

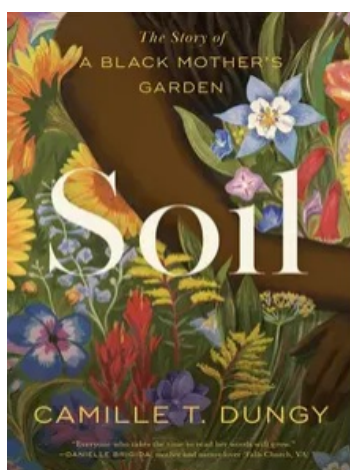


LEAFLET

Elisabeth C. Miller Library

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 10 | OCTOBER 2026

The Miller Library now offers e-books!



Soil

by Camille T Dungy

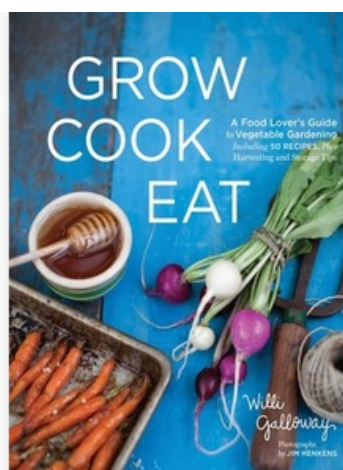
 EBOOK



Floret Farm's Cut Flower ...

by Erin Benzakein

 EBOOK



Grow Cook Eat

by Willi Galloway

 EBOOK

Borrowers can now check out e-books from the Miller Library through the Libby app. If you borrow from The Seattle Public Library or the King County Library System, you're probably already familiar with Libby. You can learn more about the app--and download it--here: overdrive.com/apps/libby.

On the Libby app, all you need to do is:

1. Choose "Add Library." Search for "Seattle Botanic" and it'll bring up "Horticulture Library Consortium." Select "Sign in with my card" and you'll be asked to select a "Branch" — that's where you'll find Seattle Botanic Gardens.
2. You'll be asked to enter a User ID. **This is the same as your username for our online library catalog.** If you've forgotten it (or if your account expired), reach out to nwilliams@seattlebg.org for help.

Those who don't use the Libby app or prefer accessing e-books in their browser can do so at hortlibrary.overdrive.com. Simply click "Sign in," choose "Seattle Botanic Gardens" and enter your User ID as above.

You can use either the Libby app or the website to browse, check out, and read e-books. You will also be able to browse e-books in the Miller Library's catalog soon.

This resource is available because the Miller Library is part of the Horticulture Library Consortium, a group of about a dozen horticultural libraries around the country working together to provide their communities greater access to helpful resources.

Farewell from longtime library manager Brian Thompson



The most richly rewarding experiences in my nearly 30-year career at the Miller Library have been my interactions with library visitors and patrons. Sometimes this allowed me to hold forth about one of my passions, such as irises. At other times, I have learned something new and intriguing from the enthusiasm of others as we explored the library's holdings together.

If you've enjoyed our interactions over the years, please stop by in October or early November to say "hello," and add a note, a story, a photo, or drawing to my memory book. My last day will be November 13, and the library will be closed November 10 and 11, but otherwise I should be around (Monday 12-8, Tuesday-Friday 9-5). I look forward to seeing you again!

As a part of my farewell "tour," I am very excited to be presenting the 2026 Elisabeth C. Miller Memorial Lecture on "Thirty years of stories, insights, and wonders in the Miller Library." This will be a recorded presentation. Watch for a link in the November *Leaflet*.

Stay connected with Seattle Botanic Gardens

The Miller Library is now part of Seattle Botanic Gardens. As our organization grows, our newsletter offerings do too. Visit our Newsletter Connections page to sign up for additional newsletters representing our gardens and programs, including Seattle Japanese Garden, the Arboretum, and more.

Stay connected across our programs

Bolinas Frank, Ann Spiers, Incho Lee: *Art + Haiku + Translation: Flora of Korea & the Northwest*

Everyone at the Miller Library is excited to welcome artist Bolinas Frank, poet Ann Spiers, and translator Incho Lee for our October exhibition.

Frank, Spiers, and Lee share a fascination with the flora of Korea and the Northwest. Their common interests unite in this collaborative exhibit of 21 paintings paired with haiku

and its translation.

Born in Seattle, artist **Bolinas Frank** is now based in Seoul. Korean and Northwestern flora inform his use of color, rhythm, and mark-making, while encouraging his close look at familiar species and his discovery of new meanings. He explores the character of leaves, flowers, stems, and seed forms through expressive lines and layered color. He uses art to deepen attention to plants and to create connections between different landscapes, languages, and cultures.

Ann Spiers is the former Poet Laureate of Vashon Island. In previous collaborations, Bolinas created the cover art for Spiers' poetry book *Wild Cucumber* (Empty Bowl Press, 2025) as well as the cover and weather icons for *Rain Violent* (Empty Bowl Press, 2021). She is a member of Haiku Northwest and Vashon's haiku gathering, Mondays at Three. Her interest in haiku stems from exploring Northwest Issei haiku and history.

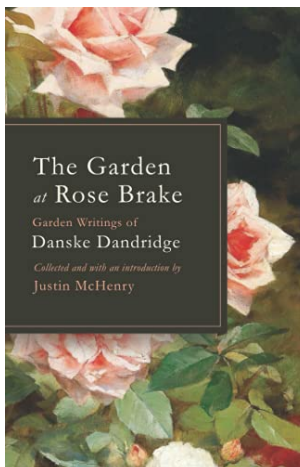


Honeysuckle
Lonicera japonica
인동꽃
Bolinas Frank, artist.

Translator Incho Lee is from Seoul, Korea. Her PhD is from the University of Washington. She taught applied linguistics at Penn State and the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire. Her work focuses on language education, in the context of globalization and the racialized attitudes towards language in both the United States and South Korea. Her research examines how language policies intersect with issues of race and identity, contributing to broader discussions on second-language education.

Art + Haiku + Translation: Flora of Korea and the Northwest will run from October 2-29. There will be a reception and poetry reading hosted by Ann Spiers at the library on October 12 from 4:30-7:30pm.

***The Garden at Rose Brake* by Danske Dandridge Reviewed by Priscilla Grundy**



"Nothing could be more beautiful than the night aspect of the immense clusters of Yuccas, some of them planted forty years ago, which are now blooming in the old garden, holding up tall candelabra to be filled with moonlight, which they catch in every chalice of pearl." Thus Danske Dandridge shows the careful observation and poetic imagery typical of her garden journal articles.

The Garden at Rose Brake consists of multiple brief articles published in garden journals in the U.S. and England between 1887 and 1905. Dandridge's real name was Caroline, but her father nicknamed her Danske because she was born in Denmark when he worked there.

Rose Brake was an estate near Shepherdstown, West Virginia. Dandridge mentions that the grounds were 60 acres when first purchased by her family in the 18th century. But as

she describes several gardens in addition to the “old garden” mentioned above--and tells how she has more than 500 species of trees and shrubs, plus farm fields--you begin to suspect that the total acreage must have been more.

Dandridge expects a certain level of expertise from her readers and reveals her own widespread knowledge. Many plant names are in Latin only, and she gives plant parts their correct botanical names; so one needs to know, for example, what a calyx is. She refers to many contemporary garden books. Literary and classical allusions are scattered throughout.

These articles can be placed in several categories. Many describe what is blooming in one or more of her gardens at a particular time, as in the passage on yuccas above, from an article titled "Late June in the Garden." Some focus on particular plants, such as roses, whose prominence is reflected in the estate title. Others describe one of the gardens, such as the wild garden or the tree grove. A few confess to horticultural failures. Many articles include the effects of weather, and some deal with such perennial problems as insect damage.

Dandridge reports she has only one hired hand plus a part-time assistant to help with her gardens. Clearly she is out in the dirt herself. Accomplishing that management is amazing enough, but even more astonishing is the implied extent of her botanical knowledge. She knows which of her many dozens of species of roses have thrived and which have not, for instance. And she seems to have this type of information for all her plants. Alas, she doesn't reveal how she kept track of all that data.

The Garden at Rose Brake is fun to read. Dandridge makes some quirky choices. For instance, she refers to her husband as “the husband,” and her children as “the oldest child” or “the youngest child.” Mainly, though, it is a wonderfully detailed and charmingly written record of what worked and what didn't in a West Virginia garden at the turn of the 20th century.

Ask a Librarian

The Plant Answer Line provides quick answers to gardening questions. Reach the reference staff at 206-897-5268, by email at library@seattlebg.org or pal@millerlibrary.libanswers.com, or from our website, www.millerlibrary.org.

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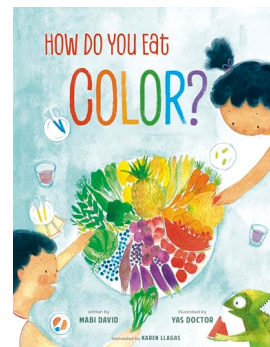
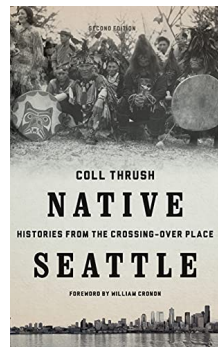
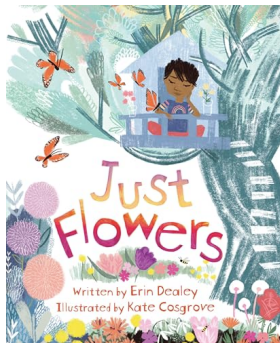
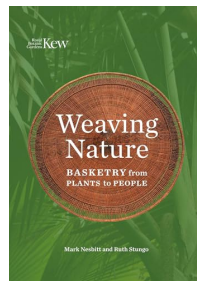
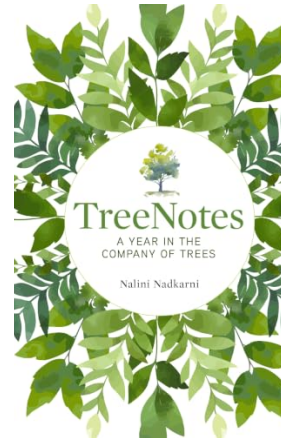
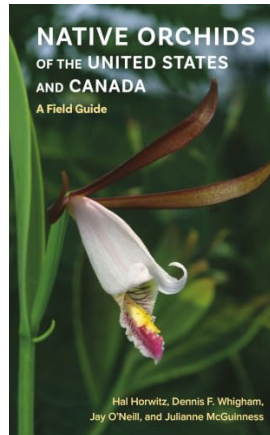
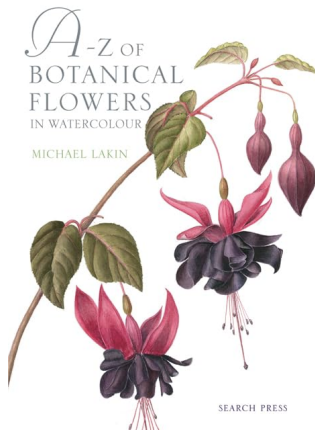
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