

*Review*  
**Beautiful at All Seasons:  
Southern Gardening and Beyond with Elizabeth Lawrence**

Elizabeth Lawrence  
Ann L. Armstrong & Lindie Wilson, Editors  
Durham: Duke University Press, 2007 (238 pages)  
ISBN #978-0-8223-3887-1  
Non-fiction  
[www.dukeupress.edu](http://www.dukeupress.edu)

*Debbie Moore Clark*

Published in 2007 by Duke University Press, *Beautiful at All Seasons* presents 132 of Elizabeth Lawrence's weekly columns for *The Charlotte Observer*, during her tenure at the local paper from 1957-71. Her conversational writing style blends gardening lore, insights gained from conversations with neighbors and other gardeners with experiments and observations from her gardens in Raleigh and Charlotte, which served as her laboratories.

Edited by local garden lecturer and writer Ann L. Armstrong and Lindie Wilson, who for 20 years owned and maintained Lawrence's former home and garden on Ridgewood Avenue, the attractive book offers information and advice on a wide range of plants and a myriad of gardening topics. Armstrong and Wilson's choice to arrange the essays in the

book by subject matter provides the read a valuable resource on plant material to which he/she may return over and over. The book's exhaustive and helpful index augments its practical usability.

Did you know that "getting rid of poor plants is as important as seek out the best" (93)? Do you know the best time of year to plant a dogwood? (See pages 97-8.) Did you know that January is an exceptionally good month to weed your garden? (See page 1.) Ever wondered about the proper care for nandinas? (See pages 119-20.) These tidbits are but four among the thousands

*"There is a garden in every  
childhood, and enchanted place  
where colors are brighter, the air  
softer, and the morning more  
fragrant than ever again."*

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contained within the helpful tome.

You may mail order the book for \$30 (price includes shipping) by sending your name, address, phone number and check to The Friends of Elizabeth Lawrence, 2039 Queens Road East, Charlotte, NC, 28207. DMC

Ann L. Armstrong and Lindie Wilson, as well as reviewer Debbie Moore Clark, are Extension Master Gardener Volunteers with Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

