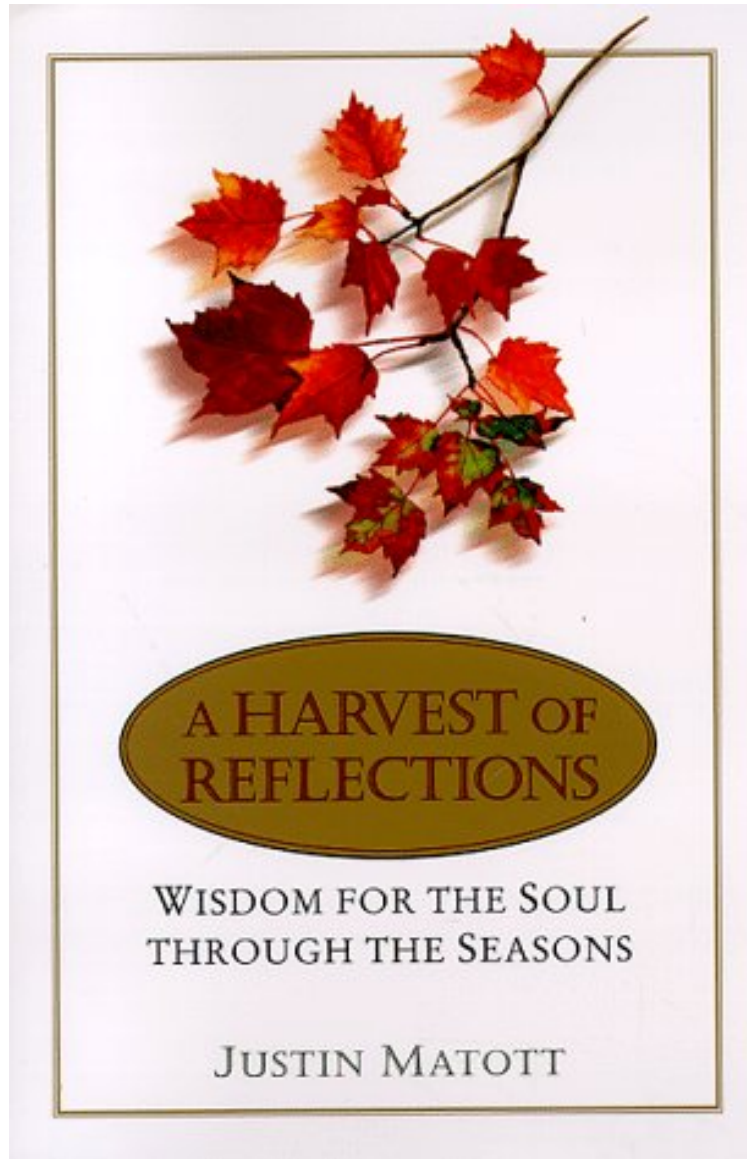


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A Harvest of Reflections: Wisdom for the Soul Through the Seasons

Justin Matott

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Justin Matott : A Harvest of Reflections: Wisdom for the Soul Through the Seasons before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Harvest of Reflections: Wisdom for the Soul Through the Seasons:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Loving sequel to My Garden Visits By Frances Duggan A Harvest of Reflections continues the "journey" with themes tied to nature, love and life beyond death. We learn more about the author's relationship with his mother and more about how love never dies. This book offered me more comfort as I

reflected on the death of my own mother. My eyes read the words with joy and my heart was touched. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Makes you want to be a better person. Truly inspiring! By A Customer Justin's connection with human nature, mother nature and the earth takes you on an incredible journey. He shows us that in spite of our shortcomings, we can reinvent ourselves. He helps us see the true gifts in life; family, friends and the earth. As a gardener, you will feel compelled to plant each one of the plants he mentions. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A wonderful follow up to My Garden Visits By A Customer This book warmed my heart and would be the perfect gift book for just about everyone on my list, in that it covers so much different territory. Rarely do I like the follow up effort by an author more than the first. I loved My Garden Visits by Matott, but I think I loved this even more!

To reap the fruits of one's labor is a privilege that every gardener cherishes and others only dream of. Now, in this exquisitely rendered book, Justin Matott shares with us the bountiful pleasures that come at the end of the gardening season. For after the harvest, there may be dormancy for a time, but there is still beautiful life--and from it, nature's wisdom becomes our own. The ripening pumpkin reminds us to let go of summer--and to embrace the richness of autumn. In the barren winter landscape, the constant beauty of the red twig dogwood provides a greeting to visitors all year long. And the fragile white flourish of angel's trumpet salutes the soaring of the spirit. From autumn to winter to spring, Justin embraces the changing of the seasons as he muses on childhood joys and adult regrets, and gives thanks for the abundance of his life, for friends and family, especially the gently lingering presence of his deceased mother. In this richly illustrated memoir and gardener's notebook, Justin helps us see that through the changing seasons, in nature's garden, it is in the roots that life is stored--ready to replenish the earth and the spirits of all those who walk upon it.

From Publishers Weekly Beginning at the end of one growing season and ending at the beginning of another, Coloradan Matott (My Garden Visits) ruminates in this collection of "vignettes" on topics within and without the garden, deftly weaving the two together, each a metaphor for the other, offering lessons in both directions. From a youthful kiss in a hay loft, through his mother's death, his children's wonder and his mother-in-law's green thumb, Matott crystallizes his life's moments and places them, somehow, in the context of the garden. With poems from a small collection by his late uncle, brief examinations (and lovely illustrations by Deborah Chabrian) of such specimens as the red-twigged dogwood, angel's trumpet, rose, dandelion and "yesterday, today, and tomorrow," Matott moves through the gardener's off-season of pumpkins and apples, snowflakes and Christmas trees, baby birds and hyacinths. Lives and relationships move through seasons of their own, and the author's own thoughts mature and ripen, from a gardening father's embarrassment at having to buy pumpkins to make jack-o'-lanterns for his young sons, to a son heeding his deceased mother's message to help his elderly father move through and beyond grief. Matott delivers a collection of warm thoughts for contemplation in the long, cold nights between gardening seasons. Agent, Jacques de Spoelberch. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. From the Inside Flap To reap the fruits of one's labor is a privilege that every gardener cherishes and others only dream of. Now, in this exquisitely rendered book, Justin Matott shares with us the bountiful pleasures that come at the end of the gardening season. For after the harvest, there may be dormancy for a time, but there is still beautiful life--and from it, nature's wisdom becomes our own. The ripening pumpkin reminds us to let go of summer--and to embrace the richness of autumn. In the barren winter landscape, the constant beauty of the red twig dogwood provides a greeting to visitors all year long. And the fragile white flourish of angel's trumpet salutes the soaring of the spirit. From autumn to winter to spring, Justin embraces the changing of the seasons as he muses on childhood joys and adult regrets, and gives thanks for the abundance of his life, for friends and family, especially the gently lingering presence of his deceased mother. In this richly illustrated memoir and gardener's notebook, Justin helps us see that through the changing seasons, in nature's garden, it is in the roots that life is stored--ready to replenish the earth and the spirits of all those who walk upon it.