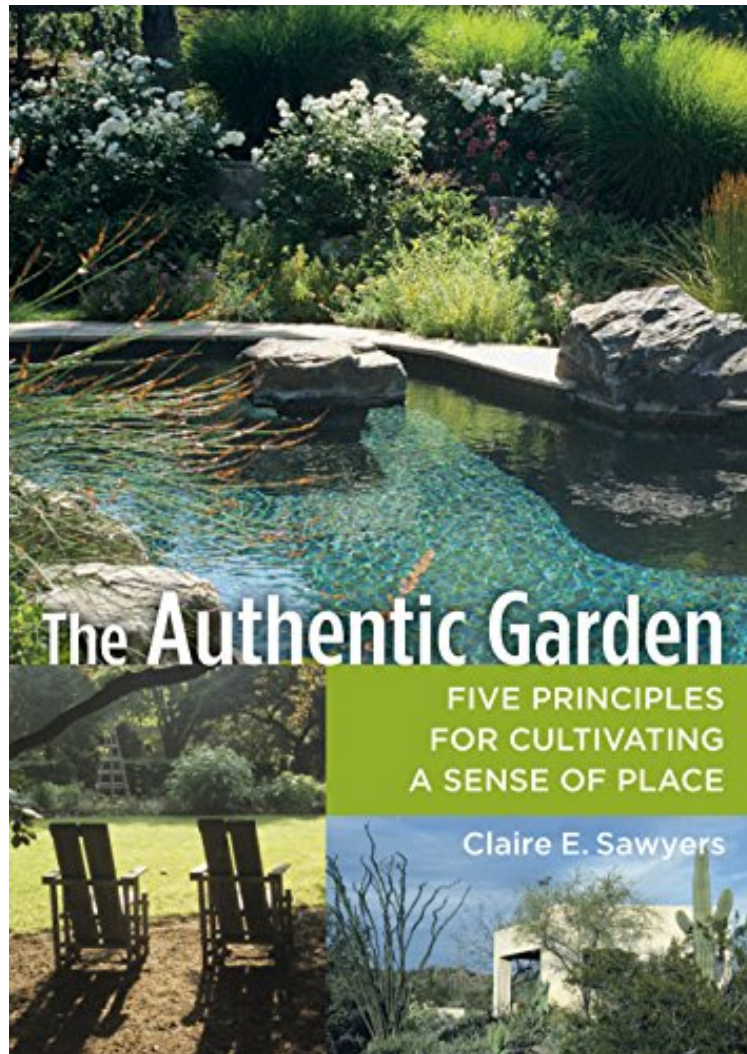


[Free read ebook] The Authentic Garden: Five Principles for Cultivating A Sense of Place

The Authentic Garden: Five Principles for Cultivating A Sense of Place

Claire E. Sawyers

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Claire E. Sawyers : The Authentic Garden: Five Principles for Cultivating A Sense of Place before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Authentic Garden: Five Principles for Cultivating A Sense of Place:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great for Thinking the Larger PlanBy A. Bruce LindgrenThis is an excellent book for those who want to think through the gardening and landscaping plans for their homes. It is easy to say that we want to include certain plants because we like them or to include certain design elements because we've been somewhere that has included them to a pleasing effect. If they reflect our garden's location, however, or if they

require lots of tender loving care to survive in our climate, we may be fighting against ourselves and against what is really appropriate for where we live. This book has made me think carefully about what my goals are in my own landscaping and gardening decisions. If you are wanting advice on how to grow petunias or how to prune your Japanese maples, look somewhere else. This is a book that helps us think conceptually about what we want to achieve in a broad sense. Those looking for specific instructions will want to look elsewhere, but if you've ever been asked by a landscaping designer what your goals are, this is a great book to help you define those goals for yourself and the space you occupy. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great! By Christopher Carden This is one of the best gardening books there is. It's not a how to book, but more about gardening philosophy. It will really change the way you think about gardening and really help you make the most of the space and environment you've been given. It also has great photographs to really help you get inspired in the garden! I actually give them to friends as gifts particularly if they seem to be at a loss about their own garden or have particularly gardening challenges. 3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. The Authentic Garden- Five Principles for Cultivating A Sense of Place By Jan I had seen the author, Claire E. Sawyers, at this year's Seattle Garden Show and was very impressed with her presentation. The five principles will forever alter the way I think about elements of landscape design. "Authentic" is a very appropriate word to describe her ideas, for you are considering your unique situation, not trying to replicate an Asian or European flavor. And I liked the notion of using a more basic material, if it works, rather than a more expensive material, just because it is expensive. I will not be placing this book in a garage sale; it is in my permanent library.

What makes a garden authentic? For American gardeners, this question can be vexing. Because America is a comparatively young nation, it hasn't had much time to develop an indigenous garden style. Gardeners have tended to turn to other national traditions such as Italy's, Japan's, or England's for inspiration. The unhappy result of this piecemeal stylistic borrowing has been the creation of gardens that bear no relationship to local landscapes and history, and that have no connection with our daily lives. Clair Sawyers shows this tendency can be reversed: how we can create gardens that are both deeply rooted in their surroundings and deeply satisfying to their creators and owners. Drawing on her knowledge of a vast array of American and foreign gardens, she identifies five principles that help instill a sense of authenticity: capture the sense of place, derive beauty from function, use humble or indigenous materials, marry the inside to the outside, and involve the visitor. Practical and inspiring, *The Authentic Garden* will enable the reader to make a garden that is true to a specific time, place, and culture; to capture and reflect an authentic spirit so that the garden, in turn, will nurture the spirit of those who cherish and dwell in it.

From Booklist English cottage borders, Japanese serenity havens, classic Italian vistas: all have been primary sources of inspiration for America's public and private gardens, yet there is no need for homegrown gardeners to look to foreign lands for guidance. To do so is, in Sawyers' view, inauthentic, and she offers a series of core propositions designed to aid gardeners in creating outdoor spaces that are faithful to their native surroundings and embody horticultural reflections of American culture. From evaluating available spaces to incorporating functional elements to utilizing modest materials, adhering to Sawyers' well-considered ground rules will encourage home owners to coordinate indoor and outdoor areas while simultaneously enabling visitors to feel more than a casual sense of attachment to the landscape. Helpfully demonstrating the reality behind such lofty concepts through in-depth analysis of quintessential American public gardens, such as the Lady Bird Johnson Wildlife Center in Austin, Texas, and noteworthy private gardens from Pennsylvania to Arizona, Sawyers offers a stimulating landscape study. Haggas, Carol "If you consider yourself a conscientious consumer, one who tries to tread lightly on the earth, then the ideas Claire Sawyers presents in her elegantly written book, *The Authentic Garden*, will resonate with you." *The American Gardener*