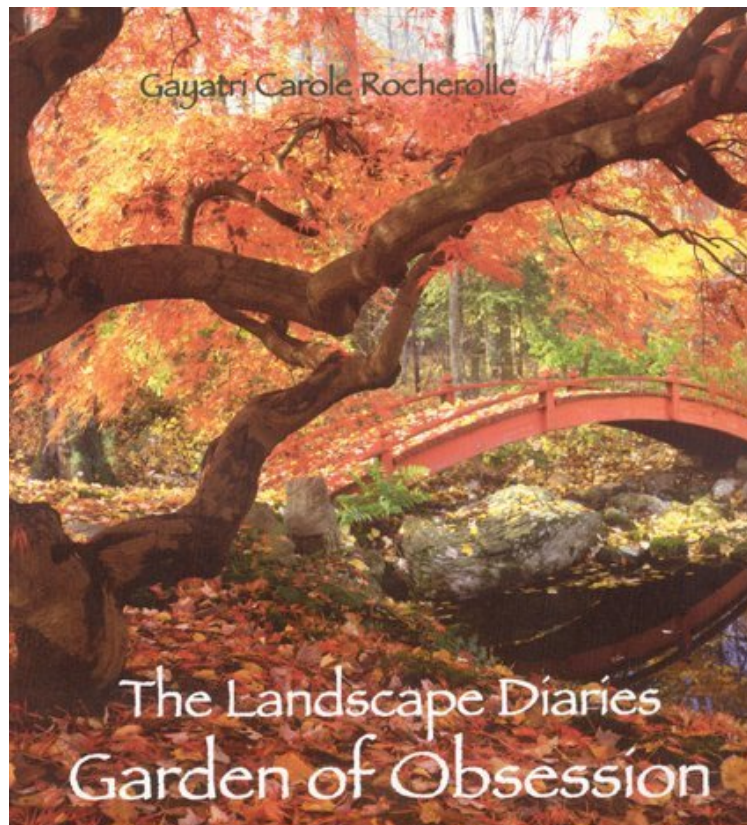


[Read free ebook] The Landscape Diaries: Garden of Obsession

The Landscape Diaries: Garden of Obsession

Gayatri Carole Rocherolle

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Gayatri Carole Rocherolle : The Landscape Diaries: Garden of Obsession before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Landscape Diaries: Garden of Obsession:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful gardens. Gorgeous collection of Japanese maplesBy Josette GoarinBeautiful gardens. Gorgeous collection of Japanese maples.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. DelightfulBy WynneThis book goes fast. It is breezy and full of beautiful pictures of gardens that the author has created. There is enough anecdote about the author's life to make it fun, and it provides a fascinating glimpse of life in the world of estate gardens. Wish there had been more about bonsai.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Landscape Diaries:Garden of ObsessionBy Ingrid O. MccauleyGot so engrossed that I read it in one sitting while in my own garden.

Daughter of famed businessman Lester Avnet, Carole Rocherolle writes a quirky, humorous, and inspiring story of her marriage, her search for a career, and ultimately the satisfaction of completing, after almost 20 years of dedication, along with her husband, the spectacular Steinhardt Gardens in Bedford, NY. The book is also an educated look at Japanese maple cultivars, and a guide on how to make and keep a successful garden, large or small.

For a divergence into a world of limousines and French chateaus, there's *The Landscape Diaries: Garden of Obsession*. Aptly named, this engaging tale reads somewhat like a private diary in which Carole Rocherolle, daughter of the late business magnate Lester Avnet, describes how she literally ran away from her privileged youth to marry a member of French nobility. However, after she and her new husband, Jerome, fall into the nursery and landscape business, they are no strangers to hard work and the rewards it brings. The book follows the 30-year trajectory of their horticultural development, including establishing Shanti Bithi Nursery in Connecticut, traveling the world in search of unusual plants, and the creation of their most important legacy, the private Steinhardt gardens in New York, complete with stunning color photographs. -- *The American Gardener* magazine, July/August 2007

Gayatri Carole Rocherolle's book is a feast -- for the eyes, for the mind, and for the heart. It's a marvelously entertaining romp, written by an iconoclast who, simply stated, farms beauty. In *The Landscape Diaries* she's brought in a bumper crop. -- Richard Cohen, columnist at *The Washington Post*

This memoir is a surprising tapestry of an unusually rich life and an extraordinary garden, yet the small stuff with which day-to-day events are built is universally familiar. Stories of loving and losing parents, of family celebrations and the importance of 'we' in a marriage, and of personal growth through spirituality and exercise are interwoven with the process Rocherolle and husband Jerome followed in creating their garden and landscaping business, the Shanti Bithi Nursery, and establishing the incredible Steinhardt gardens in Bedford, NY. Born into wealth, she an heiress to the Avnet fortune and his family residing in a French chateau, they began their garden career together in the early '70's selling plants in a deli parking lot. The ensuing years, filled with hard work, world travel and their vision of artful landscaping and attention to small detail were filled with success and yes, obsession. Bonsai, a Japanese Maple collection, rock structures, unique metal-work pieces and gorgeous landscapes are presented in color photos throughout. References to find sources to create your own are included. This is not an ordinary gardening book, but instead a testament to the creative visions and kinds of gardens that will grow when people follow their passions and walk to the beat of their own hearts. -- *The Lexington Herald-Leader*

While I find inspiration in myriad things, two of the most likely sources are great friends and great books. My close friends Michael and Judy Steinhardt own an exquisite 54-acre garden featured in this book. Along with more than 400 cultivars of maple, the property includes woodland plants and flowering shrubs moss-covered bridges and ponds, and a collection of exotic animals and waterfowl. The photographs capture this garden's beauty throughout the seasons. As I'm developing my maple woodlands in Bedford, I hope to one day have my own bevy of birds. -- July/August 2007 issue of *The Martha Stewart Newsletter*

a Supplement to *Martha Stewart Living*

From the Publisher

Part stirring memoir, part visual experience (with more than 100 beautiful color photographs of the gardens) and part buyer's source guide and reference list, "*The Landscape Diaries: Garden of Obsession*," provides readers of all interests with something to enjoy.

About the Author

Gayatri Carole Rocherolle, along with her husband, Jerome, is co-owner of one of the largest growers and importers of Bonsai and Japanese Maples in the United States: Shanti Bithi Nursery in Stamford, CT. Carole has been designing gardens with her husband for the past 30 years. They have traveled to more than 40 countries, visiting gardens and nurseries in search of unusual plant material for their garden designs. Their work has been featured in *The New York Times*, *The Financial Times* (London), *House Garden*, *Architectural Digest* (Germany), *Vogue Living* (Australia), and other publications. This is the author's first book.