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Ellen Shipman and the American Garden

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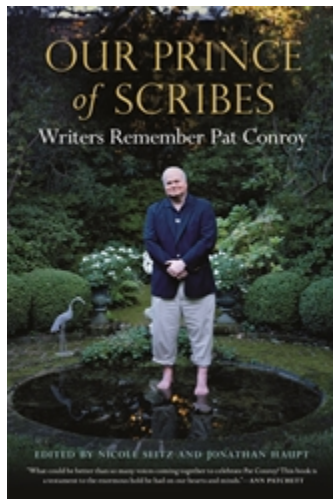
some aspects of the influence of these individuals and their work turned dark as time passed.

Credits go to Lechner for his deep research into an often overlooked “south of the mind” phenomenon that occurred during the 60s, 70s, and 80s, in contrast to the overly researched times before, during and following the Civil War.

Recommended for public libraries, music libraries, and academic libraries. Includes an Appendix in which Lechner reveals his Survey Instrument that generated opinions and facts on his research topic, “Southern Rock in the 1970s” (p.171).

Carol Walker Jordan
Librarian and Consultant

Our Prince of Scribes: Writers Remember Pat Conroy. Edited by Nicole Seitz and Jonathan Haupt. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2018. ISBN 978-0-8203-5448-4 (Hard); ISBN 978-0-8203-5449-1 (Ebook). \$29.95. 320 p.



If there is a book that belongs in your library, this is it! A book that is a collection of the stories and memories of times spent with Pat Conroy over the years of his literary and personal life. One may say it is a reflective collection on his life and his time on our earth by those who loved him.

Barbra Streisand’s Forward sets the tone for this collection when she writes, “Pat Conroy was a force for good in our world. With courage and grace, he brought the gifts of the devastating beauty of his writing and his transcendent vision of the human heart to the lives of the readers he touched and the writers he inspired.” (p.ix) Like other contributors to this book, Barbra began her words by emphasizing Pat’s gifts of literary fame and ending with the human heart focus she saw in him: “Your natural language is poetry. You write sentences that are like an incantation.

You observe every nuance of human behavior and dig deep down to the truth, presenting it in all its glorious and stubborn complexity.” (p.xi)

Nicole Seitz’s Preface helps us to understand how the contributions are organized to give us the flow of Pat’s life as a teacher, author, friend, and family member. Nicole says Pat’s life began as “a fellow student to some, a teacher or mentor to others and he became family or friend to many. She says “they connected with Pat through the love of words or food or through the shared sufferings of childhood or existential questioning”.(p. xiii)

The chapters are titled under these headings, “I. Headwaters : The Early Years as Student and Teacher, II. Flow and Floodplains: Becoming the Best Selling Author, III. Tributaries and Delta: Sustained and Sustaining Friendships, Lasting Legacies”. The final piece is “Shared Blessings, Shared Sorrows by Cassandra King Conroy.

As I read the contributions I found myself pausing between each one to fully appreciate each writer and his or her relationship with Pat. I recommend enjoying the fullness of the literary beauty of the words that are recorded as written or spoken by each contributor and take time to see the personal beauty of the friendships and shared times with Pat.

A delightful collection of photographs appear in a collection beginning on page 129. Recommended for public libraries, academic libraries and home libraries.

Carol Walker Jordan
Librarian and Consultant

Ellen Shipman and the American Garden. Judith B. Tankard. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2018. ISBN: 978-0-8203-5208-4 (Hard). \$39.95. 298 p.



Ellen Shipman and the American Garden is a work sharing the life and works of a legendary female landscaper Ellen Shipman who created spectacular gardens from 1910-1945. The contents include Contents, Preface by Robin Karson, Introduction 1. Early Years, 2. Life in the Cornish Colony, 3. Collaboration with Charles Platt, 4. A Style of Her Own, 5. The New York Office, 6. Artistic Maturity, 7. The

Border, 8. A Grandeur Scope, 9. Wild Gardens, 10. The Great Depression and the Lure of Europe, 11. Public and Institutional Projects, 12. Last Years, Epilogue, Appendix 1. Client List, Appendix 2. Gardens to Visit, Archives and Resources, Notes, Bibliography, Author's Acknowledgments, and Index. The writing style is animated and easy to read. Appendix 1 Client List shows more than six hundred clients at thirty-six places. Appendix 2 Gardens to Visit makes known nineteen gardens to go to see along with their street addresses and websites. Archives and Resources encompasses eight Main Repositories, twelve Other Repositories, and three Other Resources. The excellent two hundred and one notes are divided by the twelve chapter titles and the epilogue. Two hundred and forty-one references comprise the bibliography.

The fabulous work has a connection to the south due to Ellen Shipman's creation of Long Vue House & Gardens in New Orleans for Edgar Stern, head and leading owner of Sears, Roebuck Company and his wife Edith Stern in 1936. Other gardens developed by Ellen Shipman connected to the south are Chatham Manor Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park in Fredericksburg, Virginia and Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens Italian Garden in Jacksonville, Florida. Others are the Sarah P. Duke Gardens and Terrace Gardens at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina and Edison and Ford Winter Estates Mina Edison's Moonlight Garden in Fort Myers, Florida. Another garden established by Ellen Shipman connected to the south is Southeast Center for Contemporary Art in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. The magnificent monograph has connection to the south because of patrons of Ellen Shipman: three from Florida, two from West Virginia, six from South Carolina, three from Tennessee, twelve from Virginia, twenty-three from North Carolina, six from Georgia, four from Kentucky, and nine from Louisiana.

Famous customers include Clara and Henry Ford, Ford Motor Company originator and their estate Fair Lane in Dearborn, Michigan, Mina and Thomas Edison and Moonlight Garden in Fort Myers, Florida, and Eugene DuPont Junior, son of Eugene DuPont creator of contemporary DuPont Chemical Company presently DowDuPont Chemical Company and his estate's Owl's Nest in Greenville, Delaware. Anna Thompson Dodge the spouse of Horace Elgin Dodge Senior inventor of Dodge Automobiles and her estate Rose Terrace in Grosse Pointe, Michigan is another one of Ellen Shipman's patrons.

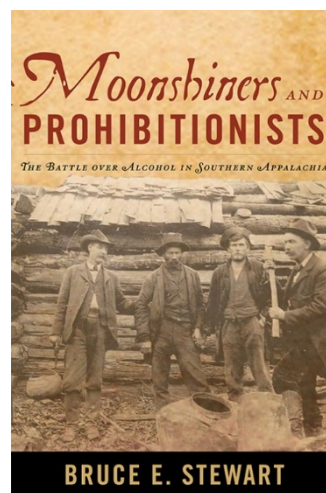
Some of the flowers used by Ellen Shipman in her patrons' settings are roses, peonies, irises, foxgloves, chrysanthemums, primroses, asters, anemones, tulips, gladiolus, larkspur, astilbes, violets, hydrangeas, wisteria, monkshood, Cora bells, poppies, gardenias, Queen's wreath, and narcissuses. Ellen Shipman brought into play reflecting pools, stone bridges, terraces, dovescotes, teahouses, boxwood, waterfalls, Chippendale Gate, Statue of Mercury, Statue of Dianna, Piping Pan Fountain, pergolas, walking and horse riding routes, and Corinthian

columns. Further decorations seen in Shipman's venues are sundials, pavilions, nymphs, borders, stone benches, a roof garden, bronze figures, fish gardens, loggia, lotus fountains, parterres, and arches. Thirty-two color photographs give readers an idea about the impressiveness and beauty of Ellen Shipman's sites. Approximately one hundred forty-nine black and white pictures disclose the opulence of Shipman's work of landscaping brilliance. The monograph divulges around thirty-nine pictures of a few of Shipman's outlines. Ellen Shipman developed sceneries for railroad headquarters, organization headquarters, government buildings, libraries, graveyards, houses of worship, and places of learning. Judith B. Tankard composed additional wonderful books including *The Gardens of Ellen Biddle Shipman*, *Beatrix Farrand: Private Gardens, Public Landscapes, A Legacy in Bloom: Celebrating a Century of Gardens*, *Gertrude Jekyll and the Country House Garden: From the Archives of Country Life*, and *The Artists and Gardens of the Cornish Colony*.

The recommended audience is anyone interested in gardens of the United States, Ellen Shipman, and/or landscaping. The masterpiece is an invaluable vital addition to public and academic libraries. It is a stunning success and a fantastic treasure bringing to light lovely United States gardens developed by Ellen Shipman.

Melinda F. Matthews
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Moonshiners and Prohibitionists: The Battle over Alcohol in Southern Appalachia. Bruce E. Stewart. Lexington: The University Press of Kentucky, 2018. ISBN 978-0-8131-3000-2 (Hard: \$70); ISBN 978-0-8131-7619-2 (Pbk: \$30).



Bruce Stewart's social and political themes run through his research of the battle over alcohol manufacture and sale in early Appalachia. He takes the reader on a winding journey from early saloons and mountain stills to state owned distilleries. He gives us fascinating passages relating the impressions and beliefs held by local citizens on