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The yellow golden chain tree, or *Laburnum anagyroides*, is an absolute showstopper in any garden. It's the kind of tree that makes your backyard feel like it's straight out of a storybook, especially in late spring and early summer when those blooms are in full swing. But before you rush to add this beauty to your garden, there's one big thing you need to know: the yellow golden chain tree is toxic.Every part of it, from the leaves and flowers to the seeds and bark, contains a substance called cytisine, which is poisonous if ingested. This can cause anything from nausea and vomiting to more serious problems like trouble breathing, and in extreme cases, it can even be fatal. It's especially dangerous if you have kids or pets. Imagine curious little ones being drawn to those bright flowers or the seeds they're beautiful, but also a major health risk. Even adults should be careful when handling this tree because the toxins can transfer while pruning or raking up fallen leaves. So, if you've got children or pets that might get too close, you'll want to think about whether the risk is worth it.Another thing to consider is that while this tree isn't officially labeled as invasive, it does have the potential to spread aggressively in certain areas. If you live in a place where this tree loves to grow, it's a good idea to keep an eye on how it's spreading. A little regular pruning or even some selective removal can help keep things in check and your garden looking great. If the yellow golden chain tree's toxicity or potential invasiveness is making you hesitate, there are some gorgeous alternatives out there that give you that same eye-catching beauty without the risks. For example, the Golden rain tree (*Koeleruteria paniculata*) is a totally different species but still offers that lovely burst of yellow you're after. Instead of drooping flowers, you'll get these upright clusters of bright yellow blooms that look sunny and cheerful. This tree is perfect if you're looking for something compact and a little more structured in shape. However, keep in mind that it's considered invasive in states like Florida and Missouri. It is suitable and not invasive to California regions, but it's a good check to see as it is in your garden.Another great option is yellow clematis (*Clematis flammula*). It's a climbing plant with long, delicate white or pale yellow flowers that look like they're glowing from within or peeping through the leaves. It's a lovely alternative if you want something a little less bold but still stunning in its own way. This tree is low maintenance and low-growing, making it easy to maintain over time and it's non-toxic to non-invasive. Yellow clematis brings beauty to your garden without the worry of spreading or harming local wildlife. Both of these options will give you that vibrant beauty you're craving, without any of the risks that come with the golden chain tree.
Attributes:
Genus: Laburnum
Species: anagyroides
Family: Fabaceae
Uses (Ethnobotany): Wood is coarse grained, durable, and very hard. It can be used as an ebony substitute, and is used in making instruments and furniture where strength and smoothness are important.
Life Cycle: Woody Recommended Propagation Strategy: Seed
Country Or Region Of Origin: Central and Southeastern Europe
Distribution: Britain, India, South America, New Zealand
Edibility: The seeds are extremely poisonous to humans as well as goats and horses, especially when not ripe.
Dimensions: Height: 15 ft. 0 in. - 30 ft. 0 in.
Width: 15 ft. 0 in. - 25 ft. 0 in.
Whole Plant Traits:
Plant Type: Poisonous Tree
Woody Plant Characteristics: Deciduous
Habit/Form: Erect
Open Growth Rate: Slow
Maintenance: Medium
Texture: Fine
Cultural Conditions: Light: Full sun (6 or more hours of direct sunlight a day)
Partial Shade (Direct sunlight only part of the day, 2-6 hours)
Soil Texture: Clay
Loam (Silt)
Sand
Soil Drainage: Good
Drainage Moist Occasionally Dry
Available Space To Plant: 12-24 feet 24-60 feet
USDA Plant Hardiness Zones: 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b, 7a, 7b
Fruit:
Fruit Color: Black
Fruit Value To Gardener: Showy Display/Harvest Time: Fall
Summer Fruit Type: Legume
Fruit Description: The fruit is a long, flattened pod that splits open when ripe. The seeds are legumes with a large numbers of black seeds that contain cytisine, an alkaloid extremely poisonous to humans as well as goats and horses, especially when not ripe.
Flowers:
Flower Color: Gold/Yellow
Flower Inflorescence: Raceme
Flower Value To Gardener: Fragrant
Showy
Flower Bloom Time: Spring
Flower Petals: 4-5
Petal/leaf symmetry: Bilateral
Petal/leaf flower size: 1-1.5 inches
Lower flower description: Flowers are pea-like
Flower type: upright
Flower clusters: 6 to 10 inches long
Golden chain tree blooms are bright yellow flowers with long, yellow stamens and pistils. The flowers are about 1 to 1.5 inches long. The flowers are sweet scented. Leaves:
Woody Plant Characteristics: Deciduous
Leaf Color: Green
Deciduous Leaf Fall Color: Insignificant
Leaf Type: Compound (Pinnate), Bipinnately (Palmately)
Leaf Shape: Ovate
Leaf Margin: Entire
Hair s Present: Yes
Leaf Length: 1-3 inches
Leaf Description: Leaves are alternate, long-stalked with 3 leaflets to 3 inches long. It has insignificant fall color.
Bark:
Bark Color: Light Brown
Surface/Attachment: Smooth
Bark Description: The bark of an adult plant is thin and smooth.
Stem:
Stem Color: Green
Stem Is Aromatic: No
Stem Description: Sparsely branched and often loses lower branches.
Landscape:
Design Feature: Flowering Tree
Hedge
Specimen Resistance To Challenges: Pollution
Wind Problems: Messy
Poisonous to Humans
Short-lived
Weedy
Poisonous to Humans: Poison
Severity: High
Poison Symptoms: All parts of the tree are poisonous: roots, bark, wood, leaves, flower-buds, petals, and seedpods. The harmful part of the plant is the seedpods. In many cases of ingestion of a small number of seeds, there are no symptoms. Where symptoms do occur these are usually nausea and vomiting. Higher doses can produce intense sleepiness, convulsive possibly tetanic movements, coma, slight frothing at the mouth and unequally dilated pupils. Nervousness, stomach and intestinal irritation with nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea; irregular pulse, convulsions, coma. HIGHLY TOXIC
MAY BE FATAL IF EATEN!
Poison Toxic Principle: Cytisine, an alkaloid
Causes Contact Dermatitis: No
Poison Part: Bark
Flowers
Fruits
Leaves
Roots
Sap/Juice
Seeds
Stems
Leaves: Deciduous. Leaves have 3 leaflets (trifoliolate). Leaflets are elliptic to oval shape, 1 to 3 inches long. Bright green color sometimes with a bluish tinge. Unremarkable fall color.
Bark/Twigs: Olive-green colored twigs and bark. Develops fissured areas on older bark.
Flowers/Fruit: Very fragrant, bright yellow pea-like inch long individual flowers bloom in 6 to 10 inch long clusters that hang down.
Flowers in May. Fruit is a 1 to 2 inch long legume/pod. Mature size and shape: Small. 12 to 15 feet high x 9 to 12 feet wide.
Upright ovate or rounded shaped crown.
General information/species features:
Plant in full sun to partial shade. Best if shaded in hot part of the day.
Moist, well-drained soil. Water not to be kept too long. Does not like excessive heat/cold. Not drought tolerant. Usually short-lived. All plant parts are poisonous. Use caution around places where children play.
Landscape use and maintenance:
Specimen tree that can be planted near buildings. Plant in a protected site. Can be planted under power lines. Average growing rate. High maintenance. Pods can make the tree look very messy, especially in winter. Transplant in spring.
Ripe after flowering.
USDA Hardness Zone: 5 to 7
Family/Origin: Fabaceae
Legume. A hybrid of Scotch laburnum (*L. alpinum*) and common laburnum (*L. anagyroides*), both of which are native to central, southern, and eastern Europe.
Campus Use: Uncommon. Can be found south of Park Building (Bld 1), the free encyclopedia that anyone can edit.
107,766 active editors
7,028,236 articles in English
Lisa James McNear (25May 1883 25July 1944) was a lieutenant general of the United States Army who served in both world wars, and previously saw service in the Veracruz occupation and the Pancho Villa Expedition. During World WarI, he served with the American Expeditionary Forces on the Western Front. At 35, he became the Army's second-youngest general officer. During the early stages of World WarII, he was the commander of Army Ground Forces, and played the leading role in the organization, equipping, and training of Army units before they departed for overseas combat. He was killed on 25July 1944 while in France as commander of the fictitious First United States Army Group, part of Operation Quicksilver, a deception plan for the invasion of Normandy. McNear died when the US Eighth Air Force attempted to use heavy bombers in support of ground combat troops, and several planes dropped payloads short of their targets. He received a posthumous promotion to general. (Fullarticle...)Recently featured:
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What is commonly referred to as the golden chain tree in the United States is Laburnumxwatereri, a cross between the two species that is considered a superior tree for landscaping to either parent. There are three notable cultivars of the golden chain tree: Laburnum anagyroides 'Sunspire': This dwarf variety grows 12 feet tall and 6 feet wide.Laburnum anagyroides 'Yellow Rocket': A trademarked cultivar with a columnar, narrow growth habit makes this cultivar suitable for smaller spaces.Laburnum watereri 'Vossii': This cultivar, which looks like the common laburnum, produces fewer pods and seeds than other types. Pruning is required to develop a strong structure. It should be pruned to grow with a single leader. It's normal for the bark of older trees to turn dark and fissured. You can also prune the lower branches since they droop and get in the way. The seed pods are unattractive and can be removed when they appear so they don't use up the tree's energy. All the commonly grown golden chain trees are cultivars or cross-bred. Starting them from seed won't produce a tree true to the parent and is therefore not recommended. Unless it is the trademarked 'Yellow Rocket' cultivar, you can propagate the golden chain tree from root cuttings, hardwood cuttings, or whip grafting. Propagation from hardwood cuttings is the easiest for home gardeners and should always be done while wearing protective gloves. Take these steps:In the fall, choose a strong stem and cut off 8 to 10 inches with a sharp knife, including at least a few nodes.Remove leaves from the lower third of the stem. Dip the stem in rooting hormone. Plant the cutting in a 4-inch pot filled with a damp potting mix.Overwinter the cutting in a protected location outdoors, such as a cold frame. Keep the soil moist at all times.New shoots will appear in the spring if the cutting has rooted. Leave plants in the pot for at least another year until you have a strong sapling. The smaller varieties of golden chain trees can be grown in containers. The container needs to be heavy enough so it does not topple over. For adequate drainage, it should have large drain holes. Once the tree outgrows its container, wear gloves and report it with fresh potting mix in a container one size up from the original pot. Laburnums are susceptible to sunscald, which happens when nighttime temperatures drop after warm days. The cold damages trees with thin bark. To protect it, wrap the trunk with tree wrap before the onset of winter. Aphids and mealybugs may also be attracted to the tree; various methods exist to control them, including applying insecticidal soap and horticultural oils. Blight, canker, and leaf spot are potential diseases to keep an eye out for. The way the tree blooms depends on the temperature and climate. A late frost in spring may ruin the blooms and shorten their display, and temperatures that are too warm can also shorten the blooming period. Golden chain tree blooms at the end of spring from mid-May to June. The tree blooms for two to three weeks, usually longer if the temperatures are more moderate. This tree does not like heat. Golden chain tree racemes look and smell a lot like sweet-smelling wisteria. The floral sprigs of pea-like yellow blossoms fall in a weeping, pendulous way. Remove the seed pods in winter to promote flowers in the spring. Fertilize the tree once in the spring with balanced, granular 10-10-10 fertilizer. Prune the weeping golden chain tree in winter with sharp, sterilized tools to encourage vigorous growth, including blooms. Never prune more than a third of a tree's size in one season. These trees are fairly hardy once established but they have a few challenges to watch for: A golden chain tree is easily afflicted by root rot which reveals itself through yellowing of the leaves and an overall wilted appearance. If your tree is showing these signs, check the roots immediately. Healthy roots will be firm and rotting roots will be black and mushy. Avoid overwatering as trees in standing water can quickly develop root rot. If your tree fails to bloom, it may need more light. Make sure the tree is where it can receive six to eight hours of sun each day. Low temperatures could also result in few or no blooms. These trees do best in climates where both summers and winters are moderate.FAQThe golden chain tree is toxic to humans and animals, including dogs. All parts of the tree are toxic to touch. Always wear protective gloves and clothing when working with golden chain trees.A golden chain tree can grow 15 to 30 feet tall and wide but a dwarf type is available.The golden chain tree is often confused with the similarly named, similar-looking but invasive golden rain tree (Koeleruteria paniculata), and the best way to tell the difference is by the differing flowers. Golden chain tree flowers have long racemes that look almost like wisteria. Golden rain trees have flowers that grow in large, looser clusters. Instantly identify plants with a snap Snap a photo for instant plant ID, gaining quick insights on disease prevention, treatment, toxicity, care, uses, and symbolism, etc. Download the App for Free Continue Reading Asked January 05, 2021, 4:55 PM EST Last year the leaves on my golden chain turned black and curled. New leaves would appear and look healthy for awhile than they would also turn. What should I be doing now to cure this? The stems appear healthy as is the bark on tree.Lane County OregonFussier than many plants about climate, golden chain tree isa Goldilocks of the plant world and not just in appearance. Just likeGoldilocks in the fairy tale, it does not like it too cold, but it does notlike it too hot, either. It requires a climate that is "just right,"especially if you demand an optimal floral display. Nor is this the onlydrawback to the plant. Golden chain tree is relatively rare due to its fussinessand to various other problems to which it is susceptible. Still, its beautymakes it well worth trying if you have a climate conducive to growing it. Leaf spot disease, which causes brown blotches on leaves, isa common problem for many trees and shrubs, including the golden chain. It isusually caused by fungal infections. The fungi thrive best in cool wet weather,and leaf spot disease is rarely a problem when the weather is warm and dry.Leaf spot disease is not a threat to a tree unless it has been recentlytransplanted. In this case, home gardeners should apply two to threeapplications of fungicide: first early in the spring when the leaves are justunfolding, and again after a week or two. If it is very rainy, a third spraymay be necessary. Golden chain trees that are over-watered or have a fungus intheir soil may be at risk for root rot. The symptoms of this disease are yellowleaves and a wilted appearance. If a laburnum tree looks like this, check the roots—black, mushy roots are affected by root rot, while healthy roots arefirm and pliable. Twig blight is another common disease in golden chain trees. Like leaf spot, it causes discoloration of branches, especially newlydeveloping branches, and is also caused by a fungus. To control this disease,prune infected twigs when the tree is dry to prevent further infection. Weeklyapplications of fixed copper (fungicide) should also be applied all season toprotect from infection. Hope this helps!The golden chain tree, also called laburnum, is a beautiful plant that blooms 10 to 20-inch long racemes of fragrant, yellow, wisteria-like flowers in late spring. It prefers to grow in full sun, in moderately moist, well-draining, enriched soil in a moderate climate. All parts of the tree contain cytisine, a toxic substance to humans and pets. Common NameGolden chain tree, bean tree,laburnumBotanical NameLaburnum anagyroides, LaburnumwatereriFamilyFabaceaePlant TypeTreeMature Size15-30 ft. tall and wideSun ExposureFullSoil TypeWell-drained, moistSoil pHAcidic, neutral, alkalineBloom TimeSpringFlower ColorYellowHardiness Zones5-7 (USDA)Native AreaEuropeToxicityToxic to humans, toxic to pets Here are the main care requirements for growing a golden chain tree: Plant the golden chain tree in the fall or early spring.Grow the golden chain tree in a region with mild temperatures.Stake young golden chain trees to support floppy trunks.Locate the golden chain tree where it can get full sun. In hotter zones, ensure the plant has some shade.Give a golden chain tree water only when dry. It's fairly drought-resistant and susceptible to root rot when standing in overly wet soil. Credit: The Spruce / Evgeniya Vlasova If you live in a more moderate climate, pick a spot with full sun to plant your golden chain tree. Choose a site with partial shade in warmer temperatures since your tree will get too hot in full sun. Golden chain tree grows well in most soil types. Ideally, the soil should have a high content of organic matter. Good drainage is crucial, but in terms of soil acidity, the tree adapts to various pHs, from slightly alkaline to slightly acidic. The tree has medium moisture requirements, and it is relatively drought-tolerant. Be sure the water doesn't puddle at the base since it doesn't flourish in standing water and is particularly susceptible to root rot. Apply fertilizer in early spring (one designed for flowering trees and shrubs, with a high acid content). For the amount to use, follow the product label instructions. Golden chain trees prefer moderate climates, not too hot or too cold. Even though they can grow in hardiness zone 7, young trees may not survive the climate's heat. 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Keep the soil moist at all times.New shoots will appear in the spring if the cutting has rooted. Leave plants in the pot for at least another year until you have a strong sapling. The smaller varieties of golden chain trees can be grown in containers. The container needs to be heavy enough so it does not topple over. For adequate drainage, it should have large drain holes. Once the tree outgrows its container, wear gloves and report it with fresh potting mix in a container one size up from the original pot. Laburnums are susceptible to sunscald, which happens when nighttime temperatures drop after warm days. The cold damages trees with thin bark. To protect it, wrap the trunk with tree wrap before the onset of winter. Aphids and mealybugs may also be attracted to the tree; various methods exist to control them, including applying insecticidal soap and horticultural oils. Blight, canker, and leaf spot are potential diseases to keep an eye out for. The way the tree blooms depends on the temperature and climate. A late frost in spring may ruin the blooms and shorten their display, and temperatures that are too warm can also shorten the blooming period. Golden chain tree blooms at the end of spring from mid-May to June. The tree blooms for two to three weeks, usually longer if the temperatures are more moderate. This tree does not like heat. Golden chain tree racemes look and smell a lot like sweet-smelling wisteria. The floral sprigs of pea-like yellow blossoms fall in a weeping, pendulous way. Remove the seed pods in winter to promote flowers in the spring. Fertilize the tree once in the spring with balanced, granular 10-10-10 fertilizer. Prune the weeping golden chain tree in winter with sharp, sterilized tools to encourage vigorous growth, including blooms. Never prune more than a third of a tree's size in one season. These trees are fairly hardy once established but they have a few challenges to watch for: A golden chain tree is easily afflicted by root rot which reveals itself through yellowing of the leaves and an overall wilted appearance. If your tree is showing these signs, check the roots immediately. Healthy roots will be firm and rotting roots will be black and mushy. Avoid overwatering as trees in standing water can quickly develop root rot. If your tree fails to bloom, it may need more light. Make sure the tree is where it can receive six to eight hours of sun each day. Low temperatures could also result in few or no blooms. These trees do best in climates where both summers and winters are moderate.FAQThe golden chain tree is toxic to humans and animals, including dogs. All parts of the tree are toxic to touch. Always wear protective gloves and clothing when working with golden chain trees.A golden chain tree can grow 15 to 30 feet tall and wide but a dwarf type is available.The golden chain tree is often confused with the similarly named, similar-looking but invasive golden rain tree (Koeleruteria paniculata), and the best way to tell the difference is by the differing flowers. Golden chain tree flowers have long racemes that look almost like wisteria. Golden rain trees have flowers that grow in large, looser clusters. Golden-chain tree is a stunning, small tree noted for its long, pendulous clusters of flowers. Richard Klune / Getty Images Golden-chain tree is a stunning, small tree noted for its long, pendulous clusters of flowers. A member of the pea family, Laburnum x Watereri is a hybrid cross between the common and Scotch laburnum. Golden-chain tree is native to Europe and widely planted there. All plant parts contain cytisine, an alkaloid that is toxic to children, adults, and livestock if eaten. Description of golden-chain tree: This vase-shaped tree grows about 10 to 15 feet high in cultivation. Short-lived, pealike, yellow blossoms, 6 to 10 inches long, cascade from its branches. Its bright green foliage is composed of three leaflets, and the bark is pleasantly olive green. Growing golden-chain tree: Plant laburnum in well-drained soil. Find a sheltered spot away from windy spots and hot, noonday sun. Its bark is prone to sunscald in winter if poorly placed, and its foliage can get burned if used in dry or windy sites. It does not thrive in hot, humid regions. Uses for golden-chain tree: This plant is best used as an accent plant in the shrub border. Avoid street use. Related varieties of golden-chain tree: Laburnocytisus adamii is a true botanical curiosity. It occurred when a plant of Citisus purpureus was grafted onto a stalk of Laburnum anagyroides and produced a single branch showing characteristics of both parents. Cuttings taken from this branch produced a small tree that moves back and forth between both parents. Its flowers can be pinkish purple, yellow, or purple and yellow; its foliage is sometimes like that of a golden-chain tree, sometimes like that of a broom (Cytisus), and sometimes intermediate between the two. Scientific name of golden-chain tree: Laburnum x Watereri Share copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution You must give appropriate credit , provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made. You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. ShareAlike If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original. No additional restrictions You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits. You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation . No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. This stunning beauty has golden-yellow flowers with which it drips in late spring. The racemes have a strong fragrance. The golden blooms may be 10 to 20 inches in length. On older specimens, the bark is often dark and quite fissured. Leaves are made of three leaflets that look like pointy clover leaves.Golden chain trees should be planted in the fall or early spring. They grow at a moderate pace.All parts of the tree contain cytisine and are highly toxic to humans, and toxic to pets.Golden chain tree is relatively rare due to its fussiness about its growing conditions. Still, its beauty makes it well worth trying if you have a climate conducive to growing it.Young specimens require staking, as the trunks are quite floppy.Light#If you live in a more moderate climate, pick a spot with full sun to plant your golden chain tree. In warmer climates, choose a climate with partial shade since your tree will get too hot in full sun.Soil#Golden chain tree grows well in most soil types. Good drainage is crucial but in terms of soil acidity, the tree adapts to a variety of pHs, from slightly alkaline to slightly acidic. Ideally the soil has a high contents of organic matter.Water#The tree has medium moisture requirements, and it is relatively drought-tolerant. Be sure the water doesn't puddle at the base since it doesn't flourish in standing water and is particularly susceptible to root rot.Fertilizer#Apply fertilizer in early spring (one designed for flowering trees and shrubs, with a high acid content). For the amount to use, follow the product label instructions.Temperature and Humidity#Golden chain trees prefer moderate climates, not too hot or too cold. Even though they can grow in hardiness zone 7, young trees may not survive the climate's heat.Golden Chain Tree Varieties#There are three notable cultivars of the golden chain tree:Laburnum anagyroides Sunspire, a dwarf variety growing 12 ft. tall and 6 ft. wide.Laburnum anagyroides Yellow Rocket, a trademarked cultivar with a columnar, narrow growth habit that makes it suitable for smaller spaces.Laburnum watereri Vossii, a cultivar that produces fewer pods and less seeds than other types.Pruning#Pruning is required to develop a strong structure. It should be pruned to grow with a single leader. You can also prune the lower branches since they will droop down and get in the way.The seed pods can be removed as they appear; they arent particularly attractive and take energy away from the rest of the tree.Propagating Golden Chain Tree#Unless it is the trademarked cultivar Yellow Rocket you can propagate the golden chain tree from root cuttings, hardwood cuttings, or whip-grafting. Propagation from hardwood cuttings is the easiest for home gardeners. Here is how its done:Growing From Seed#All the commonly grown golden chain trees are cultivars or cross-breds. Starting them from seed wont produce a tree true to the parent and is therefore not recommended.Potting and Repotting Golden Chain Tree#The smaller varieties of golden chain tree can be grown in containers. The container needs to be heavy enough so it does not topple over. For adequate drainage, it should have large drain holes.Once the tree outgrows its container, report it in a container one size up from the original pot.Overwintering#Laburnums are susceptible to sunscald, which happens when nighttime temperatures drop after warm days. The cold damages trees with a thin bark. To protect it, wrap the trunk with with tree wrap before the onset of winter.Common Pests and Plant Diseases#Blight, canker, and leaf spot are potential diseases to keep an eye out for. Aphids and mealybugs may also be attracted to the tree; there are various methods to control them.Common Problems#Because of its (toxic) seeds, golden chain tree is also considered messy.

Difference between golden rain tree and golden chain tree. Are golden chain trees poisonous. Is golden chain tree invasive. What is a golden chain tree. What does a golden chain tree look like.

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