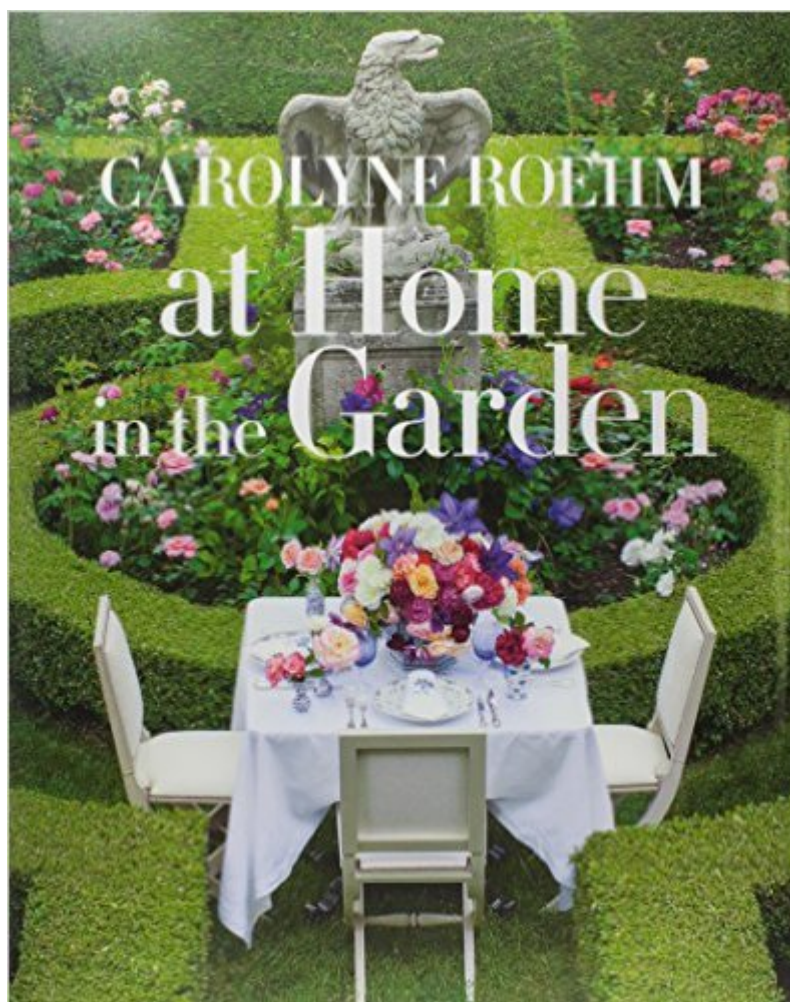


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# At Home In The Garden





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## Customer Reviews

I met Carolyne Roehm for media reasons at the height of Wall Street prosperity in the mid '80s, I wrote a piece about her and Henry Kravis, her then husband, for New York Magazine. She was on an amazing trajectory, only a few years removed from her childhood identity as Carolyne Jane Smith, of Kirksville, Missouri, where her father was a school principal and her mother a teacher. Now she was a fashion designer beloved by women whose days began with lunch. As for Kravis, his private equity firm had recently bought a little company called Nabisco for \$31.4 billion, the highest price ever paid for a commercial enterprise. On a magazine cover, they looked like Reagan-era royalty. The title of that article "The Working Rich: The Real Slaves of New York" only hinted at the glossy surface and flawed reality of those years on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. Looking back, I see the title was prescient for everything she got, she lost something. Her husband's teenage son was killed in a car accident; her fashion business was shuttered and her marriage ended. She bought a house and devoted herself to its decorating and gardens; it was destroyed in a fire. But out of the ashes, Carolyn Roehm dug in. She wrote a dozen books, took 30,000 photographs, became the darling of women who identify with her pluck and vision. And now she's unleashed "At Home in the Garden," a 304-page, huge (11" by 14"), 7.4 pound object. I've got a brown thumb, but this looks very much like a book that gardeners will get and give in large numbers at the holidays. "At Home in the Garden" is an unapologetic Valentine to one of world's most spectacular gardens.

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