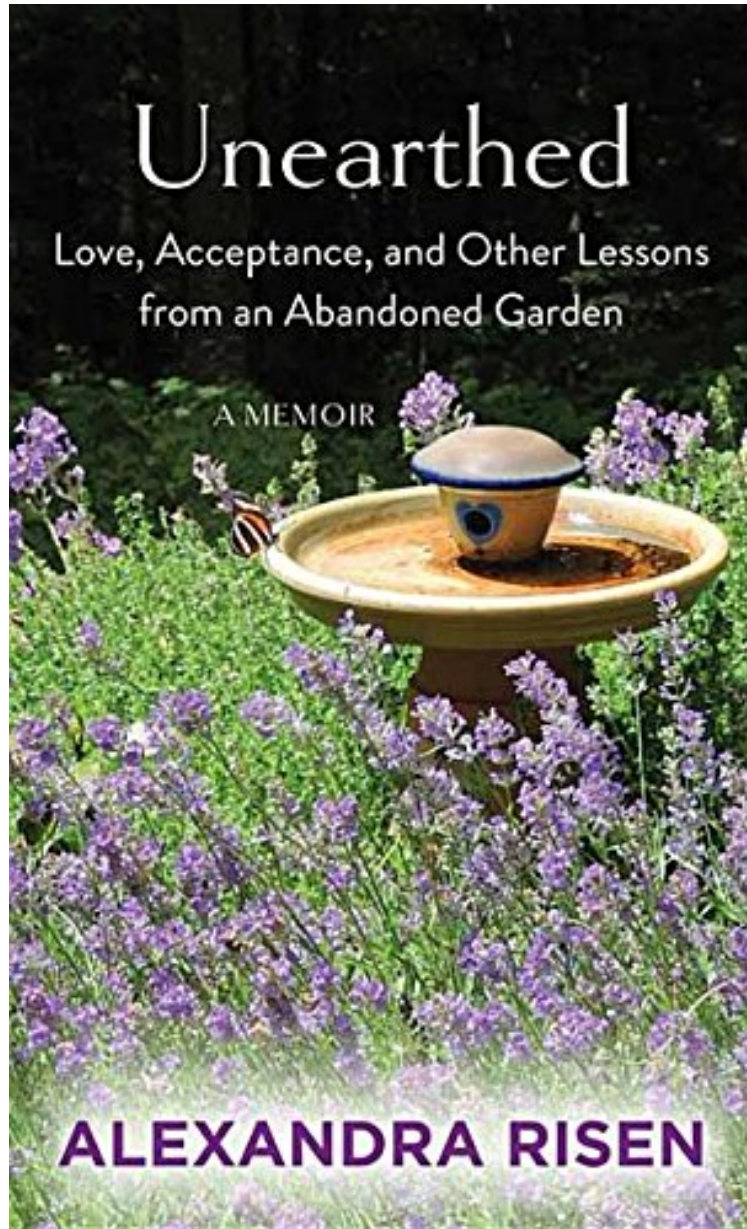


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Alexandra Risen

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#1522846 in Books Risen Alexandra 2016-11-01 Format: Large Print Original language: English 8.50 x 1.20 x 5.80l, .0 Binding: Library Binding 414 pages Unearthed | File size: 74.Mb

Alexandra Risen : Unearthed (Center Point Platinum Nonfiction) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Unearthed (Center Point Platinum Nonfiction):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. What a delightful read! By Avid Reader As a lifelong gardener who also had a difficult relationship with her gardening mother, this book really hit quite a few chords. I appreciated her

description of how gardening connected her to her past and future. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By scribeI was also inspired by Gordon Lightfoot! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. There has never been a book where the descriptions made the desire to be in the present. To actually see all of the garden's tra By jNever have had descriptions done so well that I actually wanted to be in the garden especially after it was finished.

Alex's father dies just as she and her husband buy a nondescript house set atop an acre of wilderness that extends into a natural gorge in the middle of the city. Choked with weeds and crumbling antique structures, the abandoned garden turned wild jungle stirs cherished memories of Alex's childhood: when her home life became unbearable, she would escape to the forest. In her new home, Alex can feel the power of the majestic trees that nurtured her in her youth."

To call this book's subject a massive project would be a massive understatement. . . . The story, like the garden, is ambitious in scope, but Risen's amazing dedication pulls it together, both on the page and in the garden. A remarkable book. Booklist Blogger and gardener Risen's debut memoir is based on a 'collection of reminiscences' from a 10-year period. After the death of her father, an emotionally distant man from the Ukraine, the author and her husband purchase a ranch-style house and an acre of land surprisingly situated in downtown Toronto. The garden is neglected, but Risen, steeped in 'love of nature and living things,' sees the possibilities. Having spent her childhood playing in a ravine near her home in Alberta, she's eager to restore the abandoned property, once part of a larger estate. The land is rife with unexpected delights: a huge, decaying pagoda, underground aquifers, a pond, koi, deer, and all manner of vegetation. She soon begins making maple syrup, cattail fried rice, and bleeding heart valentines (recipes, instructions, and foraging guidelines included). As the restoration painstakingly progresses, Risen simultaneously delves into her past, exploring why her immigrant parents never revealed details of their family history. She also shares her love of the land with her ailing mother and with her husband and young son (who grows from toddler to techie teen in the course of the decades work). As she restores the property and heals her long-troubled soul, Risen paints a vivid and exquisite portrait of nature and its profound significance. Publishers Weekly About the Author Alexandra Risen has lived her life in gradual migration from the northwestern prairies to the hilly southeast. She loves her garden as much as she loves technology. She has published essays in The Globe and Mail and Hippocampus Magazine. She holds a Certificate in Creative Writing, Bachelor of Commerce Degree, an MBA, and a Diploma in Urban Planning. A Board Member of the Toronto Botanical Gardens, Alexandra lives with her husband, son and rescued dog in Toronto, Ontario.