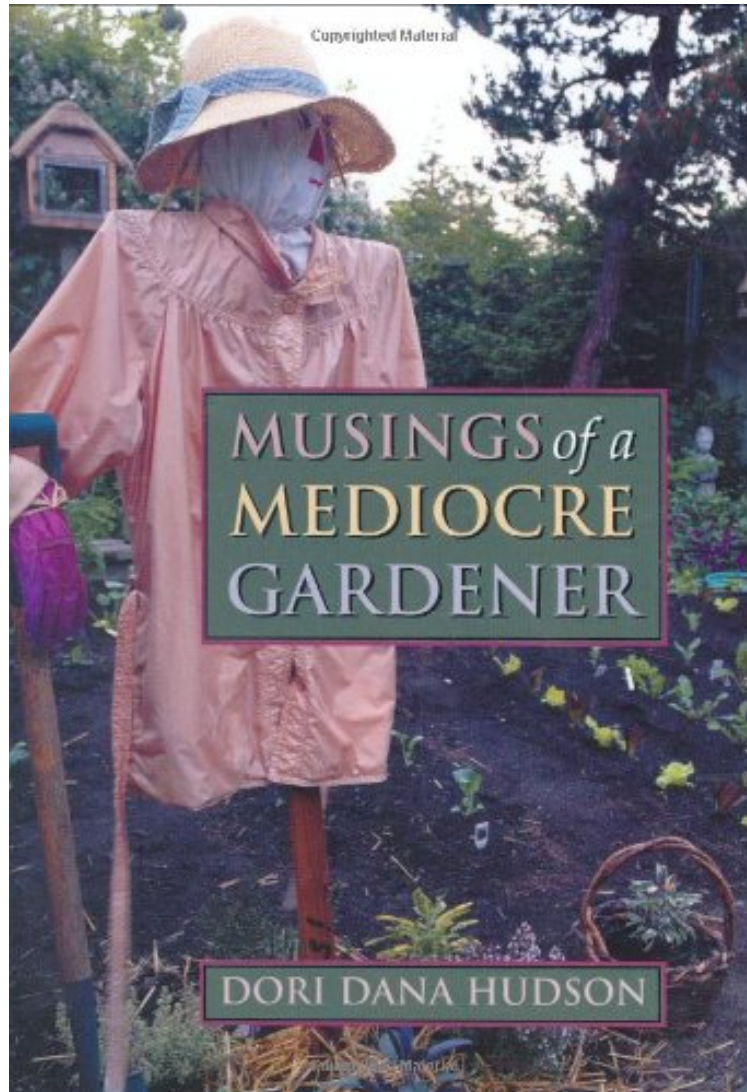


[Download free pdf] Musings of a Mediocre Gardener

## Musings of a Mediocre Gardener

*Dori Dana Hudson*

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#5689314 in Books 2006-02Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 7.25 x 5.25 x .50l, #File Name: 0827223331119 pages | File size: 35.Mb

**Dori Dana Hudson : Musings of a Mediocre Gardener** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Musings of a Mediocre Gardener:

2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Amazing response to my bookBy Dori Dana HudsonAugust 2006Dear Readers,It has now been six months since my book Musings of a Mediocre Gardener came on the market, and it has been an amazing and gratifying experience to be its author.Last week a friend told me that she had received a wonderful note from her neighbor thanking her for the book and saying how much she liked it. My friend went on to say that her neighbor has inoperable cancer and only a few months left to live. She said "I wanted to give her

something, but didn't know what until I read your book. I thought that she might connect with your stories about life. I'm glad that she liked it so much." My exercise class, which is largely composed of women in their 60's, 70's, and 80's, has been very supportive of me and my book. They are wonderful role models because they continue to use and cherish each day. At the end of each class, our teacher has made it a habit to read one of the essays from my book. She says "It brings a spiritual dimension to class that was missing before. These stories make you think, and everyone can relate to them. Recently we purchased a home after living in a rented apartment for the past 5 years. We chose the house because it has an established vegetable garden and many perennial flowers. I am eager to again get my hands in the dirt, to again be a part of the continuing creation, to again have the wonderful taste of home-grown vegetables, but mostly to again have a time when my mind can wander and be filled with the wonder of life. I am eager to be blessed again by a garden I pray that you too will be blessed by these stories, and may all the seeds that you plant and nourish both in your garden and in life grow, bloom, and bring in a harvest. Shalom, Dori Dana Hudson, author of 3 people found the following review helpful. You will want one for each of your friends..... By gigi This is a wonderful new book. It is not only good reading for gardeners, but also for those who are not. Each "musing" is short and straight forward. And each one leads the reader to think about how they contribute in their own community. Each thought brings a smile as a simple observation takes on a wider implication, and gives the reader a clearer understanding of ones own purpose.

This beautiful collection of reflections extols the many gifts of gardening. For master gardeners or would-be gardeners, whether you are growing flowers in pots or an acre of vegetables, every garden yields lessons for life and spiritual nourishment. As Dori Dana Hudson reflects on everything from the purpose of chili peppers to the tenacity of cherry tomatoes, she shares insights that warm our hearts with familiar toils, feed our need to connect with Creation, and remind us that the bounty of the Lord is for all to partake.

From the Back Cover "God loves gardens, and it was no accident the world began with one! Dori Dana Hudson loves gardens too, and her juicy, thoughtful meditations about her own little patch of earth will nourish your soul." Cindy Crosby, author of *By Willoway Brook: Exploring the Landscape of Prayer* "I like to think this is a book about living faithfully, writes Dori Dana Hudson. The modesty and purposefulness of that statement explain much of the charm of this suite of short essays. Each is inspired by time spent in the garden she tends for her local food pantry, and together they witness to the wisdom to be harvested from everyday experience, as well as the joy to be found in nature and in participating in Gods ongoing creation." Aina Barten, features editor, *Orion Magazine* About the Author Dori Dana Hudson is a Methodist minister in St. Louis. She and her husband have lived in various places across the United States and around the world. She was awarded "Writer of the Year" in nonfiction by the Friends of Lincoln Library in Springfield, Illinois, in 1994 Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. Springtime Today is the first day when the weather hints of tilting from cold to warm. I can feel in my soul the stirring of spring and the deep urging to plant. I sense this urging is somehow born of very ancient instincts, but I also know it comes from my childhood. When I was growing up, our family had a large garden in the backyard. In the summer, much of our family life revolved around the garden, and the garden became a source of pride. We treated anyone who came to our home in the summer to a tour of the garden. My parents were both fine gardeners, placing the tending of the garden high on their list of priorities. I have never been, nor do I wish to be, as knowledgeable or as attentive as they. I am content to plant and let the natural processes produce the harvest. I am content to be a mediocre gardener. Yet every spring, Rob and I plant. Planting has its own special joy, quite separate from the harvest. I feel I would plant even if there were no harvest. Indeed, in Vermont we planted a garden shortly before moving. Planting is a chance to touch the earth and see it respond. It is a chance to be part of God's great creation. Planting has become for us a time of celebration. In Kentucky, we established a family tradition of planting our small garden on Easter, as a symbol of resurrection. In Illinois, we gathered family and friends to plant on May Day, my birthday. Planting is indeed a celebration of God's desire to renew the earth and renew our lives. Planting is for us a celebration of the promise of another year to come.