

FiveOaks review of kaffir and temple on Perfume of Life

<http://perfumeoflife.com/index.php?showtopic=23106&hl=bittergrace+riverside>

To get to the review of these two scents, I have to take a little circuitous route through the past. Testing samples of Anya's Garden **Kaffir** and **Temple**, they brought me immediately back to a very special time, when I was a young teenager. It's not that they smelled like a perfume from that era, but they immediately made me think of the exploits of myself and my friend Eugenia, my cohort in perfume, lipstick and clothes.

Together we would haunt the drugstore, five-and-ten and clothing/jewelry stores. We discussed these matters endlessly and when it came time to buy something, we would almost invariably buy the same thing in a different colour. Eugenia would buy Pond's *Honey* lipstick; I would buy Pond's *Pepper*. She bought the H.S. dance silk dress in turquoise; I got the identical model in rust. she got the blouse with red plaid; I got it's blue-plaid twin--and so it went.

All this to say that when I smelled **Kaffir** and **Temple**, my first thought was **Kaffir** is Eugenia's and **Temple** is for me! That was the thought that flashed through my mind, even before reading how Anya describes them on her website: **Kaffir**--"tropical flirty fun." **Temple**--"steady verdant earth." Yup, that was Eugenia and that was me.

### **Kaffir**

Top notes: Kaffir Thai lime leaf, galbanum, French and Tropical tarragon accord  
Middle notes: tinctures of eight jasmines, heritage oak extract, Grasse jasmine  
Base notes: sustainable golden agarwood, musk seed, leather accord

My impression of **Kaffir** is of a scent citrusy, vegetal, relaxing and yet, strangely stirring, like a warm, soft summer breeze, something in nature that creates vague yearnings for something delightful you know is out there waiting for you... A scent which to me evokes gently flowing water and warm, fragrant breezes. I usually have some problem with a dominant jasmine note but this one has eight different jasmines and I find it dry--not sweet at all, as one might expect--and very wearable. I don't see it listed in the notes, but it reportedly has a leather note as well.

### **Temple**

Top notes: distilled orange juice, borneol crystals  
Middle notes: aglaia flower, cassia, Ayurvedic herbs and spices  
Base notes: sustainable Laotian and Vietnamese Oud agarwood, earth tincture

**Temple** reminds me a little bit of **Sables** (but I find it less syrupy than **Sables**) and I was surprised to see there is no immortelle in it. It is deep, rich, spicy, yet calming. When I smell it I can feel my lungs involuntarily breathing deeper to

breathe it in. It feels and smells beneficial and transports me to a serene state. I feel it is aptly named. **Temple** lasts a fairly long time on me and I find its drydown haunting. **Kaffir** is a more playful, less serious scent and did not last too long on my skin.

Price is an obstacle for me with fine natural perfumes. They are necessarily expensive because of the quality and rarity of the ingredients and that is 100% understandable. I think if I had a large perfume budget, I might go a little wild on some natural perfumes and I would probably load up on **Temple**.