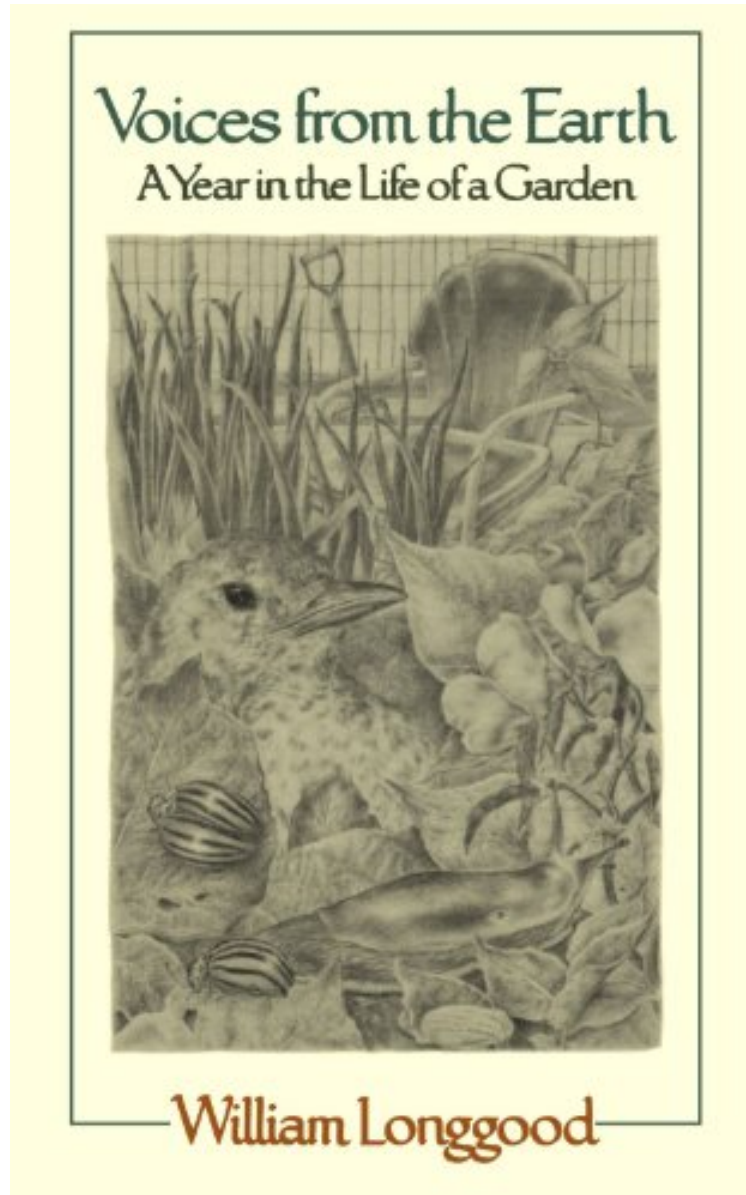


[Download] Voices from the Earth: A Year in the Life of a Garden

## Voices from the Earth: A Year in the Life of a Garden

*William Longgood*

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**William Longgood : Voices from the Earth: A Year in the Life of a Garden** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Voices from the Earth: A Year in the Life of a Garden:

9 of 10 people found the following review helpful. The World As Seen Through The Eyes Of A GardenerBy Matthew N. ConnorsI read this book for the first time almost 10 years ago. I have re-read it twice since then.Although you may

pick up a few facts about gardening the book really has a philosophical quality about it. In talking about the garden Mr. Longgood exposes his view of the world. Give and take, the circle of life, respect for all creatures and a gentle lightheartedness permeate the pages. The author presents a view of existence that is simple, kind and compassionate. A welcome change in a world that moves at internet speed and where often times a person doesn't even know the name of their next door neighbor. It's one of the best books I've ever read.

From Publishers Weekly "The more you give, the more you take. That is the only true measure of the economy of a garden," warns Longgood ( *The Queen Must Die* ), a retired New York City newspaperman transplanted to Cape Cod. His purpose here is "to explore facets of gardening that are often neglected or overlooked altogether." Explore them he does, with the sharp focus of a magnifying glass. Since a garden--even Longgood's 30 x 90 vegetable plot--is "a whole universe in microcosm," almost any topic falls within the gardener's purview. He discusses everything from the finances of the hobby to the life cycle of the cabbage looper to why cucumber plants wilt after being watered on a hot day. The author comes to see some very human qualities in the myriad insects he encounters, particularly the ever-copulating potato beetles who are all too willing to "die for love." Although not strictly a "how-to" book, this intersperses much solid organic gardening lore with keen observations and philosophical musings--plenty for readers to mull over while tending (or dreaming about) their own green microcosms. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Although the subtitle would suggest a journal or book of days as perfected by the late Hal Borland, this book consists of short essays, most on aspects of nature traditionally linked with gardening, e.g., entomology. The essays are rambling and anecdotal with gardening a common but tenuous thread. Apparently written primarily for the pleasure of the author, they often seem self-indulgent and pointless. Lapses into whimsy and anthropomorphism are especially annoying. Inexperienced gardeners may gain some insights into nature by dipping into this book at leisure, but they would benefit more by reading the works of Borland, master of this genre, or Jeff Cox's *The Spirit of Gardening* ( LJ 10/1/86).-Richard Shotwell, Hancock Shaker Village, Pittsfield, Mass. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.