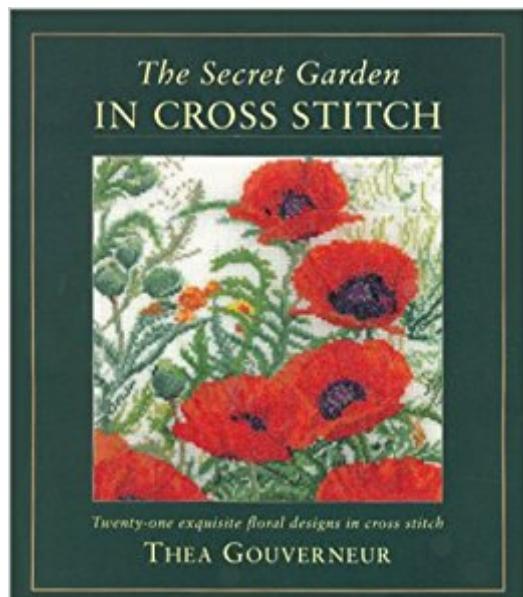


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# The Secret Garden In Cross Stitch



## **Synopsis**

A collection of stylish cross stitch designs where Thea Gouverneur invites stitchers to share her passion by copying the natural beauty of well-loved flowers through the art of the needle. Her fresh style is characteristic of European designs.

## **Book Information**

Hardcover: 144 pages

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## **Customer Reviews**

Thea Gouverneur is one of the leading cross stitch designers in Europe. Her designs have been featured in many cross stitch magazines, and her top quality embroidery kits are sold not only in The Netherlands, but also throughout Europe, North America, Australia and Japan. The unique quality of Thea's designs makes them instantly recognizable and her fresh style combines a sophisticated blend of colours and delicate shapes. In this lavishly illustrated book, Thea invites readers to share her passion by capturing the natural beauty of well-loved flowers through the art of the needle.

I love this book. I was particularly interested in the poppies design on the book jacket because i was looking for some bright art on my hallway wall since it is dark there! I thought poppies would be particularly appropriate since the "hallway" is actually a sort of entredieu between my bedrooms and bathroom and poppies are the flower of sleep and also of healing. The price of the book was much cheaper than 1 chart pattern would be and much cheaper than the kit of this pattern would be. I also found several other patterns in the book that I want to stitch, which was a really great bonus.

Ms. Gouverneur is a well-known European designer who grew up in the bulb-growing region of the

Netherlands. [The yellow trumper daffodil 'Burgemeester Gouverneur' was named after her grandfather.] For those who know and cherish her work this book will not be a disappointment. For those not familiar with her this will be a wonderful introduction to a superb natural history artist. The charted designs are beautifully executed in color and keyed to both DMC and Anchor floss. They are generous in size and very easy to read. Most importantly, the associated instructions are detailed, clear and precise. There is a section devoted to a discussion of the materials used, the execution of the stitches including clear instructional diagrams, and an in-depth discussion of techniques including embellishment with beads. A well-structured chapter describing the finishing of the projects includes mounting the embroidery, making a cushion cover and edging table linens. The listing of suppliers for the materials needed to complete the embroidery covers the USA, the UK, Australia and Japan. While this book is an exquisite collection of charts for embroiderers it is also more: it includes lovely color photographs of the bulb, flower, herb and fruit specimens that inspire her designs. The text associated with each major section (Spring flowers, herbal gardens, wild flowers, and orchard harvest) gives a brief account that includes some historical information and lore associated with each specimen. It would be a lovely addition to any coffee table collection of art books.

I ordered this book when I was searching for a pattern for poppies. When I received it I was amazed at how beautiful the pictures, illustrations, and patterns were. I am now using it as a coffee table book when I am not using a pattern. Everyone who has picked it up has been entranced! Beautiful, beautiful book!

The designs by Thea Gouverneur are gorgeous and I have plans for many of them. One thing I noticed that I did not like was the stench coming from the book. It smells mildewed and moldy as if it has been stored in a perpetually wet basement. It will take some time to get the rid of the stench, but the book is worth it. I would hesitate to buy another book from this seller as it would likely have been kept in that wet basement with the mildew and mold.

Good book thank you.

The designs are beautiful but some of the patterns are printed so small that they are hard to read. The one pattern I wanted and actually needed was unusable because it was so tiny and it was hard to distinguish one symbol from the other.

I love to stitch flowers and this book has some of the most beautiful designs I've come across. These are sophisticated designs that for the most part would take a while to stitch, but would give tremendous satisfaction. Highly recommended if flowers are what you most love to stitch.

I love it. I am always looking for counted cross-stitch, beaded, crocheted, or quilted poppy patterns. Great book.

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