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# Kristyâ€™s Summer Cutting Garden: A Watercoloring Book (Kristyâ€™s Cutting Garden)



## Synopsis

The first in a series of seasonal watercoloring books based on artist Kristy Rice's cutting gardens, this book celebrates summer's languid blossoms such as anemone, hollyhocks, coneflowers, and fuchsia. Her easy-to-learn, joy-driven approach includes simple tutorials on how to use watercolor and where to find affordable materials. A stationery-industry tastemaker, Kristy believes that making art, regardless of skill level, has the power to reconnect us to each other and ourselves. Touching brush to paper with water and color releases an inexplicable calm that so many of us long for, and making art, even in short bursts, brings us back to ourselves by slowing time. With 25 detailed, yet whimsical illustrations, artists are invited to continue the journey begun in her first watercoloring book series, Painterly Days.

## Book Information

Series: Kristy's Cutting Garden (Book 2)

Paperback: 60 pages

Publisher: Schiffer; 1 edition (June 28, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0764353365

ISBN-13: 978-0764353369

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.4 x 10.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 13 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #125,849 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #128 in Books > Arts & Photography > Drawing > Coloring Books for Grown-Ups > Flowers & Landscapes #2731 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies #9962 in Books > Humor & Entertainment

## Customer Reviews

Kristy Rice created the innovative brand Momental Designs, which focuses on styling, stationery, design, and art licensing. The company garners global attention from media, celebrities, and some of the world's most creative individuals and iconic brands.

I wanted to love this book. The paper is fantastic, but the actual illustrations seem to me to be sloppy, for lack of a better word. Maybe that's just me, and maybe that's the way the illustrations were meant to be. I think some people will love the illustrations. This is just my honest opinion and

my preference to have more definitive illustrations. For example...on the flowers, some of the leaves and petals are off by themselves, not connected to a stem or the flower, so I have to paint outside the lines to make them look like they belong and are attached to stem or flower. I hope that makes sense. I'm not sorry I bought the book, as I will use it for practicing my wet media, but I wouldn't buy it again and am deferred from buying the others in this series.

The illustrations are gorgeous, as expected, but I have to admit to being a bit disappointed. The following are some "greats" and "meh or not so much": (I've included some pictures to illustrate my points:Great:1. Blotter Page: I like that this book has the same tri-fold format as the previous Painterly Days books, which allows you to protect the page behind the one you are working on from bleed-through.2. Supplemental Info: I like that there is a glossary/painting tips section of the book, which discusses the flowers included, as well as some suggestions for watercoloring.3. Paper Quality: I like that the paper seems to be the same quality as the previous Painterly Days books, which makes me feel like the book was created for watercolor.Meh and Not so Much:1. New 8.5x11 size: I could have sworn that, in Kristy's YouTube video that discusses the Cutting Garden series, she mentions that it is the same 9x12 format. It is not. It is 8.5x11. This is actually OK for me, since I am a card maker & I like to trim finished pieces down into cardmaker-A2-sized cards, which is a letter-sized sheet trimmed down into 4 pieces. I did enjoy the 9x12, since it allowed me to trim a bit off of each piece in the old format, so that some less desirable portions of my finished piece get trimmed off. I won't really have this flexibility with this new letter-sized format; however, I also won't lose portions that I don't want to necessarily cut off. So, ultimately, I'm not sure if this will be a problem or not. I figured customers should know that this is letter-sized. It should have been disclosed in the product description. I guess I should have known, given that, if you scroll down to the product dimensions on Amazon, it indicates that it's only 9x11. Honestly, I hardly ever scroll down and look at that, since I know that that is a package/shipping box dimension and not the actual dimensions of the product. So, boo for not indicating the new size in the product description itself.2. Not grayscale: I don't particularly love that the images are printed in a darker ink than the Painterly Days series. See the image below for the comparison between the 2 books. (I tried to upload 12 images. One of my friends indicated that she sees 3, the other sees 4. They aren't seeing the same pix, so I'm not sure what each customer will see.)3. Style: I am a huge Kristy Rice fan, so I think all the images are beautiful. They just aren't what I expected. Of the 25 images, only about 5 are the style I expected, based on the previous books - kind of abstract swirl of lots of flowers that sometimes looks like wallpaper. This book has 5-6 pages that are covered with single

plants/flowers, like the type that you would see on a vintage or British Colonial botanical/floral print, but done in a modern style, if you know what I mean. I think those would be lovely when completed and pulled out to be framed. However, for my purposes, I was expecting more of the style that looks like wallpaper. There are also about 4-5 images that are actual scenes and/or have critters in them. I'm not that big of a fan of a whole page scene, since, again, I cut down the pages for cardmaking purposes; however, for most people, I'm sure the scenes will be enjoyable to paint. Of course I don't expect an artist to stagnate on a particular style or format. I was just hoping for a slower transition - like at least 12 of pages of the old wallpaper style that I loved. I have only watercolored part of a page so far. If any opinions change after I finish a few pages, I'll be sure to change my review accordingly. Update (7/7/17): So, after playing around with this book and the new Spring Cutting Garden book, I've changed my mind a bit. These books are providing more options than the Painterly series. The smaller pages and the simpler style on some of the images results in less time required to finish a page. It is nice to have the option of picking one of the simpler pages and actually being able to work and finish at a different pace. I also like having the option of the single flowers/plants to paint, since there is a lot of white space on the page that allows me to get creative and create my own background. I'm really loving having the option between the two series - styles and sizes. I'm adding 2 more stars to my review of this book. I still love the Painterly Days series more (I just went back and bought another of the Painterly Days Flower Coloring Book), but I love this series as well.

Great ADULT coloring book. Very relaxing and the drawings are beautiful.

Not bad quality.

Let me first say that I love Kristy's approach to watercolor - loose, joyful, organic. I also like the illustrations in this book, more so than in her previous ones. But I must say that this is not truly watercolor paper. It IS a step up from previous books, but the paints dry so quickly on this paper that blending colors is difficult. Once the color is thoroughly dry, rewetting the paint and adding more just makes kind of a muddy mess. I want to acknowledge also that if there were true, high-quality watercolor paper in here no one would be able to afford the book! I applaud her effort to bring watercolor coloring books to us and I continue to use them to boost my skills.

I'm a big fan of Kristy's books, yup I have them all! So things I

LOVE:~ Slightly smaller size- Same amazing watercolor paper (this stuff rocks and takes a beating).- The art lessons in the front of each of the new books are completely different now compared to it being repeated in the Painterly Days series. Thing I miss?- Maybe the artwork repeating on the back of each page BUT I do like practicing on the blank backside and Kristy recently posted a cool YouTube demo doing just that! Go get these books! They've rekindled my love for painting after many years of never touching a brush and paint!

I normally never write reviews, but I love this book. The illustrations are beautiful, it's easy to do, the paper is great, Kristy rice is just amazing at what she does. The paper is a little different to what your used to but once you get the hang of it painting on it is a breeze. This book is meant to enjoy it some illustration does have a lot going on but I just tend to paint little by little stop when I'm feeling over whelmed go back to it and it just starts coming into life. I can't wait for the fall and winter to come out and have them in my collection. Not only is the author so nice, if you have any questions or having a hard time you can email her or Facebook her and she will get back to you and help you out. Who does that ?! Anyways Thank you Kristy for an amazing book! Your an inspiration.

I received this book as a gift so did not purchase here BUT I really wanted to review it somewhere!!! I've always dabbled in watercolor but the thought of sketching something I actually like enough to want to paint is exhausting. Kristy's books are filled with pretty floral, landscape and animal illustrations (mostly floral and scenes), printed on smooth watercolor paper! The paper is awesome, handles a ton of water (I'm such a messy painter) and it will ripple when wet but dries flat...I've seen a few reviews mentioning that there is no art on the back for practice but I'm liking that because I can just practice some free washes and brushstrokes.

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