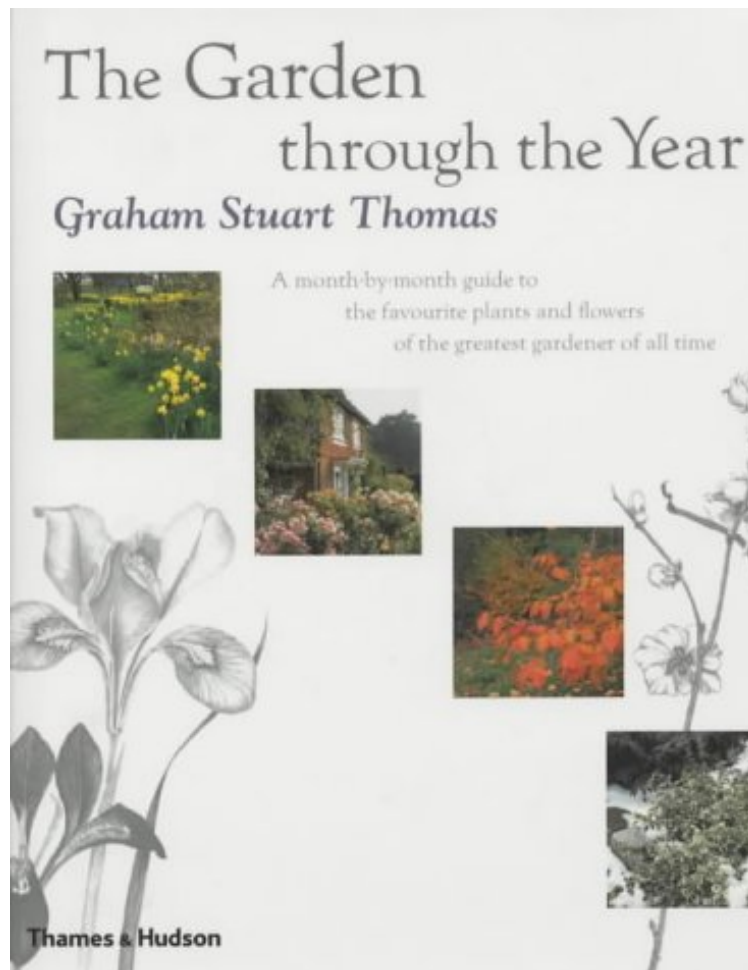




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# The Garden Through the Year: A Month-by-month Guide to the Favourite Plants and Flowers of the Greatest Gardener of All Time

*Fred Whitsey, Graham Stuart Thomas*  
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**Fred Whitsey, Graham Stuart Thomas : The Garden Through the Year: A Month-by-month Guide to the Favourite Plants and Flowers of the Greatest Gardener of All Time** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Garden Through the Year: A Month-by-month Guide to the Favourite Plants and Flowers of the Greatest Gardener of All Time:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Donna Larrowe A good reference book. 7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A great gardener, sharing his wisdom By Valerie Fletcher Adolph It's not often you find a book that lives up to its cover blurb, but this one does. In it the author, who has restored and maintained some of England's most important gardens, shares his own garden and plant wisdom with the reader. The cover reads " The Garden Through the Year is an Invitation to stroll around the garden, season by season, month by month....The reader

receives the benefit of Thomas's tremendous experience, delivered in the form of a conversation with an intimate friend." That, together with beautiful and relevant illustrations, are what you get in this book. The author sets out to tell us which plants he treasures in his garden each month of the year and how they contribute, whether by flower, foliage or bark, to the beauty of the garden at that time of year. He throws in some suggestions to help us grow the plant more successfully. Mr Thomas was about 90 years old when he wrote this book so we can honestly say he is sharing a lifetime of experience with us. His knowledge of plants and how they grow is profound and he has received almost all the chief honours of the horticultural world. The pleasure of this book is that his knowledge and experience are shared in such a conversational way, as if the reader was strolling around his garden with him and he was chatting about his plants. It's not often I feel enriched by a book, but this one both enriched me and made me feel more confident about my garden. 8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. The Last Book from the Best By Thomas Leo Ogren The Garden Through the Year is a beautiful and wonderful book. It would make an excellent addition to any serious gardener's own personal library. It would also make a terrific present for anyone you know who loves gardening. I am writing this today, April 21, 03, on the day that I just heard that the author Graham Stuart Thomas just died. Thomas was easily one of the greatest of all the English garden writers. He wrote many marvelous books and in every one of them, his personality and vast experience shines brightly through. This latest book is no exception to that rule of excellence in garden writing. I am a garden writer myself (Safe Sex in the Garden, Ten Speed Press) and I always appreciate extra good, extra informed garden writing. No one does it better than Graham Stuart Thomas. First, Thomas was an extraordinary gardener, in the finest tradition of English gardeners. In this book he brings in many new and exciting plants and always his writing is full of the best possible gardening advice. This is a very useful book for someone who is interested in how his/her garden might look (or could look!) in different seasons. In my own back yard I have a large and beautiful yellow rose bush, a David Austin creation, called, 'Graham Thomas.' This rose smells wonderful, grows strongly, and has that old fashioned petal form that is a joy to see. Like the writer it was named for, the rose is a winner. If you have never had the pleasure of reading any Graham Thomas, buy this book and you'll be pleased. If you are already familiar with his work, buy it also, and savor the high quality of an excellent book, probably the last one from the garden master, Graham Stuart Thomas.

This is not primarily a how-to manual, but rather a compendium of Graham Stuart Thomas's favourite plants for all seasons, including new discoveries and surprising juxtapositions. The volume is illustrated throughout with Thomas's paintings and drawings, plus photographs both by him - some from his own garden in Surrey - and other photographers. Each month begins with trees, then shrubs and climbers, followed by perennials and bulbs. Plant names are arranged alphabetically, although some are grouped under headings (such as viburnums and coloured leaves). The index gives easy access to individual plants, while the arrangement of chapters in the main text by month guides their choice and deployment in the garden.

From Booklist After receiving every possible acknowledgment bestowed on British gardeners, and writing innumerable books, Thomas calls upon his seven decades of experience and expertise to pen yet another poetically worded bundle of musings covering a sweeping array of worthy specimens for gardeners to consider planting. In his latest effort, Thomas takes readers on a guided tour of the garden from one month to the next. Those gardeners in quest of information or expert assistance will delight in this volume's scope as Thomas illuminates the best new plant introductions and proffers details of more familiar cultivars. Beginning in winter, Thomas covers a range of selections that includes frost-proof shrubs, perennials, bulbs, vines, and trees meant to provide beguiling features from berries to bark to blooms, all sure to stimulate the senses. Thomas chronicles an English gardening year, so adjustments will likely be necessary in colder regions or mediterranean areas, but gardeners understand such things, and Thomas' profusely illustrated tome will be savored and studied by his kindred spirits everywhere. Alice Joyce Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved Nongenarian Graham Stuart Thomas is the greatest gardener of the 20th century. Starting out as a child, his horticultural interest sparked by the gift of a fuchsia, he has spent the last eighty years gardening, still learning to this day of the wonders and vagaries of nature. From tea with Gertrude Jekyll and his contemporaries - E.A. Bowles, Vita Sackville West and other greats of the gardening world, his knowledge of plants and their cultivation outshines them all. Whilst renowned as a rosarian, his experience restoring and caring for National Trust gardens such as Hidcote, Powys Castle and Sheffield Park has taught him much about all other aspects of gardening. Here he takes time out to chat to other gardeners, leading them around the garden in every season of the year, showing how small things such as leaves, berries and bark can invoke wonder and awe just as much as flamboyant summer flowers. A gentle read, eruditely written with the occasional ascerbic aside, he lends his eighty-plus years experience to the reader, highlighting what many gardeners overlook. Gardening is a 365-day-a-year activity, not just from April through November and GST, as he is fondly known in the horticultural world, demonstrates this ably. Accompanied by many of his own expert photographs and his acclaimed botanical drawings, this is a gem of a book, to be read on a monthly if not daily basis to find out what this illustrious garden guru can find of interest every day of the year. - Lucy Watson About the Author Graham Stuart Thomas OBE has been awarded the

Veitch Memorial Medal by the Royal Horticultural Society, plus their Gold Medal for his paintings and drawings. The Garden Writers' Guild gave him a lifetime achievement award in 1996, and the National Trust presented him with its Founder's Award in 1996.