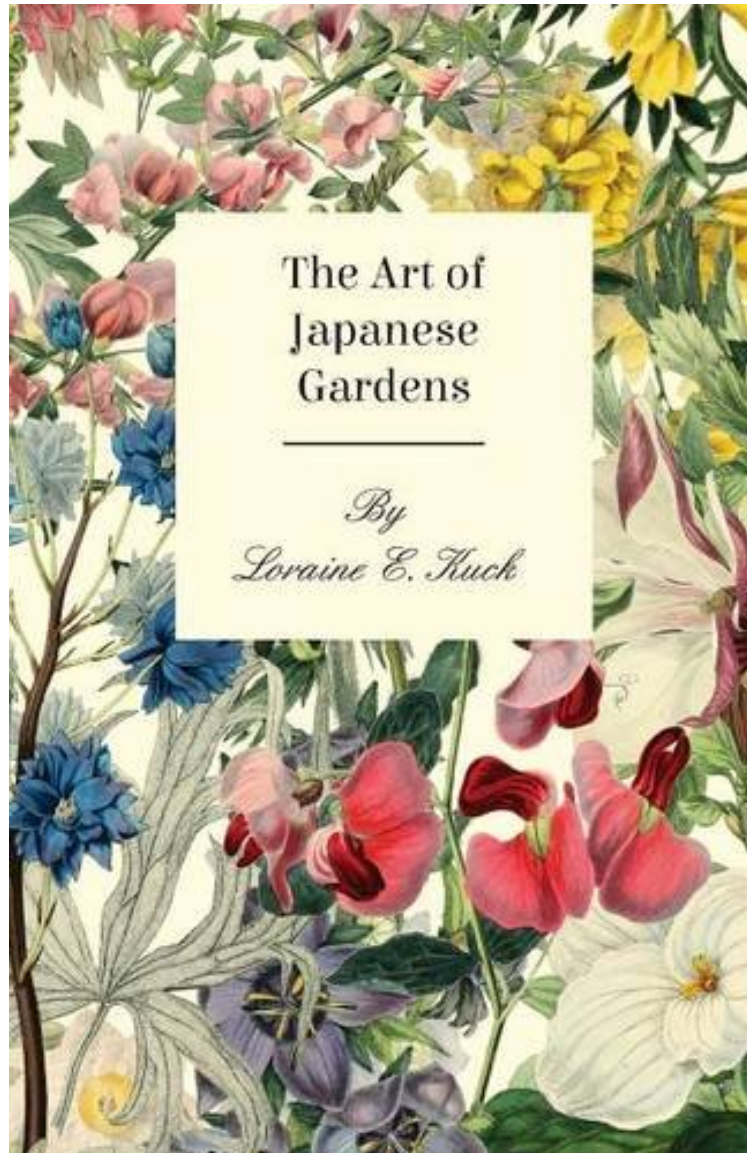


The Art of Japanese Gardens

Loraine E. Kuck

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Loraine E. Kuck : The Art of Japanese Gardens before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Art of Japanese Gardens:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. It is time to re-read Kuck By Mark B. Having apprenticed in Kyoto, and spent 20 years in practice and research on Japanese gardens, I would respectfully disagree with the characterization of Kuck's knowledge as 'little more than textbook'. Kuck wrote this book after living in Kyoto for three years, during which time Kuck had many close conversations with Suzuki Daisetsu, Mirei Shigemori, Jiro

Harada, and had interviews with many other scholars and garden designers, including an interview with Ogawa Jihei VII. Some of Kuck's ideas are dated, such as the emphasis on 'Chinese origins'; other ideas have come into question, especially the newly-invented concept of a "zen" garden as a place for meditation. With these limitations in mind, "The Art of Japanese Gardens" stands out as one of the few books worth reading. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Simply a Classic By Thomas Lawton After studying landscape design for three years and reading 15-20 other books on the Japanese style Kuck's work stands out as a classic reference work detailing most of the classic gardens with deep descriptions plus plan and elevation views of the gardens. As of 2010 it is hard to find, but worth it. 0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Zen arts researcher not impressed! By Erin Kuck's work does contain excellent descriptions of Japanese gardens. However, after researching Zen gardens, Kuck stands out as an uninformed Westerner perpetuating stereotypes about Zen Buddhism. Without more than a textbook knowledge of Japanese culture and Zen Buddhism, this is an easy mistake to make. There is a reason why this text is so difficult to find - it is outdated and contains many academic errors! I suggest looking for scholarship published more recently.

Many of the earliest books, particularly those dating back to the 1900s and before, are now extremely scarce and increasingly expensive. We are republishing these classic works in affordable, high quality, modern editions, using the original text and artwork.