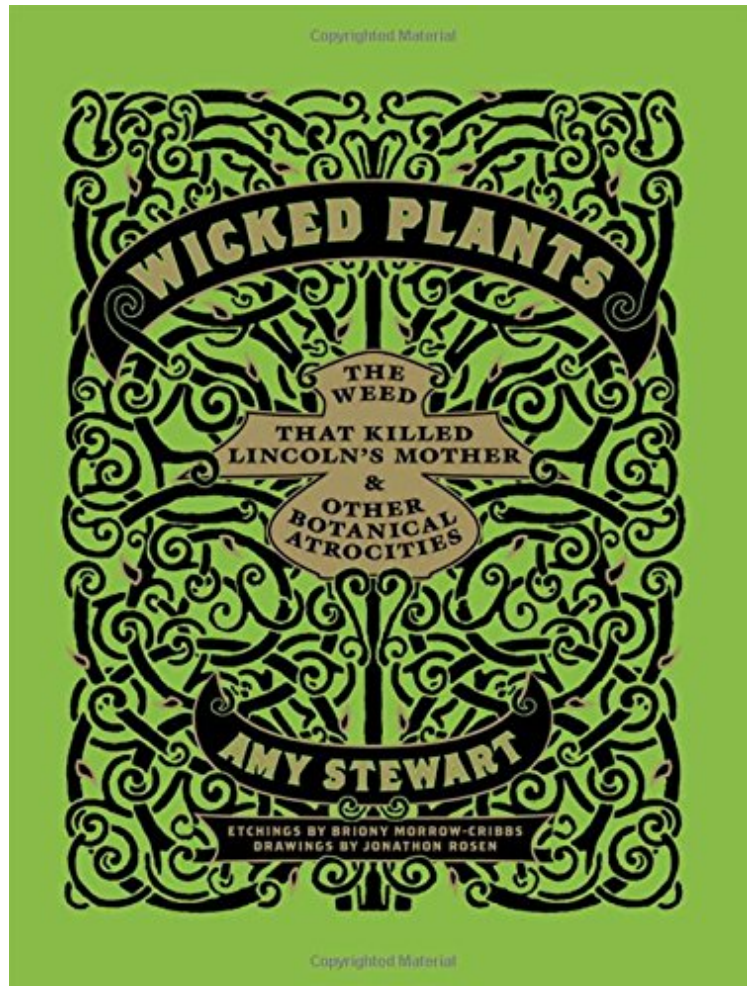



Wicked Plants: The Weed That Killed Lincoln's Mother and Other Botanical Atrocities

Amy Stewart

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#13199 in Books Amy Stewart 2009-05-21 Original language: English PDF # 1 7.31 x .83 x 5.691, 1.00 #File Name: 1565126831256 pages Dangerous plants of the world Botanical drawings etchings Beautiful hardcover edition | File size: 43.Mb

Amy Stewart : Wicked Plants: The Weed That Killed Lincoln's Mother and Other Botanical Atrocities before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Wicked Plants: The Weed That Killed Lincoln's Mother and Other Botanical Atrocities:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. "It's NATURAL!" By Cissa I will never be persuaded to ingest something because "it's natural" again. "Natural" can be very scary! There are many kinds of vegetative wickedness described in this book: deadly and poisonous; painful; invasive; and illegal, for example. The writing is excellent- I read it cover to cover, as if it were a novel, and learned a lot. There may be a bit of unseemly relish in the way the effects of various of these wicked plants are described- did you know that foxtail burrs can work their way into dogs'

brains??? Eew! -Of course, that's part of what makes it so fascinating. It's a very pretty book, and possibly emphasizes that more than being a reliable reference; there's no index, for example, and while many of the entries are in alphabetical order, some are gathered together under various headings. It's intended, I think, more for reading and browsing than for serious reference work, though the information is solid. I bought this after reading and loving the author's "Drunken Botanist" book, and it lived up to my expectations. But- it may well make you a bit paranoid about what is in the gardens and woods! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. What we pretty much expected and it was a gift mainly but will get to enjoy too. By Lincoln County MT Person loved it. I told them not to get any ideas...but we are both horticulture oriented so this is a fun...not so in depth book...may have a few errors but over all a nice little book that's related to those plants..... 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Light reading about the nefarious plant kingdom By J Zimmer Basic enough for a grade-school student. I am sure some people would enjoy these trivia (trivial?) fact articles, but the plant world is just so much more interesting than what is provided here. I was left wondering why the author didn't elaborate more on the different plants. Still, it is a quick, light read for airports and doctor offices.

A tree that sheds poison daggers; a glistening red seed that stops the heart; a shrub that causes paralysis; a vine that strangles; and a leaf that triggered a war. In *Wicked Plants*, Stewart takes on over two hundred of Mother Nature's most appalling creations. It's an A to Z of plants that kill, maim, intoxicate, and otherwise offend. You'll learn which plants to avoid (like exploding shrubs), which plants make themselves exceedingly unwelcome (like the vine that ate the South), and which ones have been killing for centuries (like the weed that killed Abraham Lincoln's mother). Menacing botanical illustrations and splendidly ghastly drawings create a fascinating portrait of the evildoers that may be lurking in your own backyard. Drawing on history, medicine, science, and legend, this compendium of bloodcurdling botany will entertain, alarm, and enlighten even the most intrepid gardeners and nature lovers.

From Booklist They may look sweet and innocent, but anyone who has ever broken out in a rash after picking a hyacinth blossom or burst into violent sneezing after sniffing a chrysanthemum knows that often the most beautiful flowers can pack the nastiest punch. This comes as no secret to mystery writers, who have long taken advantage of the nefarious properties of common garden plants to create the devices by which a deadly dose of poison is administered to an unsuspecting victim. But, as Stewart so entertainingly points out, such fiction is based on pure fact. There are plants that can kill with a drop of nectar, paralyze with the brush of a petal. From bucolic woodland streams choked by invasive purple loosestrife to languid southern fields overrun by kudzu, some plants are just more trouble than they're worth. Culling legend and citing science, Stewart's fact-filled, AZ compendium of nature's worst offenders offers practical and tantalizing composite views of toxic, irritating, prickly, and all-around ill-mannered plants. --Carol Haggas "Culling legend and citing science, Stewart's fact-filled, AZ compendium of nature's worst offenders offers practical and tantalizing composite views of toxic, irritating, prickly, and all-around ill-mannered plants." --- Booklist About the Author Briony Morrow-Cribbs studied art at the Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design in Vancouver, British Columbia, and currently lives in Brattleboro, Vermont, where she owns and operates Twin Vixen Press.