HOW TO MAKE YOUR OWN
SQUARE-BASED ORIGAMI “BUD”

With just a pair of scissors, a scoring tool¹, and a little patience, you can turn a photocopy of the opposite page into a three-dimensional “bud” that looks like this:

To start, photocopy the opposite page onto a light card stock (70 lb “cover weight” is ideal) and cut out the square.

Score each printed line firmly, but don’t press as hard as you can. Overscoring could cause the card stock to crack when you crease it. For best results, score on a flat, padded surface, like a newspaper or your copy of Cabinet.

Next, begin creasing the scored lines, using the following photograph as a guide.² This is the trickiest step. It takes time and patience—at least fifteen minutes, probably—to coax all the curves into proper creases. You may have to work around the whole square a few times before your creases are defined and flexible.

Next, bring the four corners of your creased square together. (The printed side should become the inner, “hidden” part.) You will almost certainly have to encourage and refine your creases as you do this.

The corners of your square are now triangular flaps. To complete your bud, fold all flaps in a clockwise direction. Then, tuck each flap into the underside of the model. Properly tucked flaps will allow the model to hold itself together.

¹ Many origamiists use an empty ballpoint pen for scoring. If you happen to have a bone folder or a corner-tipped embossing tool, you could use one of these instead. If you have none of these things, you could try using a felt-tipped pen, since all your score marks will be hidden on the inside and underside of the finished object. But you’d have to be extra careful about pressure and evitarug.
² Specifically: Note that there are two kinds of dotted line. All the ‘length-dotted’ lines will crease to form “mountains.” The other lines—made of dots of consistent length—will crease to form “valleys.” The photograph illustrates how your square will look if you crease it according to these rules.