

Praise for *The \$64 Tomato*

How One Man Nearly Lost His Sanity, Spent a Fortune, and Endured an Existential Crisis in the Quest for the Perfect Garden

"Hilarious . . . His timing and his delivery are flawless."

—*New York Times Style Magazine*

"A book about gardening was never so funny as this memoir."

—*Miami Herald*

"Money, sex, aging—that's real gardening!"

—*New York Observer*

"Engaging, well paced and informative. . . . Gardening as extreme sport."

—*New York Times Book Review*

A "disarmingly witty take on horticulture among the energetic middle-aged . . . A paean to the homesteader who never gets written about, the pioneer whom all of us could have been in another life, the incompetent one."

—*Washington Post*

"Quick and very entertaining . . . Alexander is Icarus; his garden is the sun. Where these two meet makes *The \$64 Tomato* very endearing."

—*Boston Globe*

"The shocking revelation that a single lush Brandywine tomato cost him \$64 to grow led to [this] humorous memoir."

—*USA Weekend*

"Hysterical . . . both an inspiration and a cautionary tale for anyone who has ever looked at a tomato and thought, *I could grow that!*"

—*Life magazine*

"Engaging, funny, and down-to-earth."

—*Entertainment Weekly*

A "fast-paced memoir . . . an odyssey that explores gardening through trial and humor . . . Gardeners will see themselves on every page."

—*Chicago Sun-Times*

"The real treat of *The \$64 Tomato* comes in the form of Alexander himself. . . . A rollicking read."

—*Newsday*

"A wry memoir in which every reader who's spent way more to grow a plant than he could purchase it for at the supermarket will recognize his own successes, failures and foibles."

—*San Francisco Chronicle*

"The laugh-out-loud antics of a naive, would-be gentleman farmer learning the realities of country gardening. . . . If you need a laugh, read this book."

—*Sacramento Bee*

"A delightful guide to achieving gardening bliss."

—*Minneapolis Star-Tribune*

"Amusing . . . an entertaining read."

—*Rocky Mountain News*

"A quick read full of fun and foibles. . . . His cost-benefit analysis of what each Brandywine tomato's price would be is a riot."

—*Seattle Times*

"*The \$64 Tomato* is worth a read, whether you love to dig in the dirt or can't keep a philodendron alive, because Alexander's determination and sense of humor are enviable. Plus, he's just a good writer."

—*Florida Times-Union*

"*The \$64 Tomato* treats us to an often rib-tickling tale of [Alexander's] misadventures."

—*News & Observer*

"A delicious ride through one man's seriocomic horticultural adventure...Alexander—husband, father, and director of technology by day—meets his emotional and intellectual match while cultivating a few acres of fruits, vegetables, roses, and cottage flowers."

—*Bookpage*

"Insightful and often hilarious, particularly for those not standing in his shoes."

—*Virginia Living*

"[A] hilarious horticultural memoir . . . Alexander's slightly poisoned paradise manages to impart an existential lesson on the interconnectedness of nature and the fine line between nurturing and killing."

—*Publishers Weekly, starred review*

"An amusing compilation of do's and don'ts for aspiring gardeners afflicted with hubris."

—*Kirkus*

"In this appealingly witty memoir of one man's battle with nature, Alexander weaves a cautionary tale for those who have ever tasted a grocery-store tomato and vowed to grow a better one in their own backyard."

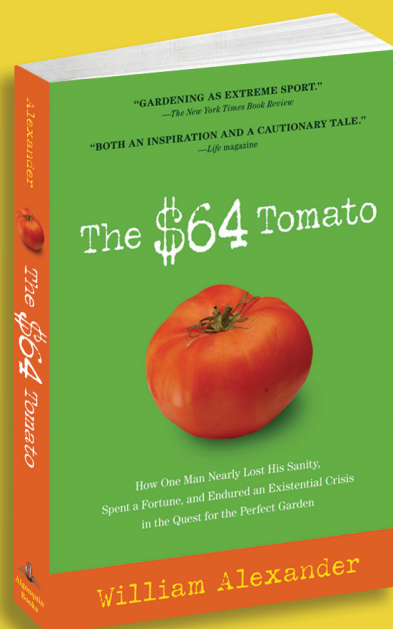
—*Booklist*

"The engaging tale of one man's pursuit of the perfect kitchen garden . . . this enjoyable book, laced with humor and Alexander's garden philosophy, is highly recommended."

—*Library Journal*

"For those of us who love to grow things, nothing Alexander does, no matter how ridiculous, costly or time-consuming, seems out of the question. It all seems perfectly sane, and somehow reassuring."

—**RICHARD GOODMAN, author of *French Dirt***



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978-1-56512-557-5

Paperback, \$13.95 • 304 pages • 5" x 8.25"

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