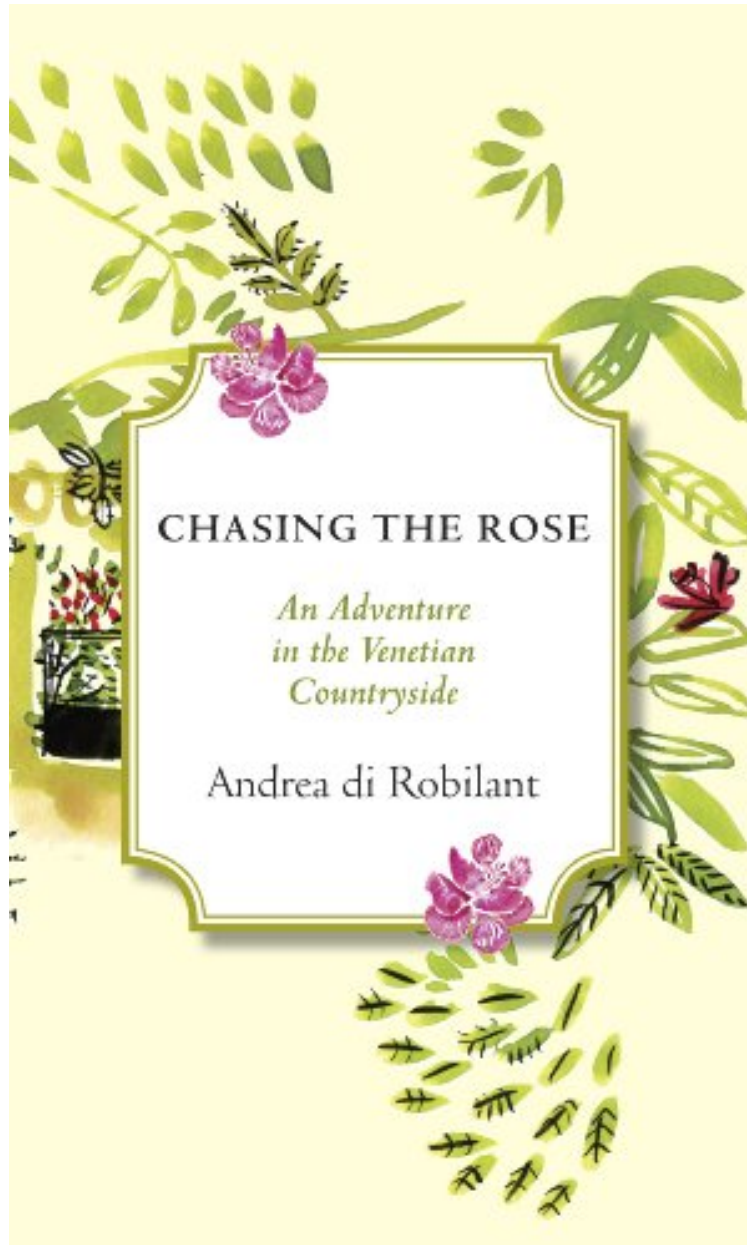


(Read free) Chasing the Rose: An Adventure in the Venetian Countryside

Chasing the Rose: An Adventure in the Venetian Countryside

Von Andrea Di Robilant

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Von Andrea Di Robilant : Chasing the Rose: An Adventure in the Venetian Countryside before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Chasing the Rose: An Adventure in the Venetian Countryside:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Ein Abenteuer???

Von Lesefreund Andrea di Robilant, ein hervorragender Kenner der venezianischen Geschichte, der Geschichte seiner Familie, hat sich hier leider etwas "verlaufen"... Er schreibt ein Buch zu Ehren seiner Mutter, Elizabeth Stokes, die - von seinem ermordeten Vater geschieden - im Piemont lebt, und eine Rose zu züchten versucht. Die Geschichte, die nun auf 213 Seiten beschrieben wird, ist der Versuch eines Berichtes, wie man sehr langatmig von Alvisopoli über Malmaison mithilfe von Bienen und der American Rose Society eine Rose "wiederfand".. Ghn....

KurzbeschreibungFrom the author of the best-selling *A Venetian Affair*, here is the charming chronicle of his search for the identity of a mysterious old rose. Andrea di Robilant's tale takes us back to the time of Josephine Bonaparte, as well as into some of the most delightful rose gardens in Italy today, brought to colorful life on the page in the watercolors of artist Nina Fuga. In his 2008 biography of the Venetian lady Lucia Mocenigo (his great-great-great-great-grandmother), di Robilant described a pink rose that grows wild on the family's former country estate, mentioning its light peach-and-raspberry scent. This passing detail led to an invitation for an audience with a local rose doyenne, Eleonora Garlant. She and other experts wondered if di Robilant's unnamed rose could possibly be one of the long-lost China varieties that nineteenth-century European growers had cultivated but which have since disappeared. On the hunt for the identity of his anonymous yet quietly distinctive rose, Di Robilant finds himself captivated by roseophiles through time from Lucia and her friend Josephine Bonaparte to the gifted Eleonora, whose garden of nearly fifteen hundred varieties of old roses is one of the most significant in Europe and by the roses themselves, each of which has a tale to tell. What starts out as a lighthearted quest becomes a meaningful journey as di Robilant contemplates the enduring beauty of what is passed down to us in a rose, through both the generosity of nature and the cultivating hand of human beings, who for centuries have embraced and extended the life of this mysterious flower.

From the Hardcover edition.

Pressestimmen

"The hero of this tale is a nameless Chinese rose growing in Italy. The plot--part mystery, part quest--seeks to uncover its identity. The supporting characters--among them Empress Josephine--are an array of passionate, endearing breeders and collectors. The result is a delightful hybrid of history and horticulture that traces a single flower's journey halfway across the world. Di Robilant reveals that a rose is not only a rose, but an enigma whose beauty both roots us to the past and springs eternal."--Jhumpa Lahiri

"Reading *Chasing the Rose* is like taking a walk through a beautiful park. Together with the pleasure of the walk itself, you realize slowly that you are taking in the beauty and the fragrance of the plantings and their clever arrangement. You are being led gently by a knowledgeable and discreet guide who wears his learning lightly and manages to make this search for a flower into much more: the pursuit of beauty in life, a slice of history, the exploration of a subculture and of self-discovery."--Alexander Stille

Illustrated throughout with charming watercolors, *Di Robilant's* is a unique exploration of how human history often leaves its imprint in the most unexpected of places. A quiet country pleasure."--Kirkus

"Fear not! Let your eyes glaze over through the Latin-studded rose begats and glean the tantalizing and titillating bits of history behind them that you won't find in any school books."--Richard Frisbee, *New York Journal of Books*

"Di Robilant takes readers on a gentle meander in this memoir inspired by a rose he discovered while researching the biography of his great-great-great-great-grandmother, Lucia Mocenigo, a friend of Josephine Bonaparte, which became *A Venetian Affair* (2003)... History and anecdote abound on this entertaining journey with di Robilant on his quest to get the rose officially named by the American Rose Society."--Publishers Weekly

"Di Robilant's quest leads him to Josephine Bonaparte's rose gardens, the China trade, rose smuggling during the Napoleonic wars, the disappearance of "old roses" in the 19th century and their rediscovery in the 20th. He considers orphan roses, natural hybrids and the politics of registering and naming roses today. . . Written and illustrated in a style reminiscent of Peter Mayle's *A Year in Provence*, *Chasing the Rose* is a charming account of a modern obsession and its historical roots."--Pamela Toler, *Shelf Awareness*

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