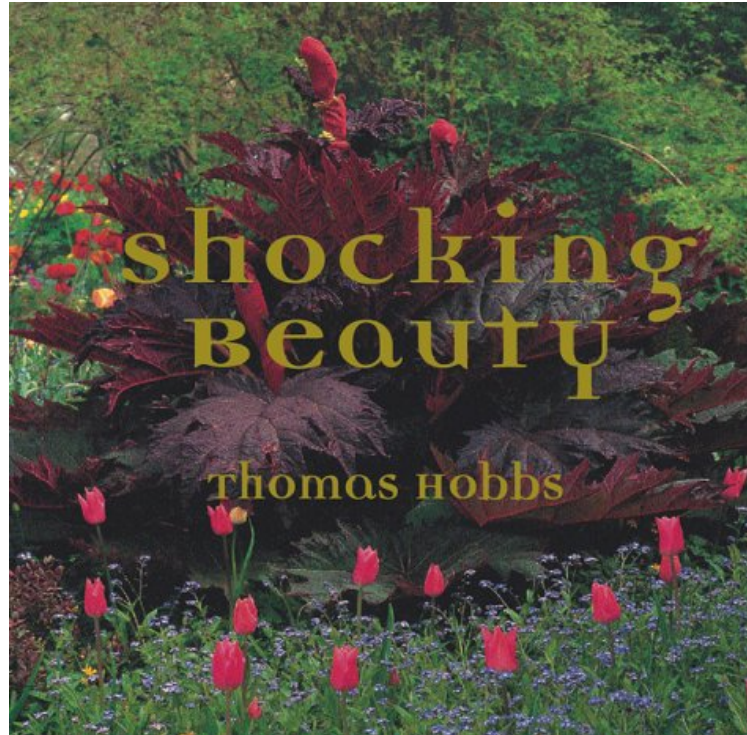


Shocking Beauty

Thomas Hobbs

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Thomas Hobbs : Shocking Beauty before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Shocking Beauty:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Not My Cuppa TeaBy BamboochikI have wanted this book for years and finally was able to purchase it. I was very disappointed because the title does not describe the book in my minds eye. I thought I would be seeing some really outstanding and different gardens to give me some inspiration for my own gardens. Instead I was bored to death. Gave it away.30 of 32 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful gardens, good ideas and a dose of snobberyBy Doss WoodsHobbes states on page 4 that "A total lack of inspiration is a sign of laziness" and "Lazy people should not garden because they end up demonstrating their nature publicly." A very harsh judgement indeed - and very sad for the experimental gardener. He continues to congratulate himself throughout the book, which is unnecessary because he designs beautiful gardens.On the other hand, the photos are beautiful - albeit some with the obvious help of alterations made by a computer and not the gardener.Hobbes does share lovely ideas that can easily be taken to your own garden and used no matter what your budget and size considerations. I particularly like the good descriptions of the plantings in the photos and the wide variety of settings. Solutions are simple in these gardens and they are beautiful at the same time. He challenges us to try new groupings of colors and shapes (I guess only in the framework of his idea of "vision").If you love beautiful, expensive books of gardens that can give you good ideas, this book can be worth every penny. I am not sorry I bought it.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Shocking indeed!By flyladyI first came across Thomas Hobbs in a Fine Gardening magainze article which mentioned also THE JEWEL BOX GARDEN. If you are an avid gardener and especially like

succulents, this book will be a treasured addition to your library. I especially love going through the photos when the snow is piling up outside.