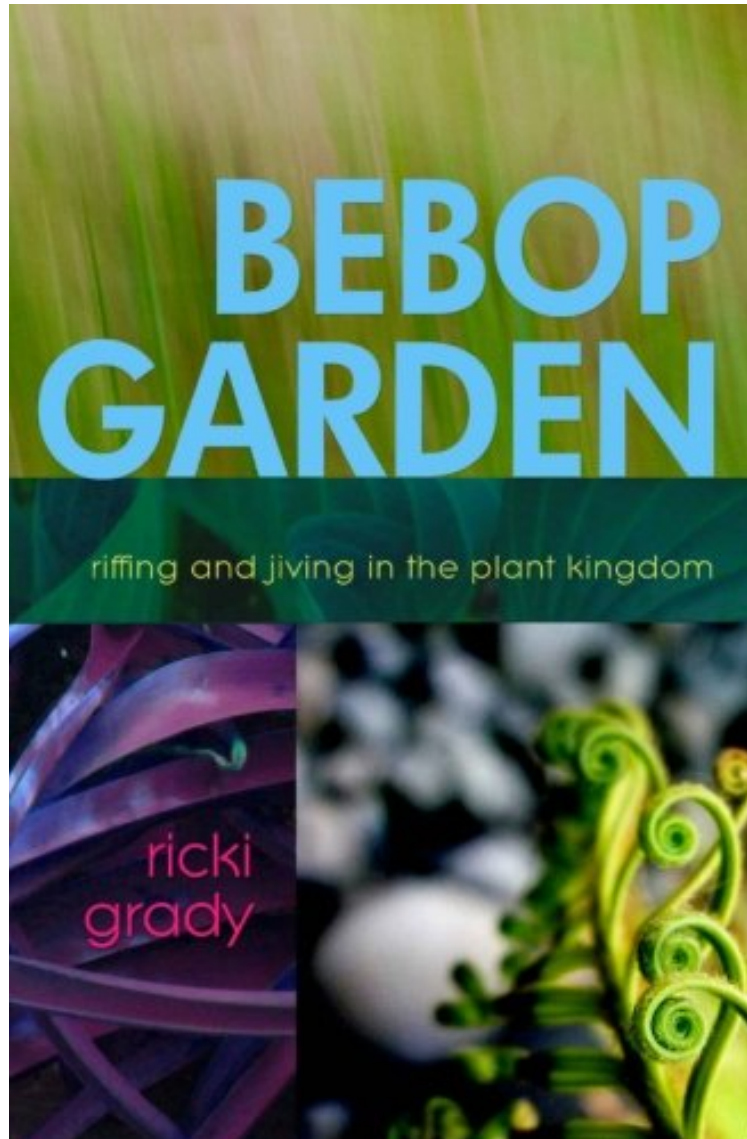


(Ebook free) BeBop Garden: Riffing and jiving in the plant kingdom

## BeBop Garden: Riffing and jiving in the plant kingdom

*Ricki Grady*

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**Ricki Grady : BeBop Garden: Riffing and jiving in the plant kingdom** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised BeBop Garden: Riffing and jiving in the plant kingdom:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Margaret SodenThis is a great book for a gardening friend.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A truly feelgood garden bookBy Anna K.If you have ever felt intimidated by the idea of gardening, or felt that it is beyond your nurturing skills or financial situation - this is the book for you! It is true that it is a hobby that can indeed gouge holes in any bank account, but it is also true that a lot

can be accomplished with very little. Ricki Grady will show you how. As she weaves the story of her own journey from novice to virtuoso in this most earthy and generous of guilds, you will be swept along by the personal accounts and anecdotes she shares. They are both educational and inspiring, and touch on all those other life-embracing, garden-related things that makes life enjoyable - art, creation, beauty, nature, sharing, old friends, new friends, food, pets, community, and love. Bebop Garden's take on it all is refreshingly laissez-faire, as it debunks the idea so many other gardening handbooks preach - that there are certain rules to follow to get it "right". Sure, it might be useful to be aware of a few of those rules, so you can knowingly thumb your nose at them, but most of all - your garden is an expression of you yourself. The only true "wrong" is planting the wrong plant in the wrong place. This is of course a mistake that most gardeners have made many, many times, and most of us continue to make. After all, if you don't try new things and push limits, you'll never learn anything new! Along your journey, you will probably be both delighted and surprised at what you discover! Nurturing and growing a garden easily translates into personal growth and a deepening connection with the surrounding world. It is this growing connection that makes the act of gardening such a powerful addiction to those of us already hooked. I have never met a more welcoming community than the instant and gleeful camaraderie of other gardeners. If life sometimes seems a disconnected, superficial, drifting and somewhat lonesome existence, learning to garden will gain you a foothold, and - if you let it - rapidly build bridges to like minds. The sense of community and shared passion of gardening itself is as compelling as the ability to actually be able to grow things, and there are plenty of examples of this in this book. True to its title, Bebop Garden is a collection of loosely woven stories - all solidly based in the desire to share the joy. With the exuberance of a flower-hopping butterfly, this book captures your attention and moves you along one tangential shift in inspiration to another. Layered with sage advice and encouragement, it is an easy, entertaining read, as far from snooty pretentiousness as one can get, and with a healthy, good-natured punk rock attitude to the aforementioned "rules". It is the perfect welcome to an aspiring gardener, and also holds great nuggets of wisdom for those of us who have been at it for a while. But most of all, it is a very enjoyable celebration of the many beautiful aspects of this benevolent addiction! If everyone was a gardener, the world would be a much kinder, gentler place! A lovely book indeed!

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

Philosophy and Jazz Meet Dirt  
By Susan Barksdale, the Carlton Oregon Tattler  
Philosophy and jazz meet dirt. In Bebop Garden Ricki Grady takes the reader on a journey through the plant kingdom that is equal parts Friederich Nietzsche and Miles Davis. First time author Grady's discourse on discovering the meaning of life by riffing and jiving in dirt is a delight. Bebop contains helpful hints for starting and maintaining a garden but unlike other books of this genre, Grady's advice is delivered in an "over the garden gate style" without formulas or rules. Her trial and error approach is like life and jazz - improvisation is what it's all about and where true meaning lies. No matter the reader's level of interest or expertise in gardening this playful and informative book will inspire even the most indoorsy among us to step outside and breathe deeply.

The world is full of rules and guidelines for garden design if you care about such things. It never hurts to read up on any subject, just so you will know what rules you are breaking. Breaking rules is, after all, how most art happens. Anarchy in the garden is a harmless form of indulgence. As you go about your liberated way, trusting your instincts, your inner artist will begin to express itself, bringing you untold gratification.

About the Author  
Ricki Grady's first job was wrapping holiday gifts at a department store. Her second job was designing gift wrap for a paper company. She hasn't held a job since, working as a freelance graphic designer while pursuing passion projects that have included fabric art, paper art, ceramics and, most recently, gardening. She lives in her hometown of Portland, Oregon, with *Homo sapien* Richard and *Felis silvestris cati* Manny and Boda, and has recently upgraded to a 2.5 acre spread. This is her first book.