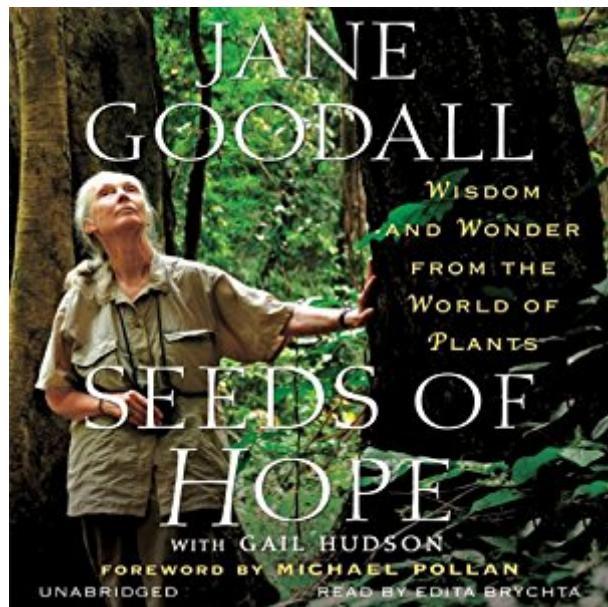


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# Seeds Of Hope: Wisdom And Wonder From The World Of Plants



## **Synopsis**

Renowned naturalist and best-selling author Jane Goodall examines the critical role that trees and plants play in our world. In her wise and elegant new audiobook, Jane Goodall blends her experience in nature with her enthusiasm for botany to give listeners a deeper understanding of the world around us. Long before her work with chimpanzees, Goodall's passion for the natural world sprouted in the backyard of her childhood home in England, where she climbed her beech tree and made elderberry wine with her grandmother. The garden her family began then, she continues to enjoy today. Seeds of Hope takes us from England to Goodall's home-away-from-home in Africa, deep inside the Gombe forest, where she and the chimpanzees are enchanted by the fig and plum trees they encounter. She introduces us to botanists around the world, as well as places where hope for plants can be found, such as The Millennium Seed Bank, where one billion seeds are preserved. She shows us the secret world of plants with all their mysteries and potential for healing our bodies as well as planet Earth. Looking at the world as an adventurer, scientist, and devotee of sustainable foods and gardening - and setting forth simple goals we can all take to protect the plants around us - Jane Goodall delivers an enlightening story of the wonders we can find in our own backyards.

## **Book Information**

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 14 hours and 5 minutes

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Whispersync for Voice: Ready

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## **Customer Reviews**

So, the only thing I ever really knew about Jane Goodall was that she was the lady who worked with chimpanzees. That's it. Turns out, she has done a lot more than that. And a lot of that had to do with

plants. From an early age, Goodall loved plants, and even had a special tree at her grandmother's house. While off fighting to save the chimpanzees she was studying the local vegetation as well. In this book there are some accounts of her own experience, but it is also a book of history and current activities in regards to the plant world and the development of world crops. She covers GMO's, plantations, poisonous plants, beneficial plants and much more. The actual book is broken into four parts. My Love For the Natural World, which is just Goodall's history with plants. Hunting, Gathering and Gardening, which talks about the different gardens and seed banks in the world and even has a special section on orchids. Uses and Abuses of Plants, which includes sections on healing, drug plants, plantations, mono-crops and GMO's. And the Way Forward which shows what is going on now to help preserve some of the different plants of the world that are rapidly becoming extinct. Goodall is almost always polite. When faced with distasteful topics she kind of side steps around the people who are making it bad and instead focuses on those who are doing good and making differences. So nothing is scathing in this book in regards to anyone. And a lot of her personal stories are very nice too. It's easy to see she was close to her family and enjoyed spending time with her grandmother and the garden that she had. This book covers some controversial topics. Goodall is a pretty large name and she blasts GMO's and other crop practices pretty hard.

This is not a scholarly book, although it certainly has its share of facts, statistics and studies. It's a human book -- and this encompasses everything from Jane Goodall's childhood experiences (crying over Uncle Tom's Cabin) to what chemical toxins are doing to us (cotton is the "dirtiest crop" and is often picked by children even during spraying). It is also an accessible book, nothing "difficult" here to plow through, and so that means it is far from boring. Well, I'd thought before I read it that it might contain a tad bit of boredom, but Goodall knows when to pause, when to move forward quickly and when to stop altogether. She tells stories of plants (you will absolutely love the one about "Survivor," the tree who on 9/11 survived a building falling on it) that will make you weep and cheer and laugh. She gives you interesting facts about plants that will stick in your memory, such as the Empress Josephine was crazy for Dr. Dahl's best flower: Dahlias. She raised them herself and would allow no one else to handle them. Also, I'd always thought orchids were rare and timid plants but it turns out they comprise the largest family of flowering plants, over 26,000 species with more than 100 new species being discovered every year. I enjoyed, as well, hearing about the plant explorers who traveled all over the world, had many amazing adventures, only to collect strange and new plants and bring them back to Europe. Finally, Goodall and her group has worked with medicine men and

women all over the world, 86 to be exact, and every one of them declares that EVERY PLANT has some kind of healing power. How nice that Mother Earth so looks after her children.

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