

against anyone who presumably might have prevented the loss.

To facilitate grief's work let there be tears. Tears, as one psychiatrist has pointed out, is a mechanism for reducing the tension caused by grief. Tears are not a distortion of nature nor evidence of weakness. They are a means by which the grieving persons works his way up from the depths.

Then let there be talk. Repeat over and over again

all the details surrounding the grief-producing tragedy. This makes the loss more realistic and the expectation that the loved one will return is dissipated.

When tears and talk flow freely, grief's work is being done and in time the bereaved person comes to realize what Jesus meant when he said, "Blessed are they who mourn for they shall be comforted."—*Chedbourne A. Spring*

In recent years the "Waling-Waling" has played a prominent role in orchid hybridization work. Orchid hybridizers in Florida, Hawaii, Singapore, Bangkok and other orchid centers of the world have crossed this versatile vanda with other orchid species and genera to produce prolific blooming hybrids. These hybrids exhibit a wide range of shapes and colors in their flowers. Some outstanding examples are the golden-flowered *Vanda Tan Chay Yan*, the pink-flowered *Vanda Nellie Morley*, the blue-flowered *Vanda rothschildiana*, and the red-flowered *Vanda Jane Shimamoto*. In the esoteric world of orchid collectors, these handsome hybrids command near astronomical prices.

WALING-WALING

Vanda Sanderiana (Waling-Waling), the most prominent native orchid, was first detected by Roebelin of the orchid establishment, Sanders and Company, in 1882, while he was collecting throughout the southeast portions of Mindanao Island. It is endemic to a restricted area of this island and can be found in no other place throughout the world. The plant was originally described by Reichenbach in 1882 and is dedicated to the orchid company responsible for its discovery.

This species has been described by various authorities under different genera; Schlechter delegated it to *Eunanthe* while Reichenbach assigned it to *Esmeralda*. The flower differs from that of the typical *Vanda* in having a small lip with no spur and without a saccate formation. Also, because of the distinctive markings of radial line on the sepals and petals, the species has at times been incorporated with the genus *Arachnis*. At present, how-

ever, the plant is included in the *Vanda* Group for which it has an alliance because of its typical *Vanda*-like growth, upright flower scape and general floral arrangements.

Plants of this species often grow to a height of two to four feet, but it is not uncommon for plants to flower that are only eight to twelve inches high with four or five sets of leaves. The unusual flower, the biggest among Philippine orchids, is flat and from three to five inches across the petals. The upper sepal and the two petals are whitish purple with dark reddish-brown spots near the base, while the lower sepals are greenish with purplish crimson netted lines and spots. The flowers which form in big clusters of twelve to sixteen during August and September open a few at a time and the raceme will last for from five to seven weeks. This species is not fragrant. — *Excerpts from the book, Philippine Orchids, by Reg S. Davis and Mona Lisa Steiner.*