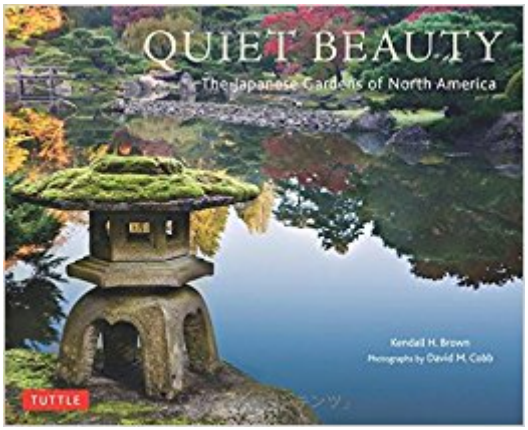
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Quiet Beauty: The Japanese Gardens Of North America



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Synopsis

Gold Medal winner in the 2014 IBPA Benjamin Franklin Award for Home & Garden"Just flipping through the pages of Quiet Beauty: The Japanese Gardens of North America will instantly lower your blood pressure."Ã¢â ¬â •The New York Times Book ReviewQuiet Beauty: Japanese Gardens of North America is an extraordinary look at the most beautiful and serene gardens of the United States and Canada. Most Japanese garden books look to the gardens of Japan. Quiet Beauty explores the treasure trove of Japanese gardens located in North America. Featuring an intimate look at twenty-six gardens, with numerous stunning color photographs of each, that detail their style, history, and special functions, this book explores the ingenuity and range of Japanese landscaping.Japanese gardens have been part of North American culture for almost 150 years. Quiet Beauty is a thought provoking look at the history of their introduction to the world of North American gardening and how this aspect of Japanese culture has taken root and flourished.Japanese gardens include: Japanese Tea Garden in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, California Nitobe Memorial Garden, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia Japanese Garden, Fort Worth Botanic Garden, Texas Garden of the Pine Winds, Denver Botanic Gardena, Colorado Japanese Garden, Montreal Botanical Garden, Quebec Tenshin'en (The Garden of the Heart of Heaven), Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Massachusetts Roji'en (Garden of Drops of Dew), The George D. and Harriet W. Cornell Japanese Gardens, The Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, Delray Beach, Florida Japanese Friendship Garden of Phoenix, Margaret T. Hance Park, Arizona Garden of the Pine Wind, Garvan Woodland Garden, Hot Springs, Arkansas

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Customer Reviews

"Visiting Maruyama Park in Kyoto, which he likes best on a misty late afternoon in November, Pico Iyer remarks that it seems "like a public monument to privacy." This is, perhaps, why the signature serenity of what Kendall H. Brown's new book calls "places to dream" has attracted so many Western gardeners. Just flipping through the pages of Quiet Beauty: The Japanese Gardens of North America will instantly lower your blood pressure. And while you may not be able to replicate the teahouses and moon bridges in David M. Cobb's elegant photographs, there are plenty of details to be borrowed for even the smallest gardens: a simple bamboo fence, a perfectly sited stone lantern, a rough pebbled path that gently curves to create heightened suspense about what lies beyond. " Ã¢â ¬â •The New York Times Book Review"Kendall Brown, professor of Asian art history at Cal State Long Beach and one of the experts to weigh in on the Storrier Stearn garden in Pasadena, has a book coming out this month. It's titled Quiet Beauty: The Japanese Gardens of North America, and for this edited Q&A, we asked about his fascination with Japanese gardens, how best to experience them and why our notion of Japanese gardens is not entirely Japanese." Ã¢â ¬â •LA Times"With an introduction titled "Places to dream," Kendall H. Brown extols the serenity of Japanese gardens, lauding their soothing environments in a world of "the cacophony of cities (and) the anonymity of suburbs." Ã¢â ¬Â¦ The gardens, [Brown] says, can nurture, educate and stimulate creativity, and Quiet Beauty can do the same." Ã¢â ¬â •The Oregonian"In this lavishly illustrated book, art historian Brown and photographer Cobb act as tour guides to 26 such gardensÃ¢â ¬â •including the Japanese Tea Garden in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park, Francisco Nitobe Memorial Garden in Vancouver, B.C., and Shomu'en (Pine Mist Garden) at Cheekwood in Nashville, Tenn.Ã¢â ¬â •that are accessible, historically significant, and compelling physical spaces." Ã¢â ¬â •Publishers Weekly"This compilation of images by photographer David M. Cobb, and information on the most beautiful and serene gardens in the United States and Canada features gardens from Seattle, Bainbridge Island and Spokane." Ã¢â ¬â •Seattle Times"By the end of this well-written and beautifully photographed book we realize that, far from being lost in transplantation, Japanese garden aesthetics and principals have been re-codified and adapted to create energizing, transformative works." Ã¢â ¬â •The Japan Times

David M. Cobb is a member of NANPA (North American Nature Photography Association) and PPA (Professional Photographers of America). He lives in the Pacific Northwest with his wife and their

two cats.Kendall H. Brown is Professor of Asian Art History in the Art Department at California State University Long Beach. He also recently served as Curator of Collections, Exhibitions and Programs at Pacific Asia Museum. Dr. Brown is a leading figure in the study of Japanese gardens in North America and is the author of Japanese-style Gardens of the Pacific West Coast.

I recently added Kendall BrownÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s Quiet Beauty to my growing collection of books on Japanese gardens and have been very happy with the purchase. I have come to expect excellent photography in such books and Quiet Beauty does not disappoint. The accompanying text is also substantial and informative. I was particularly fond of BrownÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s choice to group the gardens into several historical periods beginning with those with roots in the WorldÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s Fairs of the late nineteenth century and running through gardens of more recent vintage where there has been a unification of Japanese tradition with the climate and tastes of North America. I have not seen this perspective offered in other books on this subject and found it to add significantly to my appreciation of the gardens I have visited. For those who might wish to use the book to plan visits, Brown has made an excellent selection in terms of quality and geography. At least 15 of the gardens described have appeared among the top 25 Japanese gardens in North America as rated by the editors of the Journal of Japanese Gardening. Unfortunately one of my favorites, Asticou, in Northeast Harbor, ME, is not covered although this is a minor deficiency in an otherwise fine book. It might be noted that Japanese gardens, more than any others, are sensitive to rigorous upkeep and maintenance especially skilled pruning. Brown alludes to this in several descriptions (e.g. Shofuso whose quality has varied over the years with interest and funding). More recently I found that TenshinÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢en at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts had deteriorated significantly from the condition presented in BrownÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s text. Hopefully the attention that this book generates will lead to more consistent efforts to preserve these valuable national treasures.

This book is another fine compilation by photographer David Cobb and writer/historian Kendall Brown.A very good piece on North American Japanese Gardens.Highly recommend this book to anyone with an interest in gardens, Japanese Culture and photography.

This is the most informative book I have ever read regarding the history and development of Japanese Gardens in America. Not only is it scholarly, it is exquisitly photographed and illustrated. It even taught me things I never knew about my own work.

I would reccomend this beautiful book to anyone interested in Japanese Gardens, or Asian art. The particular reason it was chosen,was that, the gardens featured were in North America and thus able to be visited without overseas travel. The book is informativeand blessed with exceptionally nice photography, All in all a wonderful addition to ones library...

If, like me, you love spending time at Japanese Gardens, and though you love to travel to Japan, would enjoy visiting gardens in the U.S.A., then this book is a real gem. I just spent a week with my family in San Francisco and visited the Japanese Garden there. I am grateful for the book helping me find these gems when I travel here in the States. The photographs are stunning, but the book is a great travel guide for those, like me, want to visit as many Japanese Gardens as possible.

This book is a work of art. Before you read another word, I have to tell you: I've known the author for quite a few years. When I say "quite a few" I mean 40. We grew up together in Southern California, went to junior high school, high school, and college together. Even then, his calling in life was to be the kind of scholar who could talk to anybody. That's what this book does. It talks to you and me and everyone who ever saw a Japanese style garden and said, "Wow!" Read this book and you'll understand why.

Beautiful book added to my garden collection and very inspirational in wanting to visit some of these beautiful places on earth. I actually met Kendall Brown at one of his lectures in LA before the purchasing of his book.

If you enjoy Japanese Tea Gardens, here is your chance to be an armchair traveler to the finest ones in North America. The descriptions are enjoyable to read, and the photography is lovely.

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