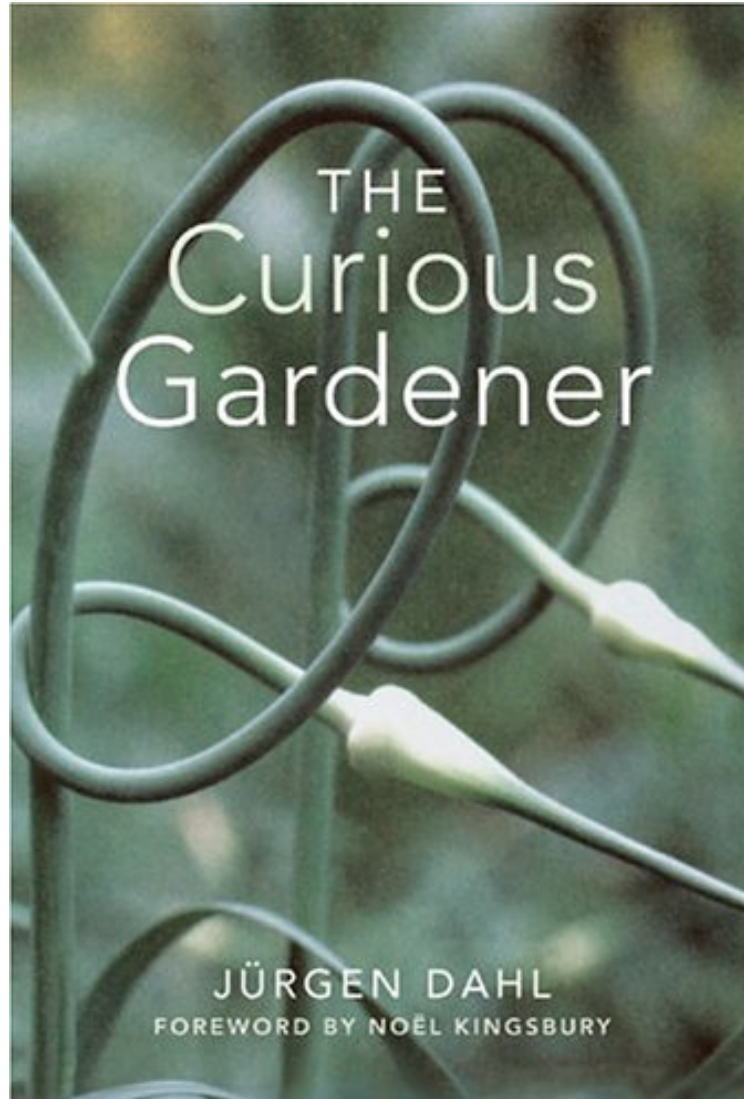


(Download) The Curious Gardener

The Curious Gardener

Jurgen Dahl

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Jurgen Dahl : The Curious Gardener before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Curious Gardener:

4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. All good things take timeBy Douglas E. WelchA good book takes time to read and progresses in a slow and orderly fashion, much like the garden itself. Such is the case with The Curious Garden by Jrgen DahlThe Curious Garden is a collection of Dahl's previous 3 books, much of which were originally created as weekly gardening columns. The 3 books include How to Eat a Lily (1995), The Stinking Garden (1997) and The Curious Gardener (1998). Each book is divided into easy-to-read sections, probably due to their origin

as columns. According to my library record, I have renewed this book twice, each time for 3 weeks and it is rapidly approaching time to renew it again. This means a total of 6-7 weeks to read one book. How could it possibly take so long to work through 250 pages? The fact is, this book was perfect for dipping into whenever I needed a change of pace. Its short sections invited a few moments spent in the joys of gardening before returning to more mundane work. It was a gentle friend in the evenings when no more thoughts of computers or email or web pages could be processed. It seems to happen more frequently than I would like, but I often find myself wanting to meet authors who have already passed from this world. From his writing, Dahl would have been an interesting gardening pen pal. It would have been a joy to read his columns as they were created, rather than in this final collection of his best. Still, I can enjoy the fact that his work was deemed important enough to collect and translate into English. *The Curious Gardener* would be a great book for the reading chair and night stand as Fall approaches and quickly turns to Winter. You could lose yourself in the pages as snow flies and your own garden sleeps and wake with new ideas, new thoughts and a new garden come the Springtime. 11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. A Great Entertainer By Greg Speichert *The Curious Gardener* is most definitely a read from the beginning to the end. Reading this book is like reading a letter from a gardening friend or sitting down for tea with him. Dahl connects the garden with the mind by telling stories that will make you look deeper into the art of gardening. Dahl ranges in discussions from why you should grow bad smelling plants to, how to eat a lily, making this book a truly enjoyable read. After finishing this book, you will look at your garden in a whole new light. It connects us back to some of the pleasures we sometimes miss in our rush to get things done. From rambles and rants, to careful observations, this book is a delight to read on a rainy or cold wintery day.

Now for the first time in English, one of the world's best-loved garden writers explores the connections between the life of the garden and the life of the mind. In this omnibus volume that ranges from discussing why gardeners should grow bad-smelling plants to how readers should eat their flowers, Jrgen Dahl identifies curiosity and patience as the gardener's chief virtues. What matters most to Jrgen Dahl is that a garden is not a sterile copy of a picture in a book, or a beautiful "triumph" that lacks all experimentation and wonder. In Jrgen Dahl's garden, things do not "work," but instead they happen --- or maybe they do not. Many things that please, surprise, or disappoint a gardener do so because the garden's living creatures can only rarely be tricked into obeying the gardener's will; in their own quiet but unyielding way, they follow their own laws. Jrgen Dahl's stories are wise and cheerful, and full of opinions and premonitions, all told with the insatiable curiosity of the true explorer.

From Booklist If it is true that gardeners, by their very nature, are keen observers of the world around them, then the late Dahl was a master witness to the comings and goings, sense and nonsense, that constitute life in the garden. A broadcaster, editor, and author, Dahl received prestigious awards in his native Germany for his horticultural and environmental work; now, with this English translation of his essays, Dahl posthumously gains a well-deserved wider audience. As droll as he was knowledgeable, as philosophical as he was practical, Dahl was blessed with two characteristics perfectly matched to garden pursuits: an insatiable curiosity and a seemingly limitless amount of patience. Segueing breezily from topic to topic, Dahl's discourses on parasitic plants might easily give way to a diatribe on odoriferous weeds. But no matter, he says; it's all part of the gardener's world. That Dahl shared his corner of it with us is a gift, for few garden writers were as sharp and opinionated, yet sensitive and wise. Carol Haggas Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved From the Publisher We hereby invite you to be infected with the curiosity of the gardener, to follow him on less-well-trodden paths, to ponder with him, to experiment, to enjoy, to worry, and to rejoice with him. With more clarity and depth than most people, Jrgen Dahl viewed gardens as mirror images of the world at large. His insights and interpretations often are like parables, leading his reader into a universe governed by continuous change and infinite variation. This universe obeys its own laws, which we, in turn, are obliged to respect. The present volume contains the last three gardening books that Jrgen Dahl wrote: *The Curious Gardener* (1998), *The Stinking Garden* (1997), and *How to Eat a Lily* (1995). Some of the text originated in his beloved weekly gardening column; some of it has been shortened and adapted, and botanical names have been added, as have photographs, which previously appeared only in *The Stinking Garden*. Jrgen Dahl was able to participate in the editorial preparation of this book for only a short time. He died on 6 October 2001. Mrs. Hella Dahl has been very helpful in continuing his work as he would have wished, particularly in selecting pictures and picture captions to be included in this book. For this we are very grateful to her. About the Author Jrgen Dahl (1929--2001) was a bookseller until he sold his bookshop to work as a writer and gardener. Until his death, he worked for WDR, a large German broadcasting station, and *Die Zeit*, a major weekly magazine. He was the author of nearly a dozen books. For many years, he also edited *Crossroads*, an annual journal of critical thinking. He received the prestigious *Deutscher Journalistenpreis* in 1965, the Bruno H. Schubert Environment Prize in 1987 for his work to protect the environment, and the German Horticultural Association's prize for nature education in 1998. Dahl and his wife, Hella, lived on his farm, Lindenhof near Kleve, on the lower Rhine.