function, the embryo produces an inflorescence meristem instead of a vegetative meristem. If this hypothesis is shown to be correct, then *emf* can be considered to be a homoeotic mutation.

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Splicer RNAs

In my 14 August Perspective "Splicing takes a Holliday" (p. 888), I inadvertently omitted reference to two highly relevant 1979 papers by Vincent Murray and Robin Holliday (*1*). These hypothesized—with prescient foresight—that small RNAs termed "splicer RNAs" [perhaps small nuclear RNAs (snRNAs)] might hybridize to intron sequences, to exon sequences, or to both intron and exon sequences at the 5′ and 3′ splice sites, bringing them together into a structure reminiscent of DNA recombination intermediates. In my Perspective, I summarized recent evidence that in the spliceosome, two such "splicer RNAs" are involved and that their identities are the U1 and U5 snRNAs. These snRNAs contribute to splice site identification and juxtaposition early in the splicing pathway; they do not appear to remain in the Holliday configuration at the time when intron cleavage and exon ligation occur (*2*). Moreover, current evidence supports a role for specific proteins, but not for specific snRNAs, in alternative splicing.

References to the original proposals of Holliday and Murray should most certainly have been included in my Perspective, and I apologize for their absence. Because of space constraints, I also omitted reference to two other specific proposals of Holliday-like RNA structures or exon bridging models for the action of snRNAs in splicing (*3*).

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