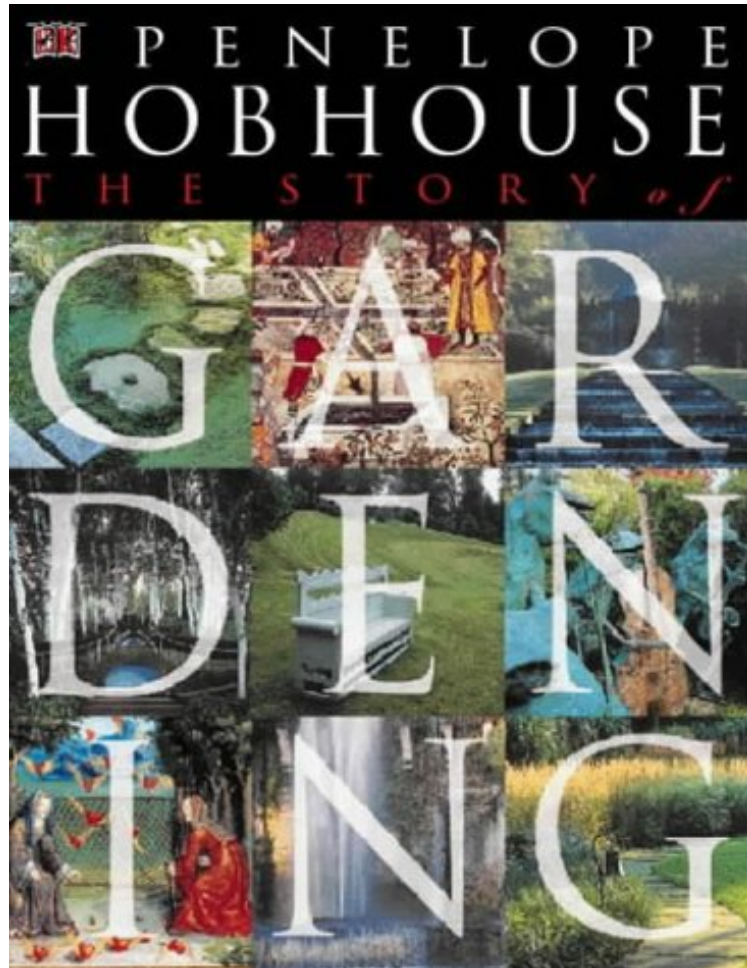


# The Story of Gardening

Penelope Hobhouse

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**Penelope Hobhouse : The Story of Gardening** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Story of Gardening:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy J. L. WillmanGreat product, wonderful service.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Terrie CumminsGreat book.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy choyoungchilGoooooD

This illustrated history charts the evoution of gardening over thousands of years, bringing to life the world's most beautiful and magnificent gardens. Penelope Hobhouse shows how an appreciation of style and techniques from all over the world helps us to understand how modern gardens have developed. She also considers how the availability of plant species from around the world has influenced garden design. From the cooling fountains of the Alhambra to the imposing palace grounds of Chinese emporers and the clean lines of the formal French parteer, this text explains the

origins of the most influential gardening styles. In the course of the book we are introduced to the world's principal gardeners, horticulturalists and designers, find out which plants were considered the most valuable or fashionable of their day, and marvel at pleasure gardens, parks and grottoes. In addition to describing the rich historical context from which today's gardens have evolved, Penelope Hobhouse draws on her life's work as a gardener to give an insight into the influences that have inspired her own designs and shaped her gardening philosophy.

From Booklist In the pantheon of great gardeners, garden designers, and garden writers, amidst names such as Gertrude Jekyll and Vita Sackville-West, stands that of Penelope Hobhouse. Esteemed for aesthetic designs that have transformed gardens the world over, this prolific author of classic volumes on horticulture's essential elements now takes on the granddaddy of all topics, the history of gardening itself. Scholarly in approach, it is nonetheless accessible in style. Erudite and entertaining, inclusive and intimate, Hobhouse's coverage provides a compelling chronicle of how garden designs and plant migrations around the world and throughout time have influenced contemporary horticultural developments. Sumptuously illustrated with obscure and opulent works of art, this luxurious volume traces the development of gardening from the earliest Mesopotamian gardeners, whose solutions to fundamental horticultural handicaps have benefited gardeners throughout time, to contemporary landscape architects and ecologists charged with developing bold new interpretations that will preserve and enhance the environment for the future. A meticulously researched, magnificently rendered celebration of gardening's enduring charm and significance. Carol Haggas Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved English queen of garden writing and world famous garden designer, Penelope Hobhouse, presents the history of gardening in an ambitious work charting garden history from the Ancient World through to the present day. From excavations at the pyramids it is clear the pharaohs cherished their gardens and despite water shortages spent small fortunes on building mini oasis' for their enjoyment. The Romans and Ancient Greeks created gardens, cultivating most importantly, medicinal plants, assiduously chronicled by Dioscorides. From the enclosed pleasure gardens of the Medieval Age, tulipomania, the discovery of the Americas and its botanical importance, the rolling landscapes of the 1800s, the great plant-hunters and explosion of botanical knowledge during Victoria's reign through to today's gardens with their fusion of modern and past, Hobhouse paints a vivid picture of the garden's development through the ages. With an incredible number of colour illustrations and photographs, this is both a visual and literal history of world gardening, cleverly pulled together by Penelope Hobhouse to present the definitive guide on the subject. - Lucy Watson About the Author Penelope Hobhouse is the doyenne of gardening, the recipient of the Guild of Garden Writers Lifetime Achievement Award and the winner of the RHS Victoria medal of honour. Penelope has written many books including; Penelope Hobhouse on Gardening, Colour in Your Garden and Garden Style.