

Focusing on gardeners' words about the art of gardening, *Writing the Garden: A Literary Conversation Across Two Centuries* by landscape historian Elizabeth Barlow Rogers brings together a diverse array of authors. For the most part they are not professional landscape designers or how-to horticulturists but rather hands-on gardeners who write with their own gardens in full view. Ranging in time and place from Enlightenment France to modern-day New York City, they invite the reader into the natural world of soil and flowers, insects and sun, pride and frustration.

Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Thomas Jefferson, Henry David Thoreau, Gertrude Jekyll, Vita Sackville-West, Russell Page, Lynden Miller, and Michael Pollan are among the fifty writers whose works are excerpted and discussed by Rogers. An essay by Harriet Shapiro highlights the New York Society Library's rich collection of historic and contemporary books by garden writers.

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