



Ootheca

the egg case of mantises
and related insects



Colophon

Praying Mantises are not completely beneficial to the garden, since they are indiscriminate eaters, but they are an incredibly cool insect to observe. These little ones were likely *Tenodera sinensis*, not the Midwestern U.S. native *Stagmomantis carolina*.

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June 6. Went out to look over the OOTHECA by the alley. Since discovering it in November, I've checked it often—first every week, then every day.

(But not when it was covered in 21" of snowfall—then a snow cat with a pink pipe cleaner nose)

I wondered if they were alive.