



*Please, enter the garden. Let it offer its qualities to you, its images, its smells and perfumes, its tastes and its melodies. Open your senses and discover...*

*Let the mountain stream carry you along in her music; listen well, because the song of the waters is different; it depends upon the place where you may find yourself.*

*Live your life by the rhythm of time, marked by the church bell. Step into the deep rest, into which the forest invites you to enter, so that there, no annoying noises can be heard to trouble you, and may you receive the vitality of this little planetary corner.*

### **THE GARDEN AND THE FOREST**

*instructions how to employ, how to enjoy...*

This garden is half-culture and half-natural. It seeks to achieve an alliance between human activities and those of nature. Culture and forest intermingle and a spontaneous harmony is the creative result. In some corners of the garden, especially the plant beds in the vegetable garden, and the planted perennial plants, the influence of the forest has been brought – more or less – under control, allowing the garden to dominate the scene. But the forest dominates on other places, where the garden seeks its place alongside of the wild herbs and plants. Please, do enjoy the spontaneous harmony, which you may find between the flowers of the garden and those of the forest, between the cultured greens and the “wild” weeds.

When the grass has not been mown, when we keep planting vegetables and flowers amidst nature’s seemingly disorder, when stinging nettles, dock and sorrel do survive, then this is not neglect, but the keeping alive of nature amidst all splendour. Bees and butterflies appreciate the corners with natural grasses and herbs and thus, we modestly participate in the preservation of the bio-diversity and the balances of planet Earth.

Clover and other herbs and weeds, kind of “invade” into what was supposed to be like a grass carpet! Yes, but the clover is a precious green fertiliser and we are very thankful regarding the stinging-nettles, who are a precious ally for our health and for those of the garden vegetables.

The description of this garden scene looks like a disordered one. Yes, it would be a disordered one, when compared with a well-maintained and regular garden. But when you enter into this garden array, and when you appreciate its beauty and its symbolism, its impression may well be totally different.

*We do live here, being immersed in the energies of the elements: earth, water, air, the winds through the pine trees and the fire of the sun. Just like everything else orbits through the cosmos, the seasons and the days have their orbits through the year and the sun orbits the house and the garden. Observe its apparent course from the east to the west, from the north to the south. On every hour of the day and changing through the course of the seasons, another place of the garden bathes in the light of the sun. We are very much aware to be a part of an immense planetary, solar and cosmic wholeness; this totality is symbolised in the heart of the garden, in an embrace by grasses, herbs, weeds and flowers, by a variety of garden beds and currant bushes, by a scene, symbolising the sun, the planets and the zodiac. This whole decorated “painting” moves and changes, to achieve harmony with the planets in their orbits.*

*If you prefer to do so, you can move the garden furniture, so that you can enjoy a place in the shadow, or in the sun.*

*It is not forbidden to have a taste! When a bramble, red currant, a tomato, or a sprig of parsley or of mint, etc... attracts you, then pick and collect this delicacy and consume it, while you acknowledge the merits of this gift of nature.*

*It is not forbidden to mark your passing along, in this garden. Surely you notice that the stones are a part of the scenery, and they too have their place here, functioning as limiting demarcations for the garden beds or for decoration purposes. In case you feel attracted to a stone, who does not have its proper place yet, please recollect it with dignity and place it softly upon one of the "pyramidal piles of stones"; next just look, listen and sense that, which may have changed....*

- Walk please on the small footpaths and trails, preventing to trample the uncut grass, and please, do respect those corners in the garden, which are reserved for nature's undisturbed life.
- Please, do not be attracted to remove some "bad" weeds, because here, there are no bad weeds. Every plant, cultivated or natural, has its function. There is no doubt, that the ones which may disturb you (or which you may disturb), have been left on that place intentionally.
- Please, do not pick flowers; they are present for the expression of their beauty in this little planetary corner, but also for the bees and for other insects.
- Please, do not intervene in the garden without noticing us, but when you feel the need to help with the garden maintenance, Josette will be happy to show you, with appreciation, how to participate.