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# The Garden in Winter

*Rosemary Verey*

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**Rosemary Verey : The Garden in Winter** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Garden in Winter:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Enjoyable!By NY readerA very nice book. I enjoy all her books.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. What a Beautiful n in WinterBy Rosemary GallagherThe photos and descriptions in this wonderful book are sure to inspire anyone with a garden and the occasional winter. RGallag44822 of 24 people found the following review helpful. Lo, a rose er'e blooming.....By Dianne FosterA number of years ago, I made my first trip to Europe during the off season--the colder months. The days are shorter, but the museums are less crowded, you can usually find a reasonable air fare, and the Europeans have returned to their cafes and pubs giving them an ambiance missing when too many tourists are about.I enjoy photography, and I particularly like shooting architecture and gardens. I've taken plenty of shots when the foliage and flowers were in full bloom, but until I made my first trip to Amsterdam one December, I had never realized churches, cathedrals, and fine old houses and gardens have an entirely different look in winter. One can see and photograph the structures of buildings and the "bones" of gardens when foliage dies back. "Bones" of course are the underlying design of the garden beds, plus trellises, porticos, arbors, paths and pots. Not only can one see more of the architecture of the garden in the middle of winter, but the well constucted garden is not dead. I came to understand what the European Christmas carol, "Lo, a rose er'e blooming" was about after a visit to a garden in the middle of winter--the Christmas rose is a type of Hellebore, and Hellebores can bloom all winter long.But Hellebores are not the only interesting plant. As Rosemary Veery says in her

book, *THE GARDEN IN WINTER*, some plants such as the *Rosa chinensis*, *Viola*, *Bergenia*, *Anemone*, and *Cyclamen*, bloom intermittently throughout the winter, and there are "characteristic" winter-bloomers such as many types of bulbs, *Camellias*, *Arbutus*, and *Buddleja*. Veery says beauty in the winter garden is not restricted to flowers. Plenty of trees, bushes, and grasses provide color, form, and texture throughout the winter months, and some of them are stunning in a snowfall. Depending on your growing zone you may have *Holly*, *Viburnum*, *Nandina*, *Pyracantha*, and *Barberry* covered with berries for the birds. Many trees have beautiful bark that shows best in winter including *Crepe Myrtle*, *Sycamore*, *Birches*, and *Red-Twig Dogwood* (*Cornus alba 'Siberica'*). Other trees have interesting shapes that can only be appreciated when the foliage is spent, such as *Harry Lauder's Walking Stick*. And, there are grasses in every size, shape and texture, and ground covers that stay green or red or brown throughout the growing seasons. Veery is one of the premiere gardeners in England, and although you may find some of her suggestions beyond your pocketbook or the space you have available (box topiary anyone??) you will find many interesting ideas and wonderful photographs that are sure to inspire you to begin thinking about gardening all year round. You might also be inspired to visit some of the gardens Veery pictures in her book, or other gardens closer to home in winter. My favorite is garden is *Sissinghurst*, one of the most beautiful sights around in the middle of winter or anytime of year.

Distinguished garden writer *Rosemary Verey* offers a plea for the neglected season, winter, and for the garden to be enjoyed year-round. She notes subtle beauties of the frozen months that can add softer colors and stronger patterns to the garden. 180 illustrations.

From Publishers Weekly Readers have come to expect great things from Verey ( *The Englishwoman's Garden ; The American Woman's Garden* ), and her new offering won't disappoint. "If our gardens are to be more than graves commemorating summer's beauty, we must start by using our eyes," she urges. Working with the express purpose of getting gardeners to look at "each tree or shrub as one thread in a twelve-month tapestry," Verey persuasively describes paths, vistas, corners and even planters that will bring winter's "extraordinary intensity" of color, its "architectural form," its characteristic clarity of pattern and its pungent scents to fruition in a season that most gardeners forget or despair of. Since she has consulted gardeners in this country, the author's British orientation is not limiting; her directory of 150 plants for winter gardens is zoned for our climates. Some species and hybrids are American natives, and many figure in her handsome full-color photographs. Verey's book is a delightful one to read by the fire or take along on a ramble through one's own backyard. Copyright 1988 Reed Business Information, Inc. About the Author For much of her long life, *Rosemary Verey* was one of England's most celebrated garden designers and garden writers. She has created gardens for *Elton John* and the *Prince of Wales*. Her books include *Making of a Garden*, *Rosemary Verey's Garden Plans* and *Good Planting*. She died in 2001.