



Gayatri Carole Rocherolle

The Landscape Diaries Garden of Obsession

About the book:

"When I ran away in 1965 at the age of 20, I packed eight giant suitcases and withdrew all of my money from the East New York Savings Bank... to purchase a one-way First Class ticket on the final voyage of the Queen Mary."

This book is a fascinating glimpse into the life of Carole Avnet, daughter of the late Lester Avnet, who founded Fortune 500 company Avnet, Inc. Raised in Kings Point, Long Island in an environment of privilege and opportunity, Carole's life began to move in an unexpected direction following the untimely death of her father. She shares highlights of that journey here, in her own quirky voice. The vignettes that make up *The Landscape Diaries*—whether hilarious or heartbreaking, informative or exasperating—illuminate a family, a marriage, a business, and a remarkable creative gift.

Carole and her husband began their nursery in the parking lot of a country deli selling flowers and bushes, and years later designed and built "one of the great private gardens in America at this time" according to Dr. Kim Tripp, Director of the New York Botanical Garden.

The tales of their 39-year partnership will capture your heart.

Comments about the garden:

"They have mastered the painting of flowingly cohesive living pictures throughout both woodland and meadows using a mind boggling palette of plants."

~Marco Polo Stufano of Wave Hill

"The time has come when natural beauty is worth more than gold. Jerome, your work at the Steinhardt Garden proves this."

~Don Shadow of Shadow Nursery

"There is delight for the plantsman and gardener at every turn."

~Barry Yinger of Asiatica Nursery

"Such a landscape may sound like pure fantasy, but the real wonder is that it seems almost natural, like a happy dream."

~House & Garden magazine, March 2006

Left: *Hydrangea anomala* ssp. *petiolaris*