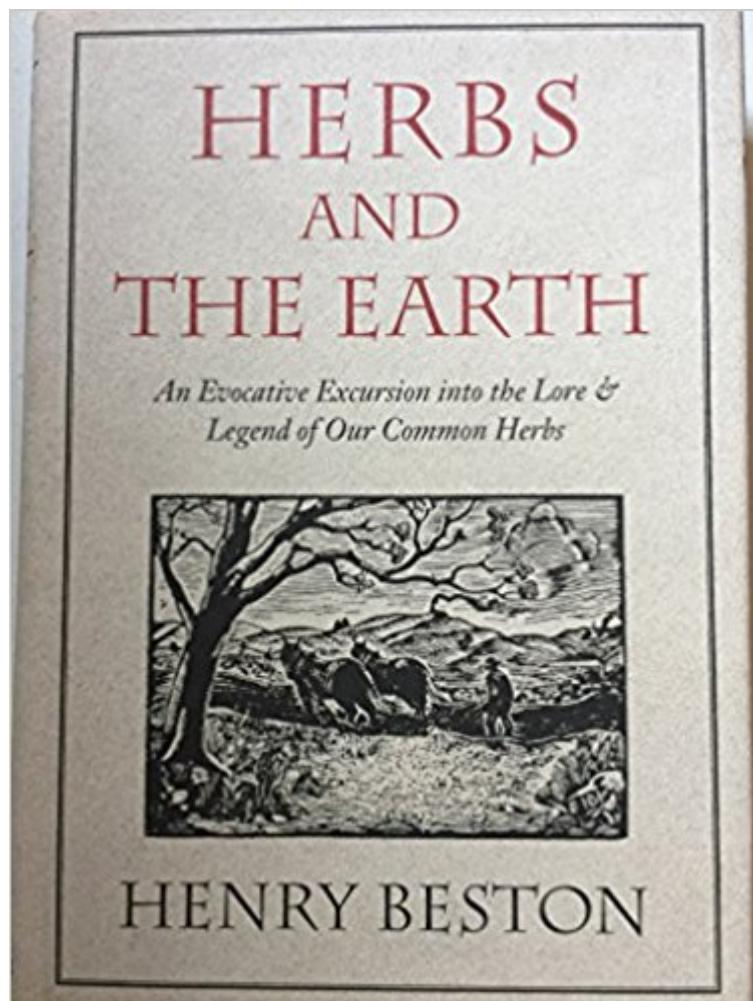


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# Herbs And The Earth



## Synopsis

These reflections on herbs, gardens, and nature by naturalist/writer Beston (best known for *The Outermost house*, a record of a year spent on Cape Cod's beach) were first published in 1935 and are here lovingly reprinted letterpress with woodcuts by John Howard Benson and an introduction by Horticultural.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 120 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

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## Customer Reviews

Beston (1888-1968), a New England naturalist and children's book author whose "chosen home" from 1944 on was a farm in Maine, here writes with an almost Proustian dedication about herbs as human "familiars" of ancient lineage. "The green life of earth is a deeper life than we know," he avows, and walks a leisurely path through species including sage, marjoram, basil and other mainstays. Always exercising a "gardener's musing mind," the author gently but firmly reproaches "the age in which we live" for having "lost the earth," and exchanged this for a "vulgar curse of gigantism," with gardens "fallen into so impersonal a rut." Writing as an appreciator of "subtleties of light" and the revelations of "a simple leaf," Beston pens a hymn in prose, out of print for a dozen years, of unusual depth and eloquence. BOMC alternate. Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc.

I wanted to read this book because I read Beston's *Outermost House* and fell in love with his ability to paint such vivid pictures with his words. This book is an okay read but there is not much lyrical

about it. And there is not much information in it for anyone looking to grow their own herbs. It is more like a tutorial on the history of herbs which, in and of itself is well done but doesn't add anything to my knowledge and love of herbs I already grow.

I have always enjoyed Henry Beston and this is not only informative but entertaining. If you find growing things interesting and want to relive before the grocery store you'll learn something from this book. May I suggest the hardcover for this book and his others will be read over and over again.

There is nothing better than a well-written book by an author who loves his subject.

A valuable book for humans on the planet.

Henry Beston is a great writer. His style and knowledge of herbs make good reading.

Until you have read *Herbs and the Earth* by Henry Beston, you know half of what the Earth knows of magic, fine gardening and great literature. I have read most of the writers from Findhorn and Perelandra, as well as Emerson, Thoreau, Steiner and the rest; I find here a more authentic connection with the earth from one of the most eloquent translators of her many voices. You will find much love and lore in this book. Beston's depth and devotion will amaze and delight you. I consider this the herbalist's bible, if only they knew it!

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