

South Carolina in July

The air here smells distinctly southern - that is to say, the air here smells slow. Southern. It is hot and wet and thick and slows

the

breathing

in a manner only southern air does. It is thick with the smell of the sea, but also of oleander and pines and that deep spicy, peppery smell of undisturbed earth – where foliage grows uninterrupted.

When you walk outside it grabs you and stops you. You take notice. And then, without another thought, you slow down...

in a place where the branches grow upwards towards the heavens while plumes of Spanish moss dangle toward the ground as if to kiss it in thanksgiving.