

Nicole Shields

SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY # 2

NOT MANGOS,
 KIWIS,
PAPAYAS,
POMEGRANATES,
 BLUE
OR RASP
 BERRIES;

NOT MIMOSA,
YLANG YLANG,
 CUS CUS,
 PLANTAIN,
 BAY
 O R
AFRIKAN DEW
 BERRIES;

BUT BLACK FATHERS,
BROTHERS, SONS, UNCLES
AND GRANDFATHERS;

MOTHERS, YES, MOTHERS TOO,
AS WELL AS SISTERS, AUNTS AND
 DAUGHTERS;

HANGING AS LOOSE FROM THE NOOSE
AS STRANGE FRUIT FROM ITS VINE.

For Arthur and Billie