

## Do You Come Here Often?

Jill Sell

Volume 35, Number 1, 2019

URI: <https://id.erudit.org/iderudit/1068491ar>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7202/1068491ar>

[See table of contents](#)

Publisher(s)

Athabasca University Press

ISSN

1705-9429 (digital)

[Explore this journal](#)

Cite this document

Sell, J. (2019). Do You Come Here Often? *The Trumpeter*, 35(1), 90–91.  
<https://doi.org/10.7202/1068491ar>

Article abstract

If ferns went to bars...

Copyright (c) Jill Sell, 2020



This document is protected by copyright law. Use of the services of Érudit (including reproduction) is subject to its terms and conditions, which can be viewed online.

<https://apropos.erudit.org/en/users/policy-on-use/>

This article is disseminated and preserved by Érudit.

Érudit is a non-profit inter-university consortium of the Université de Montréal, Université Laval, and the Université du Québec à Montréal. Its mission is to promote and disseminate research.

<https://www.erudit.org/en/>

# Do You Come Here Often?

---

*Jill Sell*

it isn't as easy

as picking someone up

in a bar

sporangium play hard to get

on undersides of fronds

sometimes hidden by the indusium –

    a cloak of modesty

    but dressed to show cleavage

sporangia cluster

on Girls Night Out

form a sorus—

safety in numbers

millions of spores

fall to the ground

or float awhile aimlessly

those that wander

into moist region

germinate

send out green filaments

that bear hearts as prothallia

only a few get lucky  
others perish long before  
the last song is played

prothallium grows  
male and female organs  
on its underside  
antheridia meet archegonia  
“What’s your sign?”

and like the 5 o’clock  
watering holes downtown  
it takes liquid to make it work  
antheridia’s spermatozoids  
need dew or raindrops  
as well as courage  
to meet and greet and swim  
to the female

upon arrival  
finally  
a fern frond