

**Love Books**

Love Books is a book group that meets online fortnightly. Recently the group looked at books on a garden theme as a review for our ‘Garden’ resource page.

Most members of the group had read **‘The Secret Garden’** - a classic of English Children’s literature by Frances Hodgson Burnett ( first published in 1911 ) – many had read it more than once as it is one of those books that transport you back to childhood.

Linked to this we also looked at **‘The painted Garden’** by Noel Streatfield ( first published in 1949 ) - A father with writers block takes his family to California for the summer where his daughter Jane meets a movie producer who realises that her disposition is perfect for playing the part of Mary in a film version of ‘The Secret Garden’.

**‘Portrait of an Artist’**- A biography of Georgia O’Keeffe. An American iconic artist known for her paintings of enlarged flowers. Her dazzling career spans virtually the entire history of American Modern Art.

Most popular books talked about relating to gardens were those by Monty Don of which there are many – best known as a presenter of gardening programmes Monty has written numerous books.

His first published book was **‘The Prickotty Bush’** written after the downfall of the jewellery business he ran with his wife. **‘The Jewel** **Garden’** was co-written with his wife Sarah.

Monty has written some novels but it is mostly his gardening books he is known for as a writer.