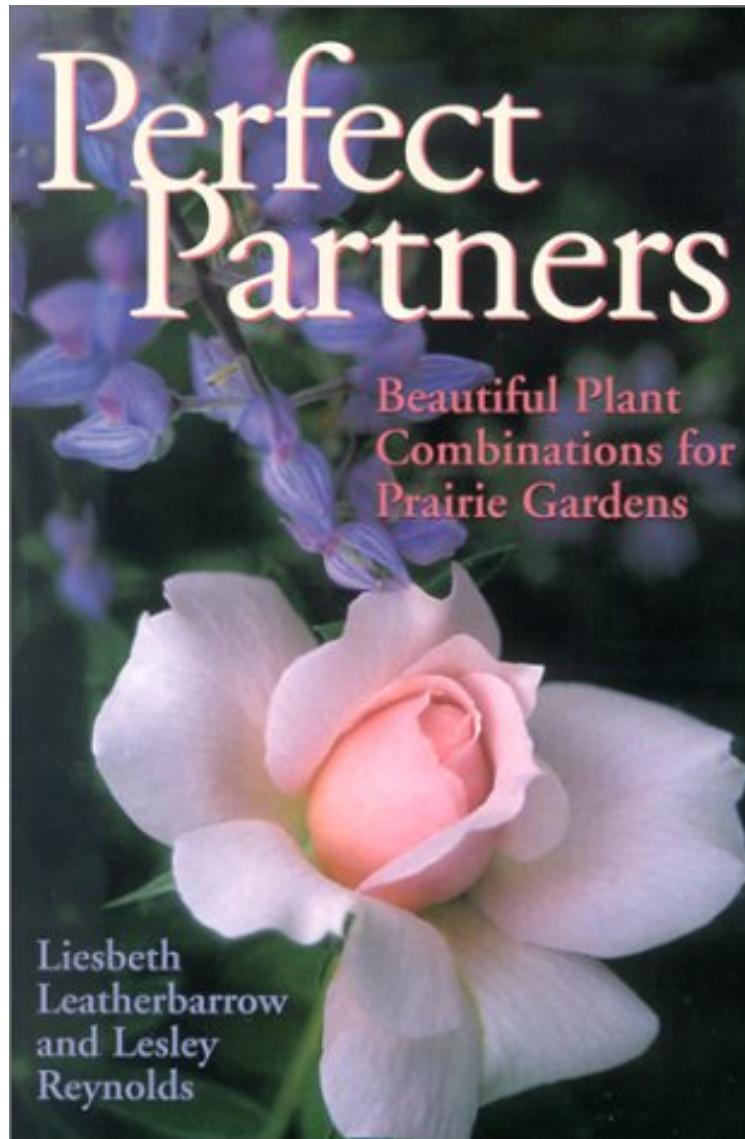


[Library ebook] Perfect Partners: Beautiful Plant Combinations for Prairie Gardens (Prairie Gardener)

Perfect Partners: Beautiful Plant Combinations for Prairie Gardens (Prairie Gardener)

Liesbeth Leatherbarrow

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Liesbeth Leatherbarrow : Perfect Partners: Beautiful Plant Combinations for Prairie Gardens (Prairie Gardener) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Perfect Partners: Beautiful Plant Combinations for Prairie Gardens (Prairie Gardener):

Gardeners are bombarded with beautiful plants in catalogues, nurseries, and retail outlets, but the trick to creating a stunning garden lies in knowing which plants grow and look good together. Experienced gardeners and bestselling authors Liesbeth and Lesley take the guesswork out of planting with 170 suggestions for wonderful plant combinations, including annuals, perennials, bulbs, shrubs, and trees. Each combination is accompanied by extensive information about the plants, their growing requirements, flowering times, sizes, and many alternative plant suggestions.

About the Author Liesbeth Leatherbarrow is a Fifth House Books author. Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. In many ways, gardens are works of art in which the interplay between light, form, color, and texture defines the basis for creating beautiful landscapes. Gardeners face many challenges on the road to developing a garden masterpiece. These include everything from designing and installing the "bones" of the garden, to selecting plants and arranging them in freshly prepared flower beds. The art of combining plants is ultimately the most important part of the process - the equivalent of an artist applying paint to the canvas. No matter how strong the "bones" of the garden or how unique the plant collection, if the combinations don't work visually, then there is still work to be done. For most gardeners, this task of "getting it right" gives great pleasure and lasts a lifetime. *PERFECT PARTNERS* describes beautiful plant combinations that are standouts in prairie gardens. It is written for gardeners who are looking for ideas about what plants to place side by side in containers, perennial and mixed borders, woodland gardens, and rock gardens. Whether or not they have plant knowledge, many people just can't imagine what plant pairs will look like at maturity, and they don't have the time or the interest to experiment - they just want to succeed the first time. This book will help them do that. Each entry in the book is accompanied by a full-color photograph and a paragraph describing the combination and why it works well. It is hoped that these explanations will help interested gardeners draw on their own experience to think up other plant combinations that might create similar, pleasing effects. To complete the entry, there is a brief "plant at a glance" summary for each of the two plants in a combination, listing plant size, soil and light requirements, flowering time, growing tips, and suggested alternatives. The plants we recommend are hardy across the prairies, where climate zones range from Zone 2 to Zone 4. However, gardeners should never regard zone ratings as absolutes. Much is dependent upon garden microclimates, that is, the specific growing conditions within a particular area. Elevation, buildings and other structures, and mature trees all serve to alter, and often moderate, the climate within a garden. Our selection of perfect partners is based on such attributes as plant form and size; flower shape, color, and bloom times; and foliage texture and color. Both partners also enjoy the same or similar growing conditions, which means they thrive growing side by side. Suggested combinations include annuals, perennials, bulbs, shrubs, and trees. (excerpted from the Introduction)