

Marram grass:  
Indiana Dunes National Park

by [Julie L. Moore](#) in the [May 5, 2021](#) issue

I know what you've heard:  
Build on rock, so when rain  
pours down, you will not fall.

I'm a prickly enigma.  
I build my tin-green home  
on this sand because we are friends.

Believe it or not,  
my foundation is stable.  
My rhizomes cement my footer  
and multiply my kind all down the line.

My architecture's ingenious:  
my reedy, inrolled leaves store water  
*and* catch the great lake's wind.

I am a wonder,  
and welcoming, sharing the wealth  
atop this dune, inviting other colonies

to join me. I am no fool:  
while I bask in the sun, I hold  
this whole community together.