

NAME _____ HR ____

Drafting: Complete the following template

Let them be as _____
always _____

but _____.

I'd rather be a _____

To have _____

to _____, to _____, to _____
of _____.

To be _____

or _____.

I'd rather be _____, and if
_____,
than to be _____

by _____.

I'd rather (smell of) _____
than of _____.
If I could _____
I'd rather be a _____

Identity

by Julio Noboa Polanco

Let them be as flowers,
always watered, fed, guarded, and
admired,
but harnessed to a pot of dirt.

I'd rather be a tall, ugly weed,
clinging on cliffs, like an eagle
wind-wavering above high, jagged rocks.

To have broken through the surface of stone,
to live, to feel exposed to the madness
of the vast, eternal sky.

To be swayed by the breezes of an
ancient sea,
carrying my soul, my seed, beyond
the mountains of time
or into the abyss of the bizarre.

I'd rather be unseen, and if
then shunned by everyone,
than to be a pleasant-smelling flower,
growing in clusters in the fertile valley,
where they're praised, handled, and
plucked
by greedy, human hands.

I'd rather smell of musty, green stench
than of sweet, fragrant lilac.
If I could stand alone, strong and free,
I'd rather be a tall, ugly weed.

