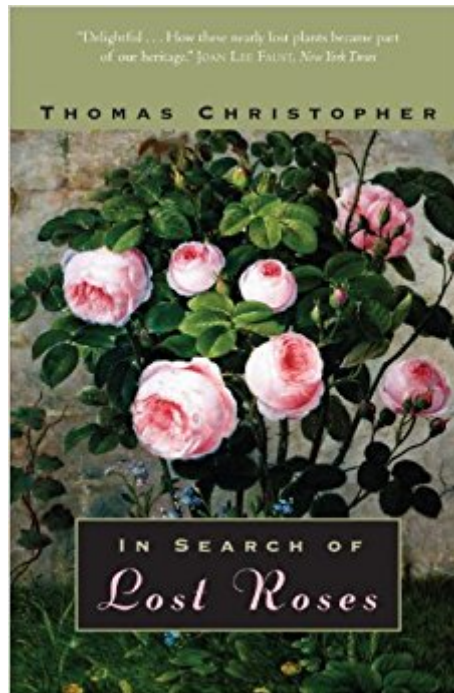




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In Search Of Lost Roses



Synopsis

Once upon a time—before the 1860s—people loved old roses like "Pearl of Gold," "Marchionesse of Lorne," or "Autumn Damask." Then along came the hybrid tea roses, which were easier to arrange, more dramatic, and longer-blooming, and the old roses were all but forgotten. Now the lovely, subtle-hued, richly perfumed old roses are making a comeback, thanks to the efforts of a stubborn band of eccentric characters who rescued them from back alleys, ramshackle cottages, and overgrown graveyards across the country. Thomas Christopher tells us the fascinating stories of the old roses—how they were created and made their way to America—and the unforgettable people who "rustle" them from abandoned lots and secret gardens today, revelling in the mystery of an "unknown yellow."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Christopher's brief account of his journeys searching out the hardy yet subtle shrubs classified as "old roses" provides many satisfactions. Illustrations. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This highly readable account is the story of one man's quest for the old-fashioned roses, fragrant and beautiful flowers largely forgotten following the introduction of tea roses in 1867. The author recounts his explorations through backyards, cemeteries, abandoned gold rush towns of America, and old gardens of Europe, describing the roses he found and the dedicated specialists he met

along the way. By one estimate, only several hundred of the originally thousands of old rose cultivars still exist. These roses' wealth of form, color, fragrance, and habit made each unique; the same cannot be said of the new, uniform varieties. This is a welcome record of the efforts of the few who are preserving this agricultural legacy.- Annette Aiello, Smithsonian Tropical Research Inst., PanamaCopyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The book IN SEARCH OF LOST ROSES by THOMAS CHRISTOPHER is a treasure for everybody who loves roses. It is so good, that I read it every year before spring comes, and some times I go back to my favorite chapters, the ones that talk about those roses that interest me the most. The book is good for all rose lovers, and particularly good for those who love the Old Garden Roses (roses prior to 1867, the year the first modern rose, La France, was produced), as well as for those who love the history of our country. The book is really full of adventure, and Tom Christopher travels all over the country to visit most interesting people who love and search for lost roses, people who have such a great stories to tell, that I even investigated some of them to see if I could contact them. Since the book was published in 1989, and some of those people were already mature adults, some of them are no longer with us, but it is possible find some information about them, and even more importantly, priceless articles written by them, and introductions to classic rose book reprints. Some of these great rosarians are great authors in their own right. You can get a hardcover edition or a paperback. If this book doesn't make you fall in love with roses, nothing will! *In 1999 Reader's Digest published another great book by Christopher, EASY ROSES FOR NORTH AMERICAN GARDENS, a big hardback with beautiful photos, and he uses the advise of eight rose experts from different regions of the USA and Canada, but be careful, or you may get addicted to rose books!

Came quickly. Husband loves this book. It is written well and relates well to people who really likes roses. This is the second time my husband bought the book as the first one was destroyed a few years ago. He loved it so much he decided to buy it again.

For anyone that loves and grows roses ,especially Old Garden Roses will absolutely love reading this book.I found so much humor intertwined into it and loved the way the stories are wound together.If you are a historian also it only adds to your reading enjoyment. There surely are some wonderful characters and facts that the reader will totally enjoy.I loved the way the roses and there stories was wonderfully researched by Mr. Christopher. Its truly a wonderful read and knowledge

builder.

Most charming and entertaining to read. Thomas Christopher takes you to places "In Search of Lost Roses" that every gardener would like to go. I am new to the culture and lore of old garden roses, and this is the best book I have found, for pure enjoyment, with scads of information attached. I am forcing myself not to rush through it, savoring each chapter. Hoping there will be a sequel!

I thoroughly enjoyed reading this book. The range of characters that collect roses was very interesting. The stories about them were well written and entertaining. If you like roses or gardening this book, no doubt would be a very pleasant read

Those looking for extensive medieval history should inquire elsewhere, though there are several useful pages. If you're okay with largely American rose history beginning with the defeat of Napoleon then this book is pretty good. If you have an itch to go on a botanical road trip, this is a book you should take. Also take a camera and a laptop since you'll want to use this book to write a better book that has pictures in color and isn't...well, he's not quite racist but Mr. Christopher does come off as a bit of a New England prat. I mean he's elitist. I mean he doesn't seem like someone I'd want over for tea. I'm from Maryland. Certain comments that Christopher makes about southerners rubbed me the wrong way and I'm not even really a southerner. Modern information about genetically manipulated roses is very dated: you can find blogs about rose genealogy today. The stuff that Christopher is very pessimistic about can be viewed in a much more positive light because the internet exists to inform us about roses, making it economical to get exactly the plant that you want for your garden.

This an easy to read book that meanders like a rose garden path through the lives and history of roses and gardeners. The most interesting bits to me were when the author sidetracked into the how and why someone raised roses or wrote a book or painted pictures of them more than the actual botanical 'begats'. He followed roses as they traveled all the routes that were famous in history from the Silk Road to the Oregon Trail. A good book to read on the patio overlooking the rose garden on lovely summer day.

This book will make you want to get out your pruning shears and head for old cemeteries, rose

infested ditches, and tumbledown homesteads! Great read!

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