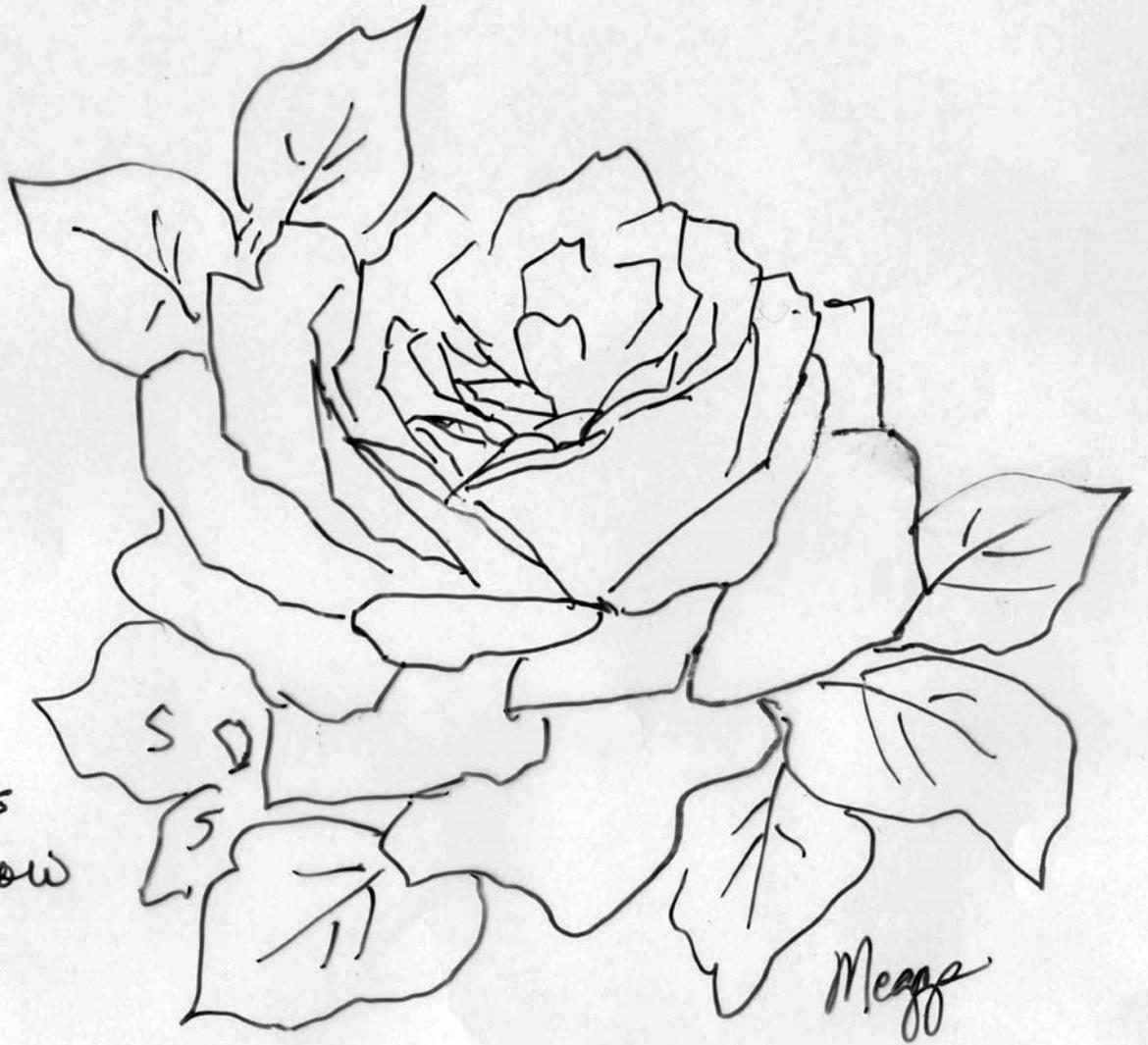
If background is desired I usually use Mixing Yellow and Deep Blue Green leaving some light areas.

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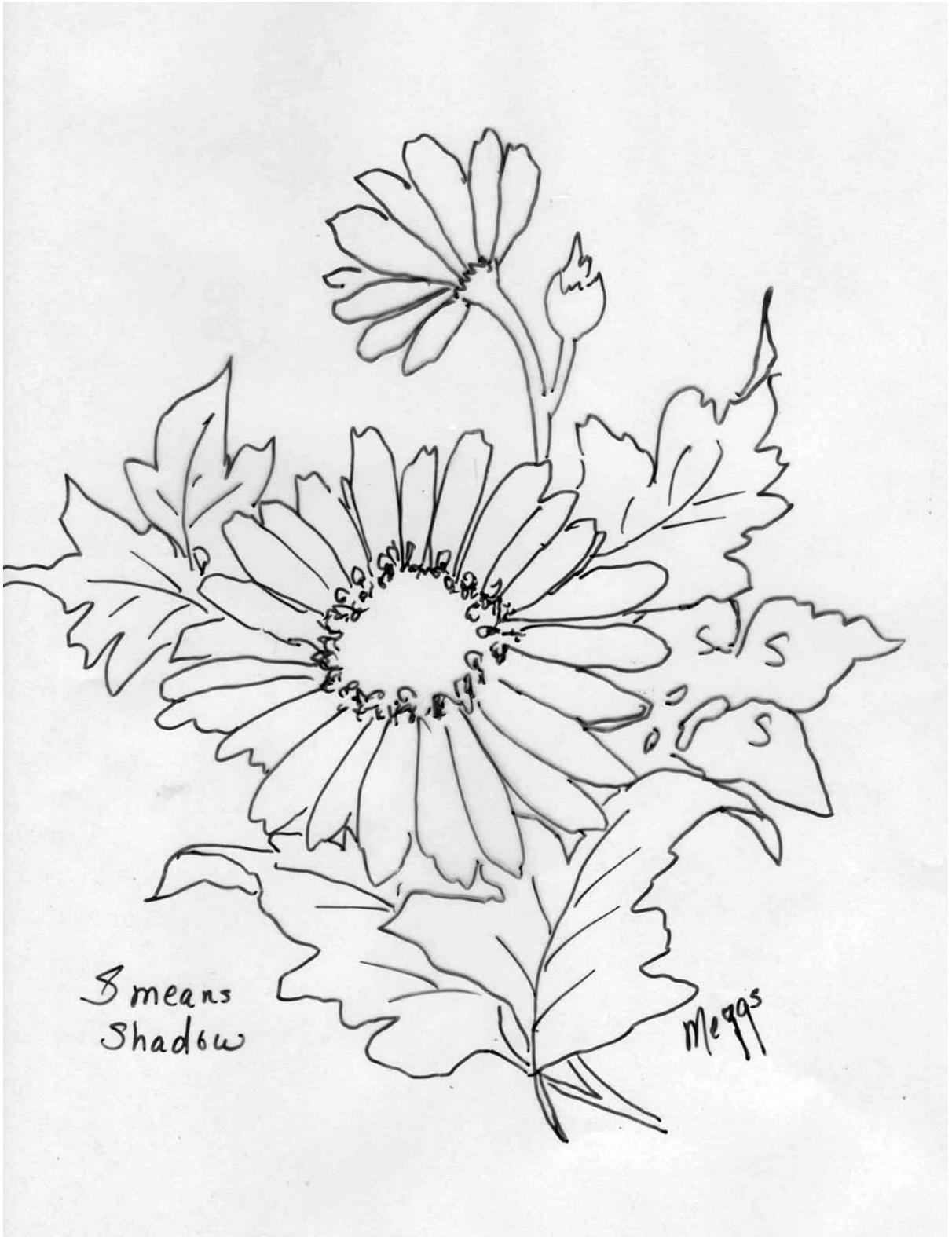
*Above you can see a finished painting of Daisy and Berries do you see how the colors all harmonize, by pulling some of the background color onto the daisy it works. Also the color contrast of the dark value purples with the yellow centers makes for an exciting color display. Learn how to edit a photo. Overlap the flowers not all singles like this reference photo. It's your painting enjoy the journey.*

*Cherryl Meggs*



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Shadow

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