



Flower Fairies of the Garden

Cicely Mary Barker

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Twenty-four illustrated poems depict the fairies who live in the garden among the crocuses, snapdragons, and other flowers.

Flower Fairies of the Garden Details

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Author : Cicely Mary Barker

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From Reader Review Flower Fairies of the Garden for online ebook

Robin says

This lovely volume's pages are petite, a suitable format for youngsters to read, and appropriate to the diminutive size of the flower fairies themselves. Originally published in 1944, each page contains a short poem about a particular kind of flower and the fairies that are known to inhabit it. Each poem is illustrated on the facing page with a charming and detailed watercolor of the flower and its fairies. There are girl fairies, boy fairies, and even baby fairies, so this volume could be suitable for young children of both genders. It will be of particular interest to children whose parents garden or enjoy the outdoors, and for children who garden at school. The book mirrors the progression of wild flowers in a typical English garden from early spring (hyacinths and periwinkles) through autumn (marigolds).

Both adults and children who enjoy short illustrated poems about the garden will like this book. "Flower Fairies" makes suitable bedtime reading for fairy fans of all ages.

Emma says

It's funny how little things like this stay with you. I covered my room in Flower Fairy photos when I was younger, and memorised the poems. I thoroughly believed fairies existed, and (though in a different way) I still do. This book (and the others of the Flower Fairy series) gave me a bunch of memories and a new way of looking at things - it really helped with my imagination and seeing the world and nature as much more magical as a child, which I think is really important!

La pointe de la sauce says

The Song of the Forget-Me-Not Fairy

Where do fairy babies lie
Till they're old enough to fly?
Here's a likely place, I think,
'Mid these flowers, blue and pink,
(Pink for girls and blue for boys:
Pretty things for babies' toys!)
Let us peep now, gently. Why,
Fairy baby, here you lie!

Kicking there, with no one by,
Baby dear, how good you lie!
All alone, but O, you're not-
You could never be-forgot!
O how glad I am I've found you,
With Forget-me-nots around you,

Blue, the colour of the sky!
Fairy baby, Hushaby!

Sarah Crawford says

This book was first published in 1944 in England as part of a series of books by Cicely Mary Barker. There are 19 garden fairies in the book, and each illustration of a fairy is done in color. There is also one black-and-white drawing with it's own poem/prose.

The Forget-Me-Not fairy entry has something interesting; the idea of pink for girls and blue for boys goes back at least as far as when this book was written. I've read elsewhere that, at one time, the colors were the exact opposite, but I don't know when they actually changed.

There are also some notes on some of the fairy entries with more information on the flowers on the page.

Sarah says

An old childhood favourite: not especially for the poems but for the beautiful illustrations.

Maureen says

I read this at the weekend and still enjoyed the poetry and the beautiful illustrations as much as I did when I was a child. Must look out for the rest of the Flower Fairy series to relive more of my childhood days.

Leslie says

My boy loved these books. We read them by season and this was the last one for us. So sad to reach the end of the series.

Diana Maria says

Mesmerising!!! Wonderful artwork and such pretty rhymes:)

Sarah says

My favorite of the series.

Nicola Mansfield says

This isn't really a review but rather an homage to a book, a memory, a keepsake. This book was my mother's from when she was a little girl and she kept it in her underwear drawer. My parents' room was the forbidden zone and we only went in when invited, otherwise I would just stand upon the threshold looking in, hoping I'd be invited. So if I was, I remember it smelled like talcum powder, it was usually when my mum was getting ready for going out. I'd get to see the special stuff and this was one of the things. She'd let me look at it, read it and talk about her childhood. When I was older she gave the book to me. I'm not a big fan of poetry but as a kid I did have some poetry books and I "knew what I liked". I talked about another childhood favourite here. I loved this old-fashioned book and gorgeous illustrated plates more than the sweet fairy poems but re-reading through it now, there are stanzas and lines that vividly come back to my memory since I'd said them so many times as a child. This particularly caught my attention as I can recall my childlike self saying it :

"...Yet who
Does not love Periwinkle's blue?"

But I would say it like this:

"Yet whooooo.
Does not love.
Periwinkle's bluuuuue?"

and I never knew what this flower, or many of the British garden flowers mentioned in the poems, looked like in real life but I always connected it with my periwinkle Crayola crayon.

This book is falling apart but it is a keeper for me, and I keep it in my underwear drawer.

Suzanne Kunz Williams says

Once you read a Flower Fairy book I doubt you will ever look at flowers the same again. Each will have a personality! Cecely's books have sense a sense of peace about them.

Mila says

I'm happy to say that I've grown all the flowers in this book (almost all at the same time) and seeing them on these pages in the middle of winter brings back happy memories of summer. I love them all but one of my favourites is the Narcissus who has a cute "ruffle" around her waist. Another favourite is *The Song of the Pink Fairies*. Did you know that:

"Snip, snip, snip, go busy fairy scissors,
Pinking out the edges
of the petals of the Pinks"

Ha ha, get it? Fairies with their pinking shears! And here I always thought they were called pinks because of

their colour!

Your Common House Bat says

As always I loved Barker's poetry. It's so full of life and was the prefect read for spiring time.

Bec says

A really lovely little book. I found a copy quite by chance at an op-shop. It's a beautiful little read.

Leah says

My nan read these poems with me each night that I stayed over, and for that they will always be special to me.

This specific collection was especially meaningful as all the flowers listed in the book were in my garden at home, so i used to daydream that there were fairies in the garden hiding behing petals, pretending they weren't there!

I just wished that Barker would have considered doing a story. The poems were beautiful, but a story conbining the fairies would have been magical!
