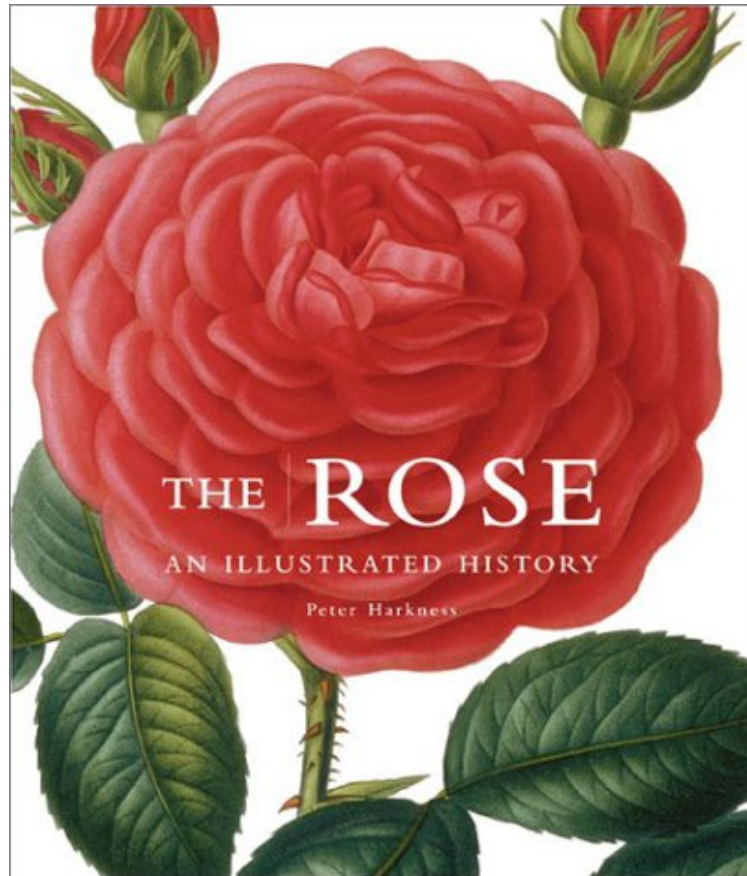


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The Rose: An Illustrated History

Peter Harkness

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Peter Harkness : The Rose: An Illustrated History before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Rose: An Illustrated History:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful Botanical ArtBy Deanna WhitneyIf you like art and roses, this book is for you. I am an amateur artist and a rose grower, so it is right down my alley. The large format allows for very visible details in the luscious rose illustrations, which are on almost every page. I would consider this more an art book than a history book, but there are many interesting historical anecdotes which tell how a particular rose came to be developed and/or bred. My only (small) complaint is that the details of the artwork, such as the artist's name, the source of the art and the date it was made, are not on the page where it appears. You must consult the appendix list of illustrations to obtain this information. But this certainly doesn't prevent me from giving this beautiful book five stars! Love it!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Its Art.By Bruce T, KleinIt has fantastic illustrations and shows off the beauty of nature. Not a book to read. A terrific book to admire.0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful book but disappointingBy SageBuyerI had been looking for years for a large beautifully illustrated book that would cover the history of the rose in art and culture throughout the world. I thought this book was it, and I was so excited, especially after glimpsing the first chapter on line. When I received the book, I

was horribly disappointed - only the first chapter covers the rose in art and culture - the rest of this huge heavy tome is illustrated with hundreds of botanical rose illustrations taken from the Horticultural Society's collection. This book is good for the serious rose grower who wants to know detailed information on each type of rose, their latin names, and what parent roses were used to create hybrids. With that said, it is a beautiful book, but not what I was looking for - I gave it away to someone. So this still leaves a niche wide open for a beautiful history of roses that would appeal to a wide audience - it's hard to believe that this has not been done yet.

A spectacularly illustrated reference. Roses are valued for many reasons including beauty, symbolism, fragrance, and history. The Rose tells the fascinating story of this treasured flower accompanied by lively text and sumptuous full color illustrations. The book is divided into three sections: Roses of Nature, Roses of History and Roses by Design. Each section traces the links that tie the wild roses of nature to the earliest roses of civilization. It also explodes a few myths along the way and tells how the tireless efforts of horticulturists from many nations have brought into being the full-petalled beauties of today. The captivating archival illustrations are from the Royal Horticultural Society's collection, home to one of the world's finest archives of horticultural art. This spectacular collection of roses of every description is certain to capture the hearts of gardeners and art lovers alike.

From Booklist A rosarian of international renown, Harkness brings an ardent proclivity for the queen of flowers to a fascinating effort bolstered by the lyrical beauty of rare artworks. References to roses appear in Persian poetry, Shakespearean dramas, and Greek history, not to mention a storehouse of artistic endeavors, and Harkness' comprehensive and enlightening overview illuminates diverse species and wild roses throughout history and the ensuing cultivation of the rose in modern times. Rose fanciers, growers, and flower lovers will be well informed by the text, but they will revel in the profusion of heavenly images. Alice Joyce Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved Exquisite art volume... a wonderful blend of history, art and science with fascinating facts and full-color reproductions of botanical illustrations. (Joanne S. Carpender National Gardeners Magazine) A stunning volume... contains intriguing new and little-known information on roses, and is illustrated by the most exquisite full-color reproductions. (Ken Smith London Free Press 2003-12-20) Harkness has combined his knowledge of history with his passion for the genus to explain how just a few species of ancient wild roses have evolved into the 20,000 hybrids... comprehensive historical reference. (Linda Stilkowski Winnipeg Free Press 2003-12-07) A joyful celebration... lushly produced... exquisitely detailed renderings of mesmerizing botanical illustrations... Rose fanciers, growers, and flower lovers will be well informed by the text, but they will revel in the profusion of heavenly images. (Alice Joyce Booklist / RBB 2003-10-15) The bulk of the pages are devoted to oversized illustrations of roses in their breath-taking beauty by renowned artists... Highly recommended. (Marilyn K. Alaimo Current Books on Gardening and Botany [Chicago Bot]) For the rose lover and the artist. (Kathy Huber Houston Chronicle 2003-12-20) Peter Harkness brings to life his own love of roses and his knowledge of their history in this unusual book. (January Adams American Reference Books Annual, Volume 36) A love poem of a book rich in rose lore... larger-than-life paintings are so stunningly reproduced. (Valerie Easton Seattle Times 2003-12-14) Substantial in both weight and factual information... destined for a lengthy stay on the coffee table. (Dan Vierria Sacramento Bee 2003-12-13) The real stars of this gorgeous collection are the flowers themselves. (Globe and Mail 2003-11-22) The timeless allure of the flower of flowers is captured. (Elle Decor) Learn how this traditional beauty attains its dramatic power while you're captivated by the beautiful floral prints gracing the book's pages. (Complete Woman) A first-class introduction to great roses, old and modern, with dozens of exquisite flower portraits. (Steve Whysall Vancouver Sun 2003-11-21) Illustrations range from botanical-quality prints to more impressionistic portraits of roses... a book for rose lovers. (Robert Howard Hamilton Spectator 2003-12-01) A visual history of our ever-evolving taste in roses... What is perhaps most admirable... is Harkness's lightness of touch in tackling the story of the rose. (Emily Green Los Angeles Times 2003-11-13) This big, beautiful book is filled with gorgeous illustrations... there's nothing like reading evocative plant descriptions for whetting the appetite for starting a collection. (Christina Selby Canadian Gardening) Harkness's narrative makes highly interesting reading, but the jewels of this book are the beautiful illustrations. (Philip Oliver Library Journal 2003-10-01) 300 color illustrations beautifully reproduced in large scale... Harkness is an engaging writer who delivers serious science between slices of historical trivia. (Publishers Weekly 2003-08-18) For rose lovers... this exquisite book... gorgeous oversized tome is lushly illustrated. (Metropolitan Home 2003-12-15) Gorgeous from start to finish -- from cover design to the hundreds of exquisite etchings, water color, and oil paint illustrations within. (Olga Stein Books in Canada) The richness of the illustrations and the well-developed, serious, but not sober historical reporting makes the work worthwhile for serious students of the rose. (John P. Abbott E-Streams) Stunning... inviting conversational style. Color illustrations from the archives of the Royal Horticultural Society are featured on every two-page spread. (Science News 2003-10-25) What a perfect gift for someone who loves roses, or for yourself to enjoy. (Mary Cameron Frey Chicago Sun-Times 2003-11-02) An intriguing blend of historical fact with mythological tales, literary references and scientific data surrounding this most cherished of blooms. (Sherry Boas Orlando Sentinel 2003-12-13) A delightful 5,000-year journey through rose history... beautifully reproduced

illustrations. (Becky Homan St Louis Post-Dispatch 2003-12-20)A stunning book... a true art book... for a rose lover, it is a book to read and study and enjoy. (Ella Tyler American Rose)A fascinating blend of history, art and science. This stunning volume is laced with intriguing facts, united with dozens of exquisite full-color reproductions. (John Bagnasco Garden Compass 2004-03-15)Elegantly illustrated -- pages of mouthwatering color -- and has a careful and scholarly text. (Peneolpe Lively New York Times 2003-12-06)Lush, lavish and almost lascivious in their treatment of botany. (Catherine Ford Calgary Herald 2003-11-30)Voluptuous volume. (Gardening Life)One of the most beautiful books of the past fifty years... a large elegantly printed volume... a rich text full of history, anecdotes and facts. (Bill Grant Pacific Horticulture)For the rose grower and indeed for the rose lover, this book gives much to study and appreciate. Though the book might be appreciated just for its beauty, it is also a rich resource for the serious reader. (D.H. Pfister Choice)About the Author Peter Harkness is the author of Modern Garden Roses, The Photographic Encyclopaedia of Roses and Roses to Enjoy.