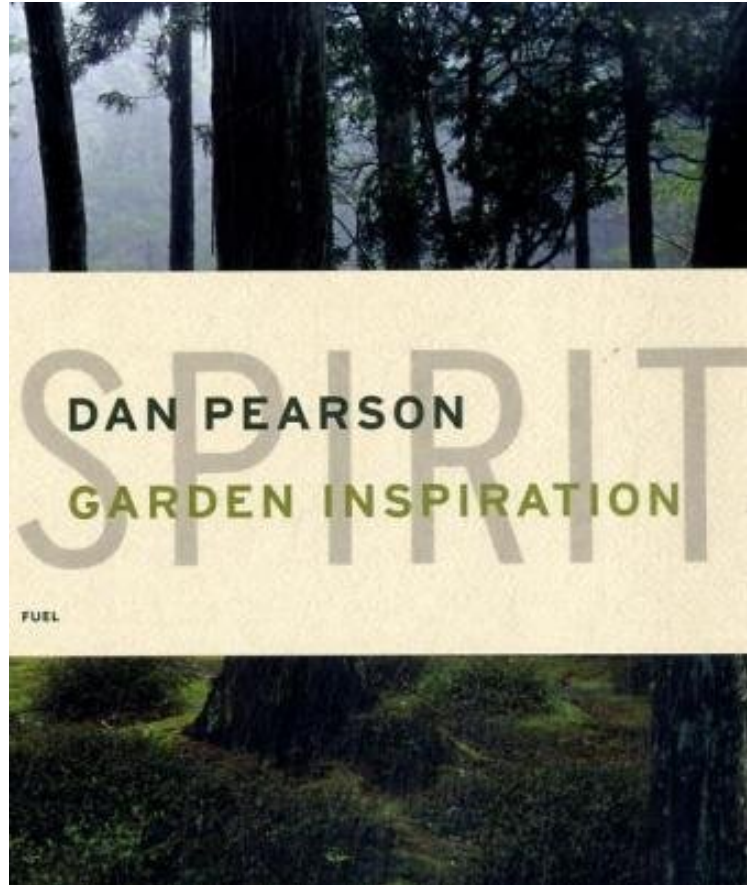


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Dan Pearson

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Dan Pearson : Spirit: Garden Inspiration: By Dan Pearson before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Spirit: Garden Inspiration: By Dan Pearson:

7 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Great Concept Poorly Executed By Pat RI ordered this because of the LA Times profile on Dan Pearson and because I love the idea behind the book. The book, however, is quite disappointing due to the poor quality of the photographs. Books such as this are as much about inspiration as information and I'm sorry to say that inspiration is lacking due to the poor production quality of the book. Had I seen it in a bookstore first, I never would have purchased - certainly not for the \$45 cover price. At the price, it's merely ok. 10 of 12 people found the following review helpful. Dan Pearson, "Spirit" By Susan A. Pliner I found this book interesting, especially the sections on shacks in the forest. I was confounded, however, by the murky quality of the photos. In many, I couldn't tell exactly what I was looking at, very little contrast and the text, although interesting does not go far enough to identify many of the plants in the photos. Parts of the book, (Trevi Fountains, for example) seemed like filler.

Taking inspiration from art, sculpture, Chicago prairies and folk architecture such as tree houses, Dan Pearson--acclaimed garden designer and "green-fingered guru" at the U.K. newspaper The Observer--lays out his design

philosophy and working process, giving readers direct insight into his collaborative approach of working with nature, instead of imposing preconceptions upon it. Journeying from New Zealand to Japan via Thames-side barge gardens, Pearson focuses on the spirit of place as it emerges through geography, history, architecture and native flora, extrapolating this sense of place into a new gardening philosophy. Very far from conventional gardening books, *Spirit* radically expands the genre, inviting us to understand the act of gardening in the light of contemporary needs and with a keen environmental awareness; Pearson particularly stresses the importance of skills such as being able to "read" a variety of landscapes (both wild and cultivated), and of staying open to what those landscapes suggest in terms of cultivation. This long-awaited publication is Pearson's first in eight years, and uses 400 of his own much-admired photographs as reference points. Dan Pearson began his career as a professional designer in 1987. He is co-author of *The Essential Garden Book* (with Sir Terence Conran) and author of *The Garden: A Year at Home Farm*. He has presented and appeared in several TV series and has designed five award-winning Chelsea Flower Show gardens.