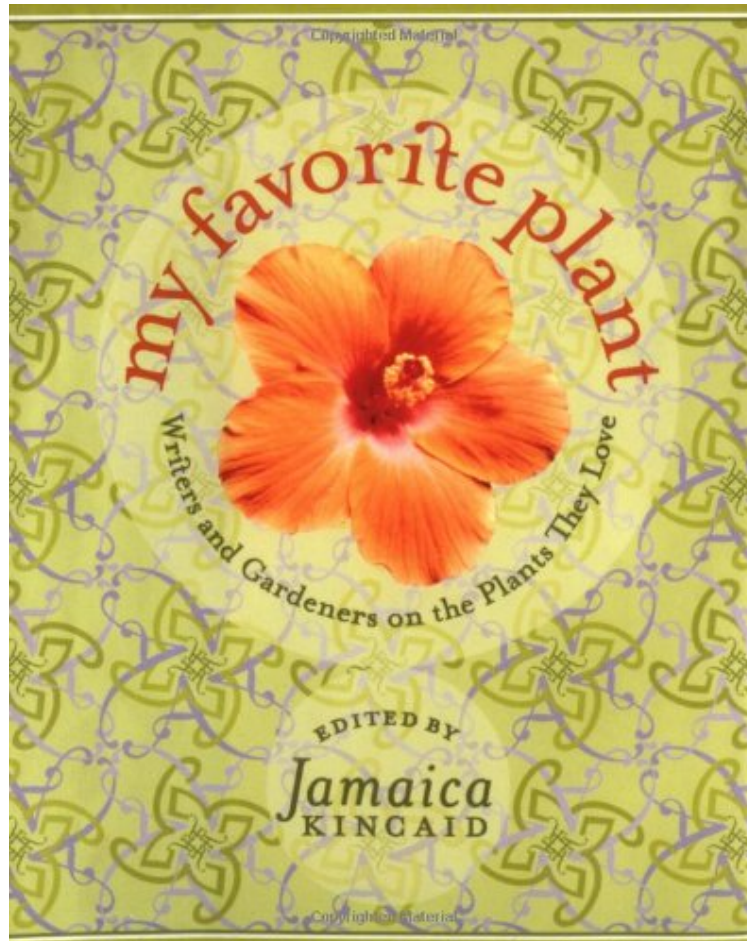


(Mobile pdf) My Favorite Plant: Writers and Gardeners on the Plants They Love

My Favorite Plant: Writers and Gardeners on the Plants They Love

From Farrar, Straus Giroux

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#1241943 in Books Farrar, Straus Giroux 1998-11-01 1998-11-01 Ingredients: Example Ingredients Original language: English PDF # 1 233.93 x .69 x 6.141, .75 #File Name: 0374281939329 pages | File size: 62.Mb

From Farrar, Straus Giroux : My Favorite Plant: Writers and Gardeners on the Plants They Love before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised My Favorite Plant: Writers and Gardeners on the Plants They Love:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful book!By J. MartinI love all of the stories in this well-edited book. If you're a gardener who loves plants, this is a wonderful book for rainy days and winter. I also gave it as a gift to a gardener friend who loves it too.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. patheticBy seethruyouas a huge fan of gardening essays i was pumped about this book. what a HUGE let down. I did read the marigold story first which I found to be disgusting.Was thinking i might give this book as a gift. So glad I read it first.would have been embarrassed.There were some good stories but the book could not recover from Marigold story. What does ringworm have to do with Marigolds.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Book reviewBy H. B. WOODFast service from book store. So thank you for that!However, the book itself was a let down. It was reviewed favorably by publisher, but i thought the book - a collection of essays about my favorite subject (botany)- was a bit boring. It could

have been a show stopper of essays written in vivid prose, but instead it just left me flat and uninspired.

A delightful compendium of writing on plants. The passion for gardening and the passion for words come together in this inspired anthology, a collection of essays on topics as diverse as beans and roses, by writers who garden and by gardeners who write. Among the contributors are Christopher Lloyd, on poppies; Marina Warner, who remembers the Guine rose; and Henri Cole, who offers poems on the bearded iris and on peonies. There is also an explanation of the sexiness of castor beans from Michael Pollan and an essay from Maxine Kumin on how, as Henry David Thoreau put it, one "[makes] the earth say beans instead of grass." Most of the essays are new in print, but Colette, Katharine S. White, D. H. Lawrence, and several other old favorites make appearances. Jamaica Kincaid, the much-admired writer and a passionate gardener herself, rounds up this diverse crew. A wonderful gift for green thumbs, *My Favorite Plant* is a happy collection of fresh takes on old friends. Other contributors include: Hilton Als, Mary Keen, Ken Druse, Duane Michals, Michael Fox, David Raffeld, Ian Frazier, Graham Stuart Thomas, Daniel Hinkley, Wayne Winterrowd

.com This anthology edited by novelist Jamaica Kincaid is a fascinatingly quirky compilation of writings about plants by the people who love them. Some are exceedingly practical--Ken Druse's essay "Desire Under the Jacks" gives you all the information you need to grow *Arisaema triphyllum* from seed--while others are more lyrical, such as Colette's writings on lilies and hellebores, and the poetry scattered among the essays. Like a magazine, there are pages you may skip over because you find the subject or style doesn't appeal to you, only to find yourself riveted by the next piece of writing, which awakens in you a lust to own a plant, the existence of which you were unaware of a few minutes earlier. The very best writing opens your eyes to something new: an experience, an object, a place, or in this instance, a plant. Every type of gardener, novice, expert, or dreamer will find such writings within these pages. With its compact format, this is a book that can be slipped into the pocket and dipped into in those moments that become available between life's many activities, or put next to a guest bed for the enjoyment of visitors. The idiosyncratic typeface may not appeal at first, but you will get used to it. --Stephanie Donaldson
From Publishers Weekly
Author and gardener Kincaid believes that "[m]emory is a gardener's real palette... as it summons up the past... shapes the present... [and] dictates the future." For many, specific plants evoke specific memories; gathering 35 brief essays and poems that have been written throughout this century, Kincaid has compiled a bouquet of these plants and their corresponding memories. In "Lily," Colette remembers placing the eponymous white flowers around a statue of Mary, who "would be brushing, with the tips of her dangling fingers, the long, half-open cayman jaws of a lily at her feet." Czech writer Karol Capek writes in "Buds," published in 1929, that for him, even if he went out into the country, he would "see less of the spring than if I sat in my little garden" in Prague. Poet Maxine Kumin shares her appreciation of non-flowering plants and confesses that "nothing looks prettier to me than a well-tended flourishing vegetable garden." Ian Frazier, in "Memories of a Press-Gang Gardener," divulges how, after years of weeding gardens in his suburban childhood, he came to appreciate the activity, and when visiting "gardening friends... ask[s] what weeding needs to be done." In one of the strongest entries, "Marigold," Hilton Als admits hating that flower. During one childhood summer when his mother was ill, he recalls, he ate dirt from the marigold bed, to which his father devoted all his attention, and developed ringworm. Kincaid hopes that readers will draw some satisfaction from this collection, because a "garden, no matter how good it is, must never completely satisfy." In this she has succeeded, by presenting a book that is often beautiful, though some of its parts are not as radiant as others, and a few have yet to blossom. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.
From Booklist
It seems like everyone is gardening these days. After reading Kincaid's introduction to this enchanting anthology, it is readily apparent that the celebrated writer, for one, is utterly fascinated by the exhilarating enterprise of cultivating her own special landscape. Kincaid's fascinating compilation gives readers insight into which plants have stirred feelings of accomplishment, yearning, or sweet contentment in the hearts and minds of such notables as Colette, D. H. Lawrence, and William Carlos Williams, revealing their poetic ruminations on lilies, purple anemones, and Queen Anne's lace. In a more contemporary vein, Kincaid includes the delightfully entertaining musings of eminent individuals currently associated with the gardening world. Michael Pollan, Daniel Hinkley, and Nancy Goodwin are represented among the engaging essays and poems matching historical figures of some renown and today's gardening greats with their favorite flora. Alice Joyce