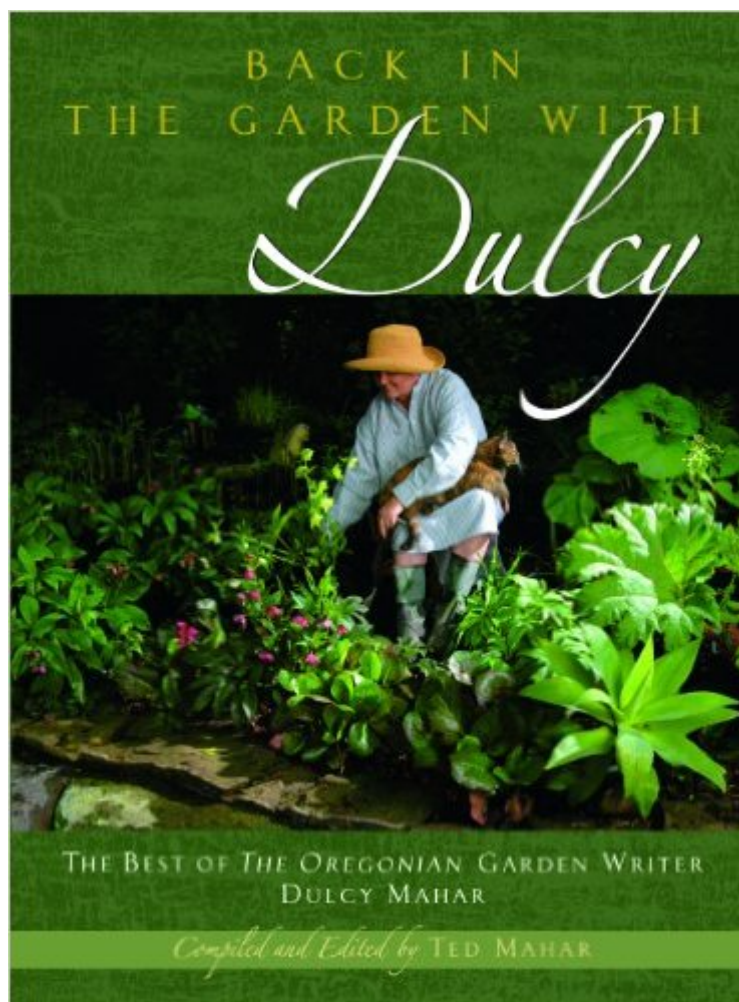


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# Back In The Garden With Dulcy



## Synopsis

How Did Dulcy Mahar ....become a rock star of the Northwest gardening community? By writing a column for The Oregonian that didn't preach slavish imitation to your next-door neighbor's immaculately mowed lawn and trimmed hedges, and charm as she shared her weekly triumphs and humiliating mistakes, Dulcy always reassured her readers that it was okay. As a gardener, I learn by trial and error, and error, and error, she blithely confessed. Dulcy's column ran for more than twenty-two years, showing her readers there was adventure and beauty in their own backyards. Her columns were packed with solidly researched direction and knowledge sprinkled with wit. Her fan base ranged from beginners to master gardeners. When Dulcy died of ovarian cancer in July 2011, devoted readers begged for her columns to be reprinted. Through Dulcy's editor, they urged her husband, Ted, to write a book. In *BACK IN THE GARDEN WITH DULCY*, Ted Mahar (who spent four decades as The Oregonian chief film critic) reflects on their nearly fifty-year marriage, surrounded by beloved cats and dogs, and a garden that served as a laboratory for her columns. He has also selected 140 of Dulcy's most popular and requested columns for this special volume, which is complemented by more than 140 color photographs. Remarkably, Dulcy had virtually no horticultural training. With the help of her garden partner (a regular column character she called Doug the Wonder Boy), she created walking paths, sitting areas, vegetable and rose beds, and more, always sharing her discoveries with her readers who thought of her as the best friend I never met. Through her victories and failures, Dulcy bonded with them all. *BACK IN THE GARDEN WITH DULCY* is a beautiful volume that reminds us of the pleasures we derive from tending our gardens.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Whether you're an avid gardener or a wishful one, Dulcy's columns in The Oregonian were always something I looked forward to each week. She makes me laugh with each one and this book and her writing is the best. I sat down to read a few columns when I got it and I kept going until I realized I was half way through the book with the broadest smile. She laughs at herself and all that life presents. All my friends- no surprises- you're getting this for Christmas.

I came to Dulcy's wisdom and humor late. She was in remission and as soon as I started reading her column I hoped she'd live forever. I laughed so hard and learned so much until I had to cry because she was gone. She was an animal lover, a people lover and a garden lover. I've never read a garden expert/appreciator I liked--no, loved as much as Dulcy. Sometimes she was quite serious, sometimes goofy, but always well worth the time I spent reading and rereading her Saturday column. I had so much garden guilt and she got me over that and I will be forever grateful to her. She solved some mysteries for me, too,,mysteries no one else had even mentioned, let alone solved. She was an expert, but she seemed like so many of the rest of us, a struggling amateur who I never gave up on that marvelous patch of green.I was disappointed with the pictures, but it's the prose that counts.If you love gardens and garden people, you'll love this book.

What a beautiful book this is. This is a Xmas gift for my mother but I couldn't help a peek inside. This just brings back so many memories of how much we bonded with Dulceys escapades. Thank you for sharing her with us.

This book is for any gardener at any level. It is Dulcey's wonderful legacy, full of her common sense approach to gardening and her delightful sense of humor. I followed her column in the Oregonian for many years hoping she would one day write her own book. Although that was not to be, her widowed husband has created this tribute to a most remarkable lady. She is kind of the Erma Bombeck of gardening.

lovely book about a lovely lady, who's missed not only by her husband, Ted, but by her legion of fans

Dulcy Mahar was my go to gal for all things gardening since her column first came out in The Oregonian newspaper. She made gardening fun and interesting. She made mistakes so we didn't

have to--and also told us it was OK if we did goof up. This book has more than lived up to my expectations. I love it and would highly recommend it to all gardeners or would-be gardeners.

Loved the book! I miss the articles from the newspaper so having this compilation was in some ways like having a visit with an old friend. This book is now being passed along so others may read it. My sister is the master gardener type, I am the love to plant but have a habit of forgetting to water, and the person who is reading it now kills anything she attempts to think about growing - we have all enjoyed the book.

I have had the pleasure as a resident of Portland, OR and avid gardener to have met Dulcy and tour her fabulous garden over the last 20 years. The garden community was devastated at her passing but this book keeps her humorous voice and unique garden perspective alive. I love, love, love this book and know that I will continue to pick it up when needing a good laugh and/or validation of my own personal garden style. Many thanks to her husband, Ted for sharing this precious gift of Dulcy's witty and ever helpful garden columns.

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