

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

The Last Garden in England

by Julia Kelly

Community Read, March–May 2024

The Longwood Gardens Community Read is a program designed to encourage reading for pleasure, and to start a conversation. Focusing on literature about gardens, plants, and the natural world, we feature an exceptional book annually (paired with a similarly themed younger readers' book) through a variety of programs, discussions, and lectures across all community partner organizations. For more information about the Community Read, go to longwoodgardens.org/community-read.

This guide was prepared by Longwood Gardens Library and Information Services staff for anyone interested in hosting a book discussion (or another program) for the Community Read book.

If you want to continue to explore the ideas, themes and inspirations of *The Last Garden in England*, here is a list of resources to fuel your thinking. You will find the books at public libraries and local bookstores.

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Community Read
Read. Think. Engage.

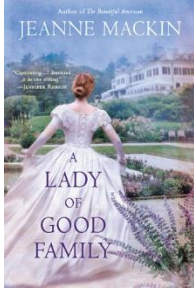
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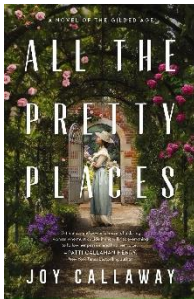
SIMILAR FICTION



A Lady of Good Family

by Jeanne Mackin. (Penguin Publishing Group, 2015)

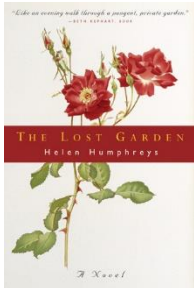
From the publisher: “Raised among wealth and privilege during America’s fabled Gilded Age, a niece of famous novelist Edith Wharton and a friend to literary great Henry James, Beatrix Farrand is expected to marry, and marry well. But as a young woman traveling through Europe with her mother and aunt, she already knows that gardens are her true passion. How this highborn woman with unconventional views escapes the dictates of society to become the most celebrated female landscape designer in the country is the story of her unique determination to create beauty and serenity while remaining true to herself.”



All the Pretty Places: a novel of the Gilded Age

by Joy Callaway. (Harper Muse, 2023)

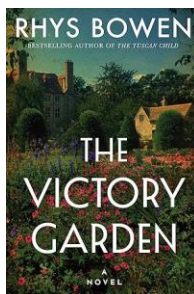
From the publisher: “From the moment she was born, the transforming beauty of her family’s nurseries has arrested her heart. From the moment she knew love, her heart belonged with his. Now she’s at risk of losing them both. Joy Callaway illuminates the life of her great-great-grandmother in this captivating story about a daring woman following her passion and finding her voice, while exploring natural beauty and its effect in the lives of those who need it most.”



The Lost Garden

by Helen Humphreys. (Norton, 2002)

From the publisher: “...Early 1941 in Britain when the war seems endless and, perhaps, hopeless. London is on fire from the Blitz, and a young woman gardener named Gwen Davis flees from the burning city for the Devon countryside. She has volunteered for the Land Army and is to be in charge of a group of young girls who will be trained to plant food crops on an old country estate where the gardens have fallen into ruin.”



The Victory Garden

by Rhys Bowen. (Lake Union Publishing, 2019)

Engaged to an Australian pilot during World War I, Emily volunteers to tend the neglected grounds of a Devonshire estate where she finds inspiration and support in an herbalist's long-forgotten journals.



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HIDCOTE MANOR AND GARDENS

An Author & a Gardener: The Gardens and Friendship of Edith Wharton and Lawrence Johnston

by Allan R. Ruff (Windgather Press, 2014)

The Garden at Hidcote

by Fred Whitsey; photographs by Tony Lord (F. Lincoln, 2007)

Hidcote: The Garden and Lawrence Johnston

by Graham S. Pearson (National Trust, 2007)

Hidcote: The Making of a Garden

by Ethne Clarke (W.W. Norton & Co., 2009)

Hidcote Manor Garden: Gloucestershire (National Trust, 2004)

Lawrence Johnston: The Creator of Hidcote

by Graham S. Pearson (Hidcote Books, 2013)

SELECTED BOOKS BY GERTRUDE JEKYLL

Children and Gardens

by Gertrude Jekyll; with one hundred and six illustrations by the author

Classic English Gardens

by Gertrude Jekyll; paintings by George S. Elgood

Colour in the Flower Garden

by Gertrude Jekyll

Flower Decoration in the House

by Gertrude Jekyll

Garden Ornament

by Gertrude Jekyll

Gardens for Small Country Houses



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by Gertrude Jekyll & Lawrence Weaver

Roses for English Gardens

by Gertrude Jekyll and Edward Mawley

Wood and Garden; Notes and Thoughts, Practical and Critical, of a Working Amateur

by Gertrude Jekyll

BOOKS ABOUT GERTRUDE JEKYLL

Almost Home: The Public Landscapes of Gertrude Jekyll

by Kristine F. Miller (University of Virginia Press, 2012)

The Gardener's Essential Gertrude Jekyll

introduction by Elizabeth Lawrence (D.R. Godine, 1986)

Gardens of a Golden Afternoon: The Story of a Partnership, Edwin Lutyens & Gertrude Jekyll

by Jane Brown (Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1982)

The Gardens of Gertrude Jekyll

by Richard Bisgrove; special photography by Andrew Lawson (Little Brown, 1992)

Gertrude Jekyll: A Vision of Garden and Wood

by Judith B. Tankard and Michael R. Van Valkenburgh (H.N. Abrams, Inc., 1989)

Gertrude Jekyll: Before the Boots, The Gardens and the Portrait

by Joan Edwards (Bayford Books, 1993)

Gertrude Jekyll: Her Art Restored at Upton Grey

by Rosamund Wallinger (Garden Art Press, 2013)

Gertrude Jekyll and the Country House Garden

by Judith B. Tankard (Rizzoli, 2011)

WOMEN GARDEN DESIGNERS

The Collected Writings of Beatrix Farrand: American Landscape Gardener (1872-1959)

edited by Carmen Pearson (University Press of New England, 2009)



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Dear Friend and Gardener: Letters on Life and Gardening

by Beth Chatto (Quarto Publishing, 2021)

First Ladies of Gardening: Pioneers, Designers and Dreamers

by Heidi Howcroft; photographs by Marianne Majerus (Frances Lincoln, 2015)

Lessons from Great Gardeners: Forty Gardening Icons and What They Teach Us

by Matthew Biggs (Mitchell Beazley, in association with the Royal Horticultural Society, 2015)

Money, Manure & Maintenance: Ingredients for Successful Gardens of Marian Coffin, Pioneer Landscape Architect, 1876-1957

by Nancy Fleming (Country Place Books, 1995)

Parks, Plants, and People: Beautifying the Urban Landscape

by Lynden B. Miller (Norton, 2009)

Sissinghurst: Vita Sackville-West and the Creation of a Garden

by Vita Sackville-West and Sarah Raven (St. Martin's Press, 2014)

Unbounded Practice: Women and Landscape Architecture in the Early Twentieth Century

by Thaïsa Way (University of Virginia Press, 2009)

The Virago Book of Women Gardeners

edited by Deborah Kellaway (Virago Press, 2016)

Women Garden Designers: 1900 to the Present

by Kristina Taylor (Garden Art Press, 2015)



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