

**A LOVE OF FLOWERS.** H. E. Bates. Illustrations by Pauline Ellison.  
*Michael Joseph*, £2. 1971. 23 cm. 160 pages. Illustrations. Index. SBN  
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This is an intensely personal book about a well-known writer's well-loved recreation—growing flowers—and, as any reader of the author's novels or short stories will expect, it is as readable as it is informative. Not every gardener will agree with his ideas and personal preferences, but it is a book that will have tremendous appeal for those to whom the visual beauty of their gardens throughout the year is more important than the rarity or newness of what they grow. Wide knowledge of what can and cannot be grown by the amateur, catholic taste and many years' experience, combine to make this a most refreshing addition to modern garden literature which should be as widely read as the many books which have built up the author's reputation as a writer. (635·9)