

The Plant Hunters Two Hundred Years Of Adventure And Discovery Around The World

The Plant Hunters Two Hundred Years of Adventure and Discovery Around the World Ward Lock Limited

This fascinating account of eleven remarkable, eccentric, dedicated, and sometimes obsessive individuals that established the science of botany brings to life these extraordinary adventurers and draws out the scientific and cultural value of their work and its legacy.

In 1837, Daguerre developed his eponymous process, opening the doors to modern photography. Around the same time, the once-neglected Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, found itself the focus of renewed interest and rapid expansion. The renaissance at Kew and revolution in photography are inextricably linked, as professional photographers and casual tourists alike have been capturing pieces of Kew's history for more than one hundred years, marking its development one frame at a time. *The Story of Kew Gardens in Photographs* brings together two hundred and fifty of those photographs to tell the tale of these magnificent gardens. *The Story of Kew Gardens in Photographs* covers the period from 1844 to the 1970s, ending as another advance, color photography, was taking hold. Featuring many rarely seen photographs, the collection provides a fascinating look at the botanical and social history of the gardens. The black-and-white images show a remarkable transformation in the growth and expansion of the gardens. The photographs also illustrate the importance of plants in the British Empire and how Kew became one of the most important botanical institutions in the world. This engrossing book provides a glimpse of British history from the days of vacationing royalty to the great Victorian plant hunters, through two world wars and millions of visitors.

Hidden away in foggy, uncharted rain forest valleys in Northern California are the largest and tallest organisms the world has ever sustained—the coast redwood trees, *Sequoia sempervirens*. Ninety-six percent of the ancient redwood forests have been destroyed by logging, but the untouched fragments that remain are among the great wonders of nature. The biggest redwoods have trunks up to thirty feet wide and can rise more than thirty-five stories above the ground, forming cathedral-like structures in the air. Until recently, redwoods were thought to be virtually impossible to ascend, and the canopy at the tops of these majestic trees was undiscovered. In *The Wild Trees*, Richard Preston unfolds the spellbinding story of Steve Sillett, Marie Antoine, and the tiny group of daring botanists and amateur naturalists that found a lost world above California, a world that is dangerous, hauntingly beautiful, and unexplored. The canopy voyagers are young—just college students when they start their quest—and they share a passion for these trees, persevering in spite of sometimes crushing personal obstacles and failings. They take big risks, they ignore common wisdom (such as the notion that there's nothing left to discover in North America), and they even make love in hammocks stretched between branches three hundred feet in the air. The deep redwood canopy is a vertical Eden filled with mosses, lichens, spotted salamanders, hanging gardens of ferns, and thickets of huckleberry bushes, all growing out of massive trunk systems that have fused and formed flying buttresses, sometimes carved into blackened chambers, hollowed out by fire, called “fire caves.” Thick layers of soil sitting on limbs harbor animal and plant life that is unknown to science. Humans move through the deep canopy suspended on ropes, far out of sight of the ground, knowing that the price of a small mistake can be a plunge to one's death. Preston's account of this amazing world, by turns terrifying, moving, and fascinating, is an adventure story told in novelistic detail by a master of

Read Book The Plant Hunters Two Hundred Years Of Adventure And Discovery Around The World

nonfiction narrative. The author shares his protagonists' passion for tall trees, and he mastered the techniques of tall-tree climbing to tell the story in *The Wild Trees*—the story of the fate of the world's most splendid forests and of the imperiled biosphere itself.

Fahrenheit 451

Frank Kingdon-Ward

The Story of Kew Gardens

A Life-Size Guide to Six Hundred Species from Around the World

Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea

Green Escapes

Describes more than 200 gardens in China from temple courtyards, ancient burial grounds, and imperial tombs to public parks, botanical gardens, and arboreta.

Young Cassie Logan endures humiliation and witnesses the racism of the KKK as they embark on a cross-burning rampage, before she fully understands the importance her family attributes to having land of their own.

Follows the lives of six men who shared a passion for plants and a love of gardening in eighteenth-century London, who made Britain the epicenter of horticulture, and transformed gardening from an aristocratic pastime to a national obsession.

From Queen Hatshepsut's journey to the land of Punt in 1482 B.C. to modern botanical expeditions, here is a vivid account of botanists, their travels, and the interesting, valuable specimens they brought back to their gardens and laboratories. Mr. Whittle first surveys the history of collecting prior to the time of Nathaniel Ward, the inventor of the portable greenhouse, then explains the scientific techniques of plant hunting developed by Ward. And, finally, he tells of the "Scramble for Green Treasure" to the far corners of the earth that followed in Ward's wake and he explores the gradual development of the methods botanists are using now.

The Multifarious Mr. Banks

The Plant Hunter's Tale

The English Rock-garden

The Epic True Story of Victorian Plant Hunter John Jeffrey

Wicked Plants

The Search for Interesting and Useful Plants

This is the first full biography of the great Scottish plant collector Robert Fortune, famous for working in China and Japan from 1843 until 1861. This detailed presentation of his life includes an extensive analysis of his travels, plant collections and introductions, including the first maps ever produced of his collecting itineraries in China. Watt reveals that in order for Fortune to travel into the interior of China in search of new garden plants for the (later, Royal) Horticultural Society of London he had to adopt Chinese disguise, as it had been forbidden for Europeans to leave the confines of a few coastal Treaty ports. After the successful first expedition, Fortune made four more journeys to the Far East, including China, Taiwan and Japan in search of horticultural novelties. He succeeded admirably and very many of his discoveries are garden plants today. Two of his major

Read Book The Plant Hunters Two Hundred Years Of Adventure And Discovery Around The World

expeditions were made in the employ of the British East India Company to aid the introduction of the tea industry into India and another expedition was carried out to investigate a possible tea industry in the USA. It has been a commonly accepted theme that Fortune was in some way 'a tea thief' and a 'spy'; the research in this book shows a completely different story. Using much new material Watt sets out to give a full account of the man, his explorations in 19th century China and the plants that he introduced into our gardens.

The year 1866 was signalled by a remarkable incident, a mysterious and puzzling phenomenon, which doubtless no one has yet forgotten. Not to mention rumours which agitated the maritime population and excited the public mind, even in the interior of continents, seafaring men were particularly excited. Merchants, common sailors, captains of vessels, skippers, both of Europe and America, naval officers of all countries, and the Governments of several States on the two continents, were deeply interested in the matter. For some time past vessels had been met by "an enormous thing," a long object, spindle-shaped, occasionally phosphorescent, and infinitely larger and more rapid in its movements than a whale. The facts relating to this apparition (entered in various log-books) agreed in most respects as to the shape of the object or creature in question, the untiring rapidity of its movements, its surprising power of locomotion, and the peculiar life with which it seemed endowed. If it was a whale, it surpassed in size all those hitherto classified in science. Taking into consideration the mean of observations made at divers times—rejecting the timid estimate of those who assigned to this object a length of two hundred feet, equally with the exaggerated opinions which set it down as a mile in width and three in length—we might fairly conclude that this mysterious being surpassed greatly all dimensions admitted by the learned ones of the day, if it existed at all. And that it DID exist was an undeniable fact; and, with that tendency which disposes the human mind in favour of the marvellous, we can understand the excitement produced in the entire world by this supernatural apparition. As to classing it in the list of fables, the idea was out of the question. On the 20th of July, 1866, the steamer Governor Higginson, of the Calcutta and Burnach Steam Navigation Company, had met this moving mass five miles off the east coast of Australia. Captain Baker thought at first that he was in the presence of an unknown sandbank; he even prepared to determine its exact position when two columns of water, projected by the mysterious object, shot with a hissing noise a hundred and fifty feet up into the air. Now, unless the sandbank had been submitted to the intermittent eruption of a geyser, the Governor Higginson had to do neither more nor less than with an aquatic mammal, unknown till then, which threw up from its blow-holes columns of water mixed with air and vapour. Similar facts were observed on the 23rd of

Read Book The Plant Hunters Two Hundred Years Of Adventure And Discovery Around The World

July in the same year, in the Pacific Ocean, by the Columbus, of the West India and Pacific Steam Navigation Company. But this extraordinary creature could transport itself from one place to another with surprising velocity; as, in an interval of three days, the Governor Higginson and the Columbus had observed it at two different points of the chart, separated by a distance of more than seven hundred nautical leagues.

This splendidly illustrated book about the world famous botanic gardens at Kew examines their historic impact and importance. With 250 fascinating photographs, many of them previously unseen, it describes the botanical, social, cultural, political and technological developments of the past two centuries and highlights the pivotal role that plants have played in British life. The tale of Kew Gardens embraces a wide range of themes, including: plant hunters, ecologists, explorers and other pioneers; the evolution of building and garden design; influential directors, architects and landscape gardeners; the gardens as a vital public resource; digging for victory - Kew in wartime.

"Should appeal to all rugged individualists who dream of escape to the forest."—The New York Times Book Review Sam Gribley is terribly unhappy living in New York City with his family, so he runs away to the Catskill Mountains to live in the woods—all by himself. With only a penknife, a ball of cord, forty dollars, and some flint and steel, he intends to survive on his own. Sam learns about courage, danger, and independence during his year in the wilderness, a year that changes his life forever. "An extraordinary book . . . It will be read year after year." —The Horn Book

A Plant Hunter in the Orient

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry

A Scientist's Quest for Nature's Next Medicines

A Life-Size Guide to Six Hundred Species From Around The World

The Guide to Secret Urban Gardens

Microbe Hunters

A leading medical ethnobotanist tells us the story of her quest to develop new ways to fight illness and disease through the healing powers of plants in this uplifting and adventure-filled memoir. Plants are the basis for an array of lifesaving and health-improving medicines we all now take for granted. Ever taken an aspirin? Thank a willow tree for that. What about life-saving medicines for malaria? Some of those are derived from cinchona and wormwood. In today's world of synthetic pharmaceuticals, scientists and laypeople alike have lost this connection to the natural world. But by ignoring the potential of medicinal plants, we are losing out on the opportunity to discover new life-saving medicines needed in the fight against the greatest medical challenge of this century: the rise of the post-antibiotic era. Antibiotic-resistant microbes plague us all. Each year, 700,000 people die due to these untreatable infections; by 2050, 10 million annual deaths are expected unless we act now. No one understands this better than Dr. Cassandra Quave, whose groundbreaking research as a leading medical ethnobotanist--someone who identifies and studies

Read Book The Plant Hunters Two Hundred Years Of Adventure And Discovery Around The World

plants that may be able to treat antimicrobial resistance and other threatening illnesses--is helping to provide clues for the next generation of advanced medicines. In The Plant Hunter, Dr. Quave weaves together science, botany, and memoir to tell us the extraordinary story of her own journey. Traveling by canoe, ATV, mule, airboat, and on foot, she has conducted field research in the flooded forests of the remote Amazon, the murky swamps of southern Florida, the rolling hills of central Italy, isolated mountaintops in Albania and Kosovo, and volcanic isles arising out of the Mediterranean—all in search of natural compounds, long-known to traditional healers, that could help save us all from the looming crisis of untreatable superbugs. And as a person born with multiple congenital defects of her skeletal system, she's done it all with just one leg. Filled with grit, tragedy, triumph, awe, and scientific discovery, her story illuminates how the path forward for medical discovery may be found in nature's oldest remedies.

This is the story of the men who discovered and brought back a wealth of exotic new plants. Journeying through remote and beautiful lands, often in great peril, they collected the plants that shaped western garden design for 200 years. The stories are illustrated with portraits, photographs and maps.

First published in 1927.

Tales of the botanist explorers who enriched our gardens.

Seeds of Hope

The Last of the Great Plant Hunters

Little Bee

Old Herbaceous

Botany, Empire, and the Birth of an Obsession

Modern Plant Hunters

For centuries, from foodstuffs to industrial materials, plants have dominated trade between countries. Possession of rare spices, sweets, and narcotics could mean enviable wealth and power, so explorers ventured forth, risking death on unknown seas. Here are stories of plants--tobacco, sugar, cotton, tea, poppies, quinine, and rubber--and how Europe's hunt for them led to the Age of Empire and turned world history upside down. Not only did they ensure the commercial success of America and Europe, but they became the catalyst for piracy, smuggling, addiction, and the slave trade: the darker side of the golden profits of a beautiful presentation of a fascinating subject.

Almost all the books that have been published on plant hunting focus on the so-called 'golden age' that ended with the death of Frank Kingdon Ward in 1958. One might be forgiven for thinking that plant hunting itself came to an end in 1958. On the contrary, there have been more new plant introductions in the past thirty years than ever before. This book tells the story of modern-day plant hunters--such pioneering adventurers as Mikinori Ogisu, Dan Hinkley, Lancaster, Ed de Vogel, Lin Yu-Lin, Michael Wickenden and Claire Scobie. The author also examines the search for medicinal plants and the work of scientific institutions, both of which have been largely ignored, and considers such developments as the effect of habitat loss on plant loss and plant diversity.

Presents a tale of a precarious friendship between an illegal Nigerian refugee and a reclusive widow from suburban London, a story told from the alternating and disparate perspectives of both women.

In 1850, young Scottish plant hunter John Jeffrey was despatched by an elite group

Read Book The Plant Hunters Two Hundred Years Of Adventure And Discovery Around The World

subscribers to seek highly prized exotic trees in North America. An early letter home of a 1,200-mile transcontinental journey by small boat and on foot. Later, tantalising collections of seeds and plants arrived from British Columbia, Oregon and California, yet early promises soon withered. Four years after setting out, John Jeffrey, and his journals, disappeared without trace. Was he lost to love, violence or the Gold Rush? Green Gold combines meticulous research with the fictional narrative of Jeffrey's lost journals, revealing an extraordinary adventure.

The Forbidden Tomb

A Field Guide to the Senses

The Mushroom Hunters

Being an Examination of Collecting, with an Account of the Careers & the Methods of Those who Have Searched the World for Wild Plants

Xerophile, Revised Edition

The Origin Of Plants

The fifth order of the natural kingdom is made up of an estimated 1.5 million species of fungi, found in every habitat type worldwide. The Book of Fungi takes 600 of the most remarkable fleshy fungi from around the world and reproduces each at its actual size, in full colour, and accompanied by a scientific explanation of its distribution, habitat, association, abundance, growth form, spore colour and edibility. Location maps give at-a-glance indications of each species known global distribution, and specially commissioned engravings show different fruitbody forms and provide the vital statistics of height and diameter. There's a place, too, for readers to discover the more bizarre habits of fungi from the predator that hunts its prey with lassos to the one that entices sows by releasing the pheromones of a wild boar. Mushrooms, morels, puffballs, toadstools, truffles, chanterelles fungi from habitats spanning the poles and the tropics, from the highest mountains to our own gardens are all on display in this definitive work. A totalitarian regime has ordered all books to be destroyed, but one of the book burners suddenly realizes their merit.

A fascinating history of Britain's plant biodiversity and a unique account of how our garden landscape has been transformed over 1000 years, from 200 species of plant in the year 1000 to the astonishing variety of plants we can all see today. Thousands of plants have been introduced into Britain since 1066 by travellers, warriors, explorers and plant hunters - plants that we now take for granted such as rhododendron from the Far East, gladiolus from Africa and exotic plants like the monkey puzzle tree from Chile. Both a plant history and a useful reference book, Maggie Campbell-Culver has researched the provenance and often strange histories of many of the thousands of plants, exploring the quirky and sometimes rude nature of the plants, giving them a personality all of their own and setting them in their social context. The text is supported by beautiful contemporary paintings and modern photographs in 2 x 8 pp colour sections.

A fascinating life of Sir Joseph Banks which restores him to his proper place in history as a leading scientific figure of the English Enlightenment As official botanist on James Cook's first circumnavigation, the longest-serving president of the Royal Society, advisor to King George III, the "father of Australia," and the man who established Kew as the world's leading botanical garden, Sir Joseph Banks was integral to the English Enlightenment. Yet he has not received the recognition that his multifarious achievements deserve. In this engaging account, Toby Musgrave reveals the true extent of Banks's contributions to science and

Read Book *The Plant Hunters* Two Hundred Years Of Adventure And Discovery Around The World

Britain. From an early age Banks pursued his passion for natural history through study and extensive travel, most famously on the HMS Endeavour. He went on to become a pivotal figure in the advancement of British scientific, economic, and colonial interests. With his enquiring, enterprising mind and extensive network of correspondents, Banks's reputation and influence were global. Drawing widely on Banks's writings, Musgrave sheds light on Banks's profound impact on British science and empire in an age of rapid advancement.

The Book of Orchids

People and Plants that Changed the World

The Story of Kew Gardens in Photographs

What a Plant Knows

Gardens in China

The Brother Gardeners

An updated edition of the cult classic, featuring stunning archival photographs of hundreds of the rarest and most spectacular plants on Earth, documented in their natural habitats by a global community of cactus aficionados. A catalogue of wonders that most of us will never get to see in person.--The New Yorker A Bolivian cactus smaller than a fingernail; a massive cardon that stands more than seventy feet tall; a warty specimen resembling a large toad; a Melocactus that looks as if it is wearing a bristly red hat. Some shrink below ground level to conserve water, others spiral toward the sky, grow along in the sand like snakes, or are draped in flowing white hair. From the people behind Cactus Store comes Xerophile, a photographic collection of these improbable desert wonders in the wild. Drawing on the archives of twenty-five cactus obsessives—from PhD botanist to banker, art teacher to cancer researcher—this revised edition spans eighty years and features new and expanded descriptive notes for all 350+ photos. Fueled by whispers of ancient plants on forgotten hilltops in Brazil, legends of fields of living fossils deep in the arid deserts of Chile, these explorers' relentless drive to find and document cactus in some of the most remote landscapes on earth has created an extraordinary collective body of photographic work, one which has rarely, if ever, been seen by the general public.

Driven by an all-consuming passion, the plant hunters traveled around the world, facing challenges at every turn: tropical illnesses, extreme terrain, and dangerous animals. They battled piranhas, tigers, and vampire bats. Even the plants themselves could be lethal! But these intrepid eighteenth- and nineteenth-century explorers were determined to find and collect new and unusual specimens, no matter what the cost. Then they tried to transport the plants—and themselves—home alive. Creating an important legacy in science, medicine, and agriculture, the plant hunters still inspire the scientific and environmental work of contemporary plant enthusiasts. Working from primary sources—journals, letters, and notes from the field—Anita Silvey introduces us to these daring adventurers and scientists. She takes readers into the heart of their expeditions to then-uncharted places such as the Amazon basin, China, and India. As she brings a colorful cast of characters to life, she shows what motivated these Indiana Jones-type heroes. In *The Plant Hunters*, science, history, and adventure have been interwoven to tell a largely forgotten—yet fascinating—story.

A culinary and natural history of mushroom foraging juxtaposes the experiences of savvy mushroom-hunting iconoclasts and loners against the high-priced capitalism of four-star kitchens.

Caroline Cass has written an enchanting tale of love and intrigue which will

delight every reader with a thirst for adventure and the unexpected.

Wisdom and Wonder from the World of Plants

A Story of Passion and Daring

The Golden Age of Plant Hunters

Flower Hunters

Cactus Photographs from Expeditions of the Obsessed

Robert Fortune

A tree that sheds poison daggers; a glistening red seed that stops the heart; a shrub that causes paralysis; a vine that strangles; and a leaf that triggered a war. In *Wicked Plants*, Stewart takes on over two hundred of Mother Nature's most appalling creations. It's an A to Z of plants that kill, maim, intoxicate, and otherwise offend. You'll learn which plants to avoid (like exploding shrubs), which plants make themselves exceedingly unwelcome (like the vine that ate the South), and which ones have been killing for centuries (like the weed that killed Abraham Lincoln's mother). Menacing botanical illustrations and splendidly ghastly drawings create a fascinating portrait of the evildoers that may be lurking in your own backyard. Drawing on history, medicine, science, and legend, this compendium of bloodcurdling botany will entertain, alarm, and enlighten even the most intrepid gardeners and nature lovers.

Paralleling the human senses, the author explores the secret lives of various plants, from the colors they see to whether or not they really like classical music to their ability to sense nearby danger.

From New York Times bestselling author and world-renowned scientist Jane Goodall, as seen in the National Geographic documentary *Jane*, comes a fascinating examination of the critical role that trees and plants play in our world. *Seeds of Hope* takes us from Goodall's home in England to her home-away-from-home in Africa, deep inside the Gombe forest, where she and the chimpanzees are enchanted by the fig and plum trees they encounter. She introduces us to botanists around the world, as well as places where hope for plants can be found, such as The Millennium Seed Bank. She shows us the secret world of plants with all their mysteries and potential for healing our bodies as well as Planet Earth. Looking at the world as an adventurer, scientist, and devotee of sustainable foods and gardening--and setting forth simple goals we can all take to protect the plants around us--Goodall delivers an enlightening story of the wonders we can find in our own backyards.

Read Book The Plant Hunters Two Hundred Years Of Adventure And Discovery Around The World

Pairs two hundred illustrations with fascinating stories of botanical exploration and trade through the ages and blossoms with legend and lore as it culls the most engrossing mysteries and adventures of plant exploration, science, and discovery.

The Plant Hunters

Or, Adventures Among the Himalaya Mountains

The Adventures of the World's Greatest Botanical Explorers

The Book of Fungi

Green Gold

The Plant Hunter

Old Herbaceous sat, propped amongst his cushions, by the cottage window, surveying the Manor gardens he'd so lovingly tended for so many years. Gardens! He let his thoughts wander through the scented past. He had started as a nobody, an abandoned baby found on the doorstep who, as a boy with a gammy leg and a passion for flowers, never seemed to fit in. But with tender mentoring and the luck of a prize at the flower show, young Herbert had become a somebody. Old Herbaceous traces his journey from young help to head gardener and although things were different than in his day, the world had started with a garden and things that old don't disappear so easily.

The sequel to the #1 bestselling thriller **THE HUNTERS!!! THE TREASURE:** For nearly two thousand years, the legendary tomb of Alexander the Great—and the extraordinary riches concealed within—has remained undiscovered, but recent events may hold the key to locating the fabled vault. Only one team has what it takes to solve the mystery that has plagued historians for centuries. **THE MISSION:** The Hunters—an elite group assembled by an enigmatic billionaire to locate the world's greatest treasures—are tasked with finding the tomb. Following clues to Alexandria, they encounter hostile forces that will do anything to stop them. Before long, the treasure hunt becomes a deadly rescue mission that will take the lives of hundreds and leave a city in ruins. **THE PRIZE:** As the danger continues to mount, will they rise to the challenge? Or will the team be killed before they find the ultimate prize?

An insider's guide to the world's greatest 'secret' gardens, green spaces, and pocket parks tucked away in cities around the globe. Cities everywhere are graced with charming but little-known, off-the-beaten-track gardens and green spaces, offering urbanites in the know a chance to immerse themselves in nature. These often small, well-kept secrets are not as grand as those on the tourist trail but are equally delightful and rewarding to visit, if you know where to find them.

Green Escapes is the revelatory insider's guide to these secret gems. Each of them open to the public, the gardens range from pocket parks, courtyards, and rooftop terraces, to community gardens and more.

"This book was conceived, designed, and produced by Ivy Press."

A Novel

True Stories of Their Daring Adventures to the Far Corners of the

Read Book The Plant Hunters Two Hundred Years Of Adventure And Discovery Around The World

Earth

Two Hundred Years of Adventure and Discovery Around the World

Flora Mirabilis

Being an Examination of Collecting with an Account of the Careers & the Methods of a Number of Those who Have Searched the World for Wild Plants

An Empire of Plants