

The Wild Garden

By William Robinson
Published by Little Toller Books
June 2025 (UK)

'One of the classics of gardening...he's worth listening to today, and noting.' *The Daily Telegraph*

"...the boldest attack on unnatural art." Robin Lane Fox

Originally published in 1870, The Wild Garden was a sensation, up-ending the conventions of Victorian garden-making, sweeping away formal ideas and artifice, and replacing it with a naturalistic approach, favouring native plants. William Robinson's book effectively introduced the idea of the cottage garden and the herbaceous border.

Practical, beautiful and occasionally argumentative, *The Wild Garden* includes chapters on wild roses, bog gardens and 'Wild Gardening on Walls, Rocks, or Ruins.' Truly ahead of its time, *The Wild Garden* changed gardening for ever and remains a key work.

Our new edition, the most recent addition to the Nature Classics series, has an introduction by the writer, journalist and gardener Alice Vincent.

William Robinson (1838-1935) was an Irish gardener, writer and journalist. His writing influenced a generation of gardeners and he became a friend and collaborator with Gertrude Jekyll. In 1884 he purchased the Elizabethan house Gravetye Manor in Sussex, where he worked to transform its gardens.

Alice Vincent is a writer, journalist and gardener. Her books include *Rootbound*, *Why Women Grow* and *Hark*.

Cover by Cedric Morris (1889-1982)

THE WILD GARDEN WILLIAM ROBINSON Introduced by ALICE VINCENT



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