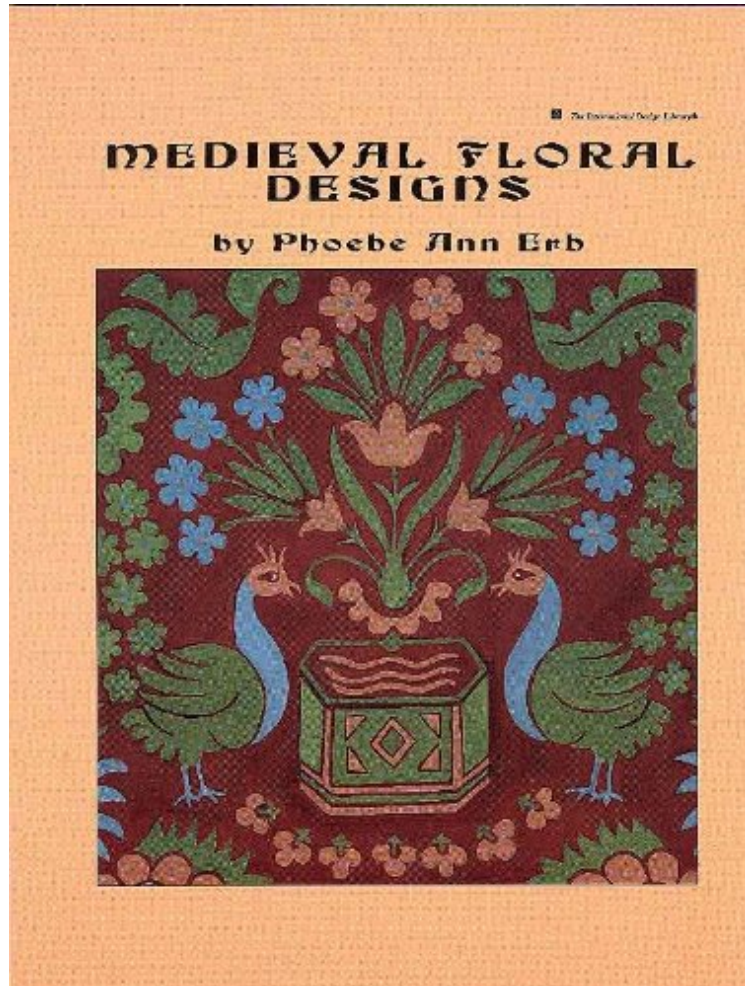


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Medieval Floral Designs (International Design Library)

Judith D Klingsick, Phoebe Ann Erb
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Judith D Klingsick, Phoebe Ann Erb : Medieval Floral Designs (International Design Library) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Medieval Floral Designs (International Design Library):

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A poetic gift book By Ms. Garden This is not intended to be a how-to book, it's more of a meditative gift book . . . it uses the aesthetic of the Japanese Garden in short poems that illuminate some of the myths and legends surrounding this artform. The photos are well composed and show features from public Japanese Gardens in the U.S. It also provides a great list of public JGs so that you can visit them for yourself when you travel. 3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Not Much Content, Pictures are dated and not vibrant By Katie Very short book with some pictures and notes on Japanese Gardens. If you're looking for a book with photographs or ideas for a Japanese Garden, this is not it. Pictures are faded and not inspiring at all.

One of the discoveries of the Middle Ages was the beauty of the natural world. Earlier the life of warfare and danger had blunted appreciation of nature. Later the enclosed garden represented more than a safe place away from strife.

"The best guide for viewing or studying the "bones" of Japanese gardens." -- Owings Mills Times, July 30, 1999
From the Publisher
We were fascinated by the author's magnificent photographs, her poems and her wealth of knowledge on the subject of traditional Japanese gardens. We started with the title "Ancient Stones and Dragon Bones," and then decided to make this the subtitle of the book. Why Dragon Bones? Read the flap copy for elucidation of this fascinating element of Japanese lore!
From the Inside Flap
A guide to the elements that compose classic Japanese gardens, this book offers a unique understanding of Japanese landscaping. In full-color photographs, descriptive text and poetry, it explores the traditional facets that give to Japanese gardens their sensuous, spiritual and ultimately timeless qualities. Like the gardens themselves, these pages inspire a deeply felt response in the reader. Each page dwells intensively upon an architectural, sculptural or landscape element. One or more of the author's superb photographs accompanies a description that explains the meaning, mythology, symbolism, horticultural or religious reference and history of that garden component. The journey suggested by the title begins with the entrance to the garden, meanders through paths artfully planned, and leads to or through or past exquisite sitings. These capture the peace, beauty and harmony intentionally and thoughtfully created for that purpose by the masters of Japanese garden landscape. Fascinating, too, is the lore of the ancient rocks, illuminating the subtitle of this book. As the author explains, "Ancient legends suggest that huge rocks heaving out of the ground are dragon bones. In fact, throughout the whole history of Japan, rocks have been called 'the bones of the earth.' They are the framework or skeleton that holds the world together." On each page, a graceful four-line poem extracts the essence of the bridge, pine tree, path, waterfall, sculpture, torii, rock or other element of the garden. Occasionally, this element is not an object but a manipulation of nature, a concept that introduces the reader to the more subtle techniques of the Japanese landscaping art. All of the gardens photographed are in the United States and open to the public. This accessibility makes A Japanese Garden Journey a valuable traveling companion as well as an absorbing "armchair" visit. Almost anywhere you travel, a Japanese garden can be found, to induce tranquility and contemplation away from the noise and crowds and stress of the city. With this book in hand, the experience becomes even more meaningful, as you stroll the paths and delight in finding and understanding the carefully chosen and placed elements that reflect centuries of Japanese cultivation of the garden and the spirit. A list of public Japanese gardens in the United States and Canada, arranged by state or province, is a valuable addition at the end of the book, as the author invites all who delight in nature to take the journey, stroll in her footsteps and see through her eyes the beauty and ancient heritage of the Japanese garden landscape.