



A Rage for Rock Gardening: The Story of Reginald Farrer, Gardener, Writer Plant Collector (Hardback)

By Nicola Shulman

David R Godine Pub, United States, 2004. Hardback. Book Condition: New. Us REV and Expanded ed.. 190 x 132 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. A hundred years ago there was a pronounced change in the direction of British gardening. The garden was transformed from a plaything for the rich to a democratic exercise, a hobby for the millions. Few figures were more central to and prominent in this transition than eccentric Reginald Farrer, whose passion for alpines would put a rockery in the backyards of countless enthusiasts and whose adventures in Tibet and China collecting elusive and exotic specimens, including the wild tree peony, a new buddleia, and even an entire new genus called *Farreria*, were the stuff of legends. But Farrer was a strange man, a tortured soul. Tormented by physical disabilities (he had a hare lip, a pygmy body, and a cleft palate) he developed a personality to match: defensive, restless, yet productive and endlessly energetic. Although born to endless night, within his realm of horticultural exploration and exploitation, he was a giant, parlaying his disadvantages into advantages, becoming one of the great plant hunters of his age, repeatedly travelling to Japan and Tibet to collect...

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