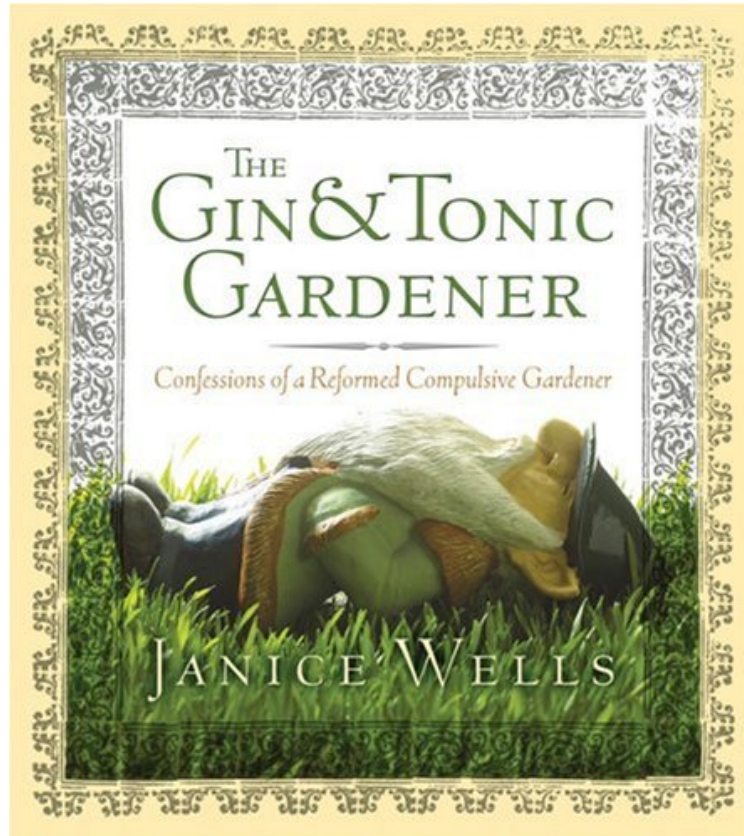


The Gin and Tonic Gardener: Confessions of a Reformed Compulsive Gardener

Janice Wells

ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#2829415 in Books Key Porter Books 2007-04-13Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 .70 x 6.77 x 7.50l, .85
#File Name: 1552637557192 pages | File size: 16.Mb

Janice Wells : The Gin and Tonic Gardener: Confessions of a Reformed Compulsive Gardener before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Gin and Tonic Gardener: Confessions of a Reformed Compulsive Gardener:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. I Enjoyed This Book And Hope To Adopt The Author's Gardening StyleBy Bold ConsumerI laughed out loud as I read this book. I like the author's healthy attitude about gardening in general and her rather unique approach to how she gets it done.She teaches that there is a difference between a relaxed gardener, (a good thing) and a slob (not a good thing). "When I put a plant or seed in the ground, I feel like I've done a good thing for it and it should respond in kind." I particularly love her idea of making a long-term goal for your garden, but not being compelled to follow it. That makes sense after you've read this book. Having the plan helps with the problem of indecision, but feel free to change your mind half a dozen times if you like.This is not a book with specific instructions about how to grow certain plants. I fact, she has problems with some of hers and isn't afraid to admit it to us. This is a book with an 'attitude' about gardening though, and an interesting philosophy about gardening.All through the various chapters of the book, the author dreams up her ideal garden, and then changes her

plan, and sometimes eventually goes back to her original plan. The text is just as though she is speaking to us at a moment in time and we 'see' her thought process. She shows us how to be a master of cover-up. If it doesn't look good, hide it, and she gives us examples. Her comment, a one-liner, about her friend Bob and his lack of skills is my favorite, plus the visit from her next-door-neighbor, a lady with a pristine garden who believes her author must have been working all these months on her back yard, which the neighbor can't see, because it's obvious she hasn't been working on the front area which the neighbor can see, and she came over for a tour. That was fun. Just when we see her plan come to fruition, sort of, and maybe that's the wrong word in this case, she moves! She leaves that garden to people who are not at all interested in maintaining it (good thing it was designed not to need much maintenance) and her new home has no garden. She has to start again. She does, however, still own the first home/garden and goes back to visit, learning even more about what plants survive the 'casual' gardener or, in this case, the gardener who isn't there to do the gardening at all. One of her recommendations is that we look around our 'neck of the woods' and notice what grows in spite of neglect, which works for me. At the end, there is a helpful chapter of her favorite plant selections "Easy-going Plant Selections" and why, probably the most clinical part of the book, the earlier chapters being a light-hearted, fun approach to gardening. I still laugh whenever I think of a couple of her comments. The book is fun to read. I finished it in one long session, because I enjoyed it. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Cute but no Substance By Pat Fuller I had hoped the book would blend drinking and gardening, but it really didn't. I don't know exactly where the knomes fit into the whole scheme of thing, maybe nowhere..... 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Funny and educational By Sonja Harken This is one of the best gardening books I have read. Even though the author lives in a far different environment than I, I found much useful information on gardening in her hilarious essays. I just wish she would move to California! The only downside to this book is that it ended too soon.

The Gin and Tonic Gardener is designed for those who would rather enjoy our gardens than be enslaved by them. Weeds? Janice Wells exhorts us to have another gin and tonic to obscure, or at the very least, help you forget, those usurpers of the garden. Janice Wells, a well-known writer and journalist, uses her own garden as a laboratory for the gardening column she writes for the Halifax Chronicle-Herald. Though filled with humor, The Gin and Tonic Gardener provides practical tips, including ways to transform a concrete pathway to look like paving stones, how to disguise an ugly fence by encouraging vines to cover it, and how to scour rummage sales for inexpensive and attractive outdoor furniture. Plus, she offers a listing plants that will grow despite willful neglect, poor growing conditions, and being occasionally doused with the remnants of a cocktail. Spirited, funny, and filled to the brim with amusing gardening anecdotes and wisdom, this book is designed especially for the reluctant gardener who is looking for a way out of the tyranny espoused in gardening magazines, home and garden television shows, and those fussy neighbors who cast disgusted glances at the green spaces outside our homes.

For every gardener who has ever enjoyed a glass of wine or other such cocktail while sitting in their back yard unwinding from a hard day's work, The Gin and Tonic Gardener is a must. Wells writes short stories that are humorous and full of useful tips. --Las Vegas Journal If more of us took her approach there'd be more gardens. --AARP magazine? spirited funny and filled to the brim with amusing garden anecdotes and wisdom. --Icangarden.com What she writes about is attitude, not just toward gardens, but toward life. She's come to the conclusion that perfection, botanical or otherwise, is not the goal. Enjoyment is. Endurance is. Hers will be a hearty, no-fuss garden, filled with memories of pleasant moments, and trustworthy varieties of flowers. --Los Angeles Times? charming writing about a life in the garden? she knows her stuff. --Globe Mail For people who'd rather enjoy their gardens than be enslaved by them. --Vancouver Sun Absolutely charming? enticing every gardener to put down the watering can and let their dream garden unfold? not how-to, but rather how-not-to-stress-about-it-and-enjoy-your-garden --Toronto Sun Our gardens, Wells reminds us, just as they nurture the plants we put in them, are places where we live and grow too. --Edmonton Journal About the Author JANICE WELLS wrote weekly columns for the Halifax Chronicle Herald. Her popular columns, The Gin and Tonic Gardener and Definitely Not Martha offer irreverent observations and advice on coping with modern domestic realities. Her most recent book, Frank Moores, is a political biography of the colourful former premier of Newfoundland who played a pivotal role in the scandal involving former Prime Minister Brian Mulroney. She is the author of Definitely Not Martha Stewart, which is a compendium of observations and advice from gardening to the domestic and romantic realities of a "re-single" woman in her fifties. She lives in St. Johns, Newfoundland.