

HOLDING ON

```
You can't hold me with mere words,
     promises,
       smiles,
         or charm.
I don't thrive on them.
  I don't live for them.
But without a few words, promises, smiles, and charm--
without a few well-chosen words,
        a few well-placed promises,
            a few well-scattered smiles,
             and a bit of your engaging charm,
Without a few words,
      promises,
       smiles.
         or charm
    you can't hold me either.
```

Copyright, © 1978, 2024 Toni Thompson

Image, Singapore Botanical Gardens, © 2024, Toni Thompson