

Story of hyacinth

- Hyacinths are a spring flower, usually purple, but also white, yellow or pink. They have a spiky stalk, usually about 6 inches high
- But where do hyacinths come from? The answer can be found in Greek mythology
- Hyacinth was a beautiful youth (which means a good-looking young man) and lover of the god Apollo (god of music, truth, poetry and more)
- But Hyacinth was also admired by Zephyrus, the god of the West Wind. Zephyrus was jealous that Hyacinth preferred Apollo
- One day Apollo and Hyacinth were throwing the discus back and forth, much like we would throw a Frisbee today, but of course the discus is much heavier
- Apollo threw the discus but Zephyrus blew the discus off course and it hit Hyacinth in the head, killing him
- Obviously, Apollo was devastated and very angry with Zephyrus
- As Hyacinth lay dying, Apollo would not allow Hades to claim the youth, but rather he made a flower, the hyacinth, from his spilled blood. It was considered by the Greeks to be the most beautiful of all flowers
- And that's how we have the hyacinth flower today



George Botsford (1874-1949)

- ❖ born in Dakota Territory, grew up in Iowa
- ❖ toured as a "Theatrical Pianist" i.e. variety shows
- ❖ New York City in 1902 and worked as an arranger and composer with a Tin Pan Alley publisher
- ❖ producing several piano rolls and recording one of the first piano rags for the cylinder phonograph
- ❖ also wrote *Black and White Rag* (1908) and *Grizzly Bear Rag* (1910)
- ❖ *Hyacinth Rag* (1911)

