

A Sampling of the Praise for *Garden Voices:* *Stories of Women and Their Gardens* by Carolyn Freas Rapp

WHAT REVIEWERS ARE SAYING:

“During the dog days of summer, the heat can drive even the most devoted gardener indoors. Fortunately, there’s plenty of vicarious gardening to do by reading about it...Most of us have a story about how we got into gardening or what our gardens mean to us. If you’re curious about other people’s experiences, *Garden Voices: Stories of Women & Their Gardens* by Carolyn Freas Rapp shares the stories of 12 women who find joy, peace, purpose, healing, and many other intangible benefits in their gardens. Along with cultivating the soil, through their gardens, these women cultivate everything from lifelong friendships to a better understanding of themselves. Together, their stories are a testament to the power of gardens to enrich our lives in myriad ways.” ~ *The American Gardener* magazine

“*Garden Voices* presents a dozen tales about heartache and triumph set within plots of lovingly cultivated land. While many outcomes of gardening are visible and tangible, these pages reveal the rewards of delving in the soil: daily wonders, gradual discoveries, and life-changing epiphanies.”

~ Virginia Small, Senior Editor, *Fine Gardening* magazine

“The thing about gardening is that it’s not just fun to do. It’s equally rewarding to read about—especially when the women doing the talking have such compelling stories to tell.” ~ Barbara Matusow, *Washingtonian* magazine

“A charming and life-affirming read.” ~ Pat Johnson, *The SandPaper*, Surf City, NJ

“The twelve inspiring stories from women who have built their lives around their gardens...not only provide tips and tricks for gardening but also dig down to a deeper more soulful layer — a layer beyond what is visible in the dirt. As spiritually fulfilling as a beautiful bouquet or a colorful harvest of vegetables, these stories will resonate in the minds and hearts of all gardeners.” ~ Jim Barnes, Editor, *Independent Publisher Online*

“Most women find gardening ineffable. Carolyn brings words to our love of dirt. Bravo.”

~ Donna Schaper, United Church of Christ minister and author of *The Art of Spiritual Rock Gardening*

“Spirits bloom in *Garden Voices*. You don’t have to garden to enjoy the harvest of Carolyn Freas Rapp’s book....A reader can breeze through the text in a single sitting or return day after day to savor yet another story. Either way, the sacred act of creating and nurturing remains long after the book ends.”

~ Kimberly Nicoletti, *Summit Daily News*, Frisco, CO

“Oh, if only our gardens could talk! What stories they could tell!...Rapp shares the stories of 12 women who explain how gardening helps heal, inspire and nourish their lives.” ~ Kathryn McKay, *Washington Woman*, DC

“Maybe someone who reads *Garden Voices* and doesn’t garden will be inspired to start. Maybe someone who already gardens will think more about what her garden means to her.” ~ Brittany Boyd, *Loudon (VA) Friday Times*

“...A series of vignettes done in an oral history style similar to Studs Terkel’s...the seamless narratives capture each subject’s personality and views. Rapp introduces each woman briefly, tells how they met, then lets the women state in their own words how gardening enhances their lives. The stories are life-affirming, funny and edifying.” ~ Brian Trompeter, *Sun Gazette Newspapers*, Alexandria, VA

“*Garden Voices* gives gardeners a chance to explore their emotional connection to gardens and gardening. ...Rapp’s book allows the reader to explore a very private aspect of gardening through the eyes of a dozen gardeners of all types and aptitudes. *Garden Voices* is like a trowel for gardeners hoping to make the most of their efforts.”

~ Meredith Billman Mani, *McLean Connection*, McLean, VA

—over—

KSB
Promotions
Visibility Specialists

55 Honey Creek NE, Ada, MI 49301-9768

(616) 676-0758 • Fax (616) 676-0759 • e-mail pr@ksbpromotions.com

"*Garden Voices* is a pretty little book that digs up the personal narratives that lie beneath the flowers of a dozen women's lives." ~ Alison apRoberts, *The Sacramento (CA) Bee*

"*Garden Voices* is especially commended to the attention of gardening enthusiasts as well as Women's Studies reference collections and supplemental reading lists." ~ James A. Cox, Editor-in-Chief, *The Midwest Book Review*

"In trying to discover why people garden, author Carolyn Rapp interviewed more than two dozen people for her book *Garden Voices: Stories of Women and Their Gardens*. She learned, in part, that the reasons matched the seasons of people's lives." ~ Carla Wheeler, *The Press-Enterprise*, Riverside, CA

WHAT READERS ARE SAYING:

"I read *Garden Voices* all at once, without stopping, a luxury I've not enjoyed since grad school days, and savored it cover to cover." ~ Deb Golanty, Senior Librarian, Helen Fowler Library, Denver Botanic Gardens

"People who are passionate about gardening will love this book because they will recognize the deepest levels of themselves in the stories of these women and their relationship to their gardens." ~ Monica Lear, Ph.D., Extension Agent, Arlington, VA

"I'm vindicated! Thanks to *Garden Voices*, there's a story to my passion to dig in the dirt. I found myself in the gardens of the women in the book—and thoroughly enjoyed their company. What a great gift for myself, for friends." ~ Mary Hanewall, Denver

"My book group chose this book and it led to a rich discussion of what gardens mean in each of our lives. It is extremely well-written and each reader related to a different story. Our group usually reads fiction, and this book offered the opportunity for a refreshing change." ~ Elizabeth M. Baltich, Ely, MN

"There is a story for everyone to relate to in *Garden Voices*, one that will evoke wonderful memories of happy times spent in an activity that provided instant enjoyment." ~ Harriet P. Masters, Director, Women's Resource Center, East TN State University

"*Garden Voices* is a little jewel. I can't wait to share it with my gardening friends." ~ Gloria Hall, Annandale, VA

"I have given this book to five ladies in my life and they all love it. The author has found a theme/truth that resonates and she exposes that truth artfully and pleasingly." ~ William Diefenderfer III, Great Falls, VA

"The spiritual perspective of *Garden Voices* is a wonderful addition to the knowledge we Master Gardeners seek. I highly recommend the book." ~ Barbara Valenti, President, Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia

"Your book is so touching because all of us have gone through some of the same things the women in your stories have experienced. It certainly stirred our Spirit!" ~ Jackie Riddle, Jonesborough (TN) Presbyterian Church Shalom Circle

"I loved *Garden Voices* because it demonstrates that a garden doesn't have to look a certain way to be beautiful. Each of the twelve gardens in the book is different, each beautiful in its own way. Reading these stories has given me permission to have the garden I want." ~ Susan Hepler, Arlington, VA

"Thank you for helping to make our Earth Day 2005 celebration at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens National Park a great success. All who heard you speak about *Garden Voices: Stories of Women and Their Gardens* gave you uniformly high praise. Your writing and the way you conveyed your stories moved folks deeply."

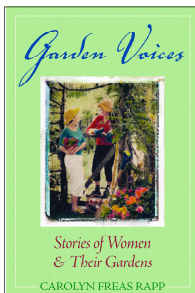
~ Alan Spears, Associate Director-Diversity, National Parks Conservation Association, Washington, DC

"*Garden Voices* is wonderful! So lovely and peaceful to read. The stories were all so different and yet connected. It makes me want to start a garden." ~ Diane Rooks, author of *Spinning Gold out of Straw: How Stories Heal*, St. Augustine, FL

"You cannot imagine how soothing and comforting and reaffirming these stories are for me. I'm reading one each night — as my dessert — to get me through the winter blahs." ~ Trish Niece, Wallingford, CT

"Everyone has soul, whether they work in the business world or in the garden, and *Garden Voices* touched mine by translating life experience through stories set in the garden." ~ S. Wilkinson, Regional Sales Manager, First Horizon Bank, Arlington, VA

"I am eighty years old and *Garden Voices* is one of the few books that I didn't want to end." ~ Camille Brune, Quad Cities, IL



Garden Voices: Stories of Women and Their Gardens (\$14.95 pb; ISBN: 0-9758891-3-3) is available in bookstores nationwide and through online booksellers. For signed and personalized copies of the book, order online at www.gardenvoices.com or call Water Dance Press at 703-241-1610. For book presentations, contact Carolyn Rapp at 703-241-1610.

To request a review copy, arrange an interview with Carolyn Rapp, or for any additional information, please contact Kate Bandos at KSB Promotions • **800-304-3269** or 616-676-0758 • fax 616-676-0759 • e-mail: kate@ksbpromotions.com