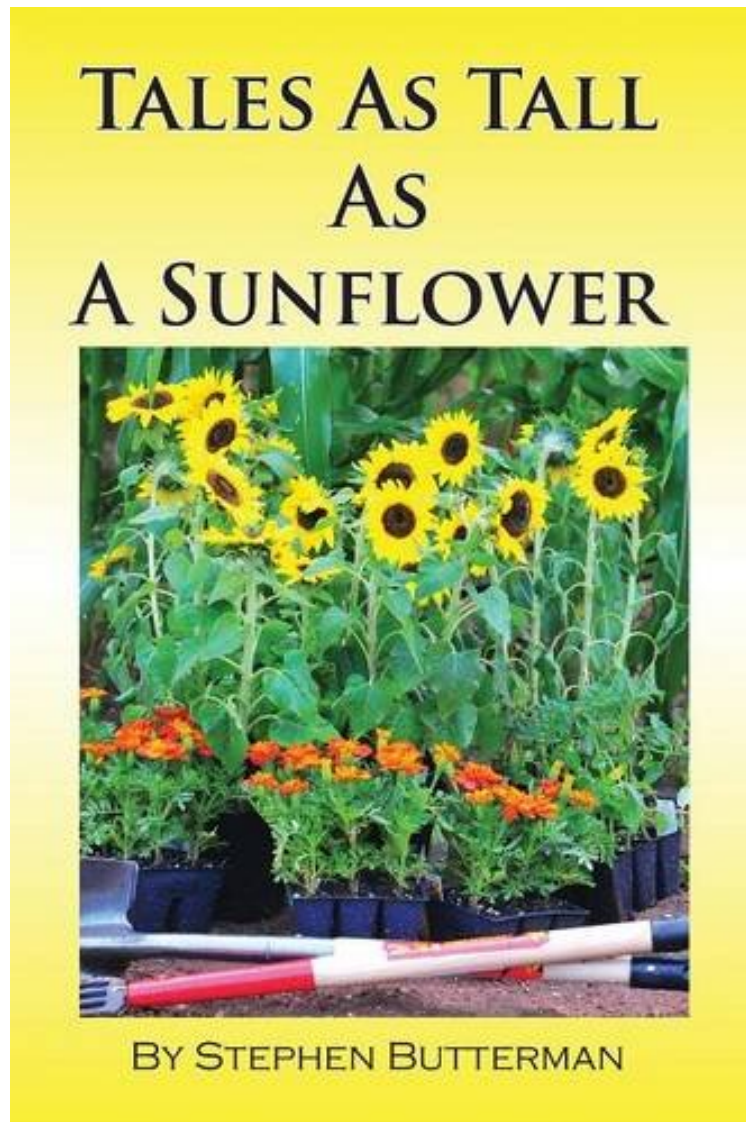


Tales as Tall as a Sunflower

Stephen Butterman, Steve Butterman
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Stephen Butterman, Steve Butterman : Tales as Tall as a Sunflower before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Tales as Tall as a Sunflower:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Prime Book by a Proud GardenerBy Ohio Art EducatorThe stories in this book are an amazing lift from the stresses I (and probably most everyone) face everyday.Stories rich in humor and invitingly comfortable fill this book with quality substance. It is accessible to any reader, from young and curious gardeners-to-be to ripe old folks who've never grown anything but hair and toenails. The stories given to us by Butterman revived fond memories of mine that I had forgotten about... of exploring the garden behind my

grandparents house years and years ago, and more recent memories of laboring over much loved veggies in friends gardens. Having never had a garden of my own i was pleased in reading the personification and character given to the Butterman's garden and its many inhabitants. These stories give a glimpse into the care and enjoyment that gardens both need and give. Tastes here and there of political humor and wordplay keep me giggling about government and laughing at language. This book is "Produce to be Proud Of" 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Global Warming By Raymond J. Wixson I didn't know why my impishly grinning gardener neighbor lent (non-gardening) me this book, unsolicited, but he did--he chuckled while walking away. I forget when I first chuckled myself reading it, but soon I began to burst out with sporadic laughter--at the "feminist farmer," at the Weeds Organization for Equality (WOE), at the "garden terrorist," and at other deliciously funny characters and scenes. This is only slightly more "about gardening" than A Confederacy of Dunces is "about New Orleans"--in both cases, the setting is simply the soil from which much mirth sprouts like--dare I say it?--inirradicable weeds. I may never grow a garden. However, I may start talking to my table-top veggies. I can only hope that they do not start talking back! A Confederacy of Dunces (Penguin Modern Classics) 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Customer Very funny and original. Loved it - beginning to end.

Tales As Tall As A Sunflower' by Stephen Butterman is a book reminiscent of the humor of the Prairie Home Companion show, and is easy reading with Americana humor at its best. Butterman's garden comes to life, because he believes his plot of garden in Midwest Ohio is truly a living thing' and he humorously works with Mother Nature, and not against her as he waits for the often touted global warming in hope his growing season will at last be extended. Politics and vegies combine, along with some kids, a very real girlfriend named Maria, a gray squirrel and various vines, tomatoes, potatoes and gourds to form the basis and background of this very funny collection of short stories where each story builds on the last. This is a great gift for the gardening enthusiast in your life. It is up to date, current, light reading fun, and it will never be outdated. Enjoy reading this very organic, green book with confidence it will not leave you bored or wondering how it got into print in the first place. Stephen Butterman has a BA from Ohio State University, an MA in creative writing from Eastern Michigan University and a pending MA in European History. He is widely published in several periodicals and has won an unprecedented number of undergraduate writing awards in essay, fiction and poetry. His home spun down to earth look at the world in combination with his knowledge of both gardening and politics, combine to create one very fun and amazing book, perfect for an afternoon read, even if you don't have a garden.

From the Author Growing a nice garden can be a creative art-form. Such a garden is also a splendid place to daydream. These stories grew from such daydreams. From the Inside Flap Do you love to garden, and do you enjoy a tall tale once in awhile? If the answers to these questions are "yes," then you will really enjoy this book. Filled with gardening truths, each tale is filled with introspection about the world and life in general. And warm with family and friends in a realistic setting, each story of reminiscence flows into the next. Sit in the garden on a summer day and read this book, or read it in the winter as you dream of a spring garden. The stories take place in the Midwest, with a hint of the California coast that will make you smile. This is a perfect book for subway, train or plane reading, and a real touch of Americana, and you do not have to live in the Midwest or in California to really love these stories! The politics in the mix are funny and fun, and if you want to know how vegetable gardens relate to either flowers or politics, you will just have to read this book! Ask yourself, as our author did, if a ladybug is always a lady, and why peppers are so saucy and hot. If you talk to your plants, or make deals with gray squirrels, this is a must read for you; and even if you do neither of these things, you will not want to miss out on this funny, funny book of short stories that will surely make you laugh and smile. About the Author Steve Butterman holds (and sometimes polishes) degrees from The Ohio State University, where he won an unprecedented number of writing awards, and from Eastern Michigan University's graduate program in creative writing. He is the author of six other books, including a collection of humorous stories about his recent, successful battle against cancer, "That's So Funny, My Hair Fell Out!" and the classic children's pirate book, "Rootbeer Beard."