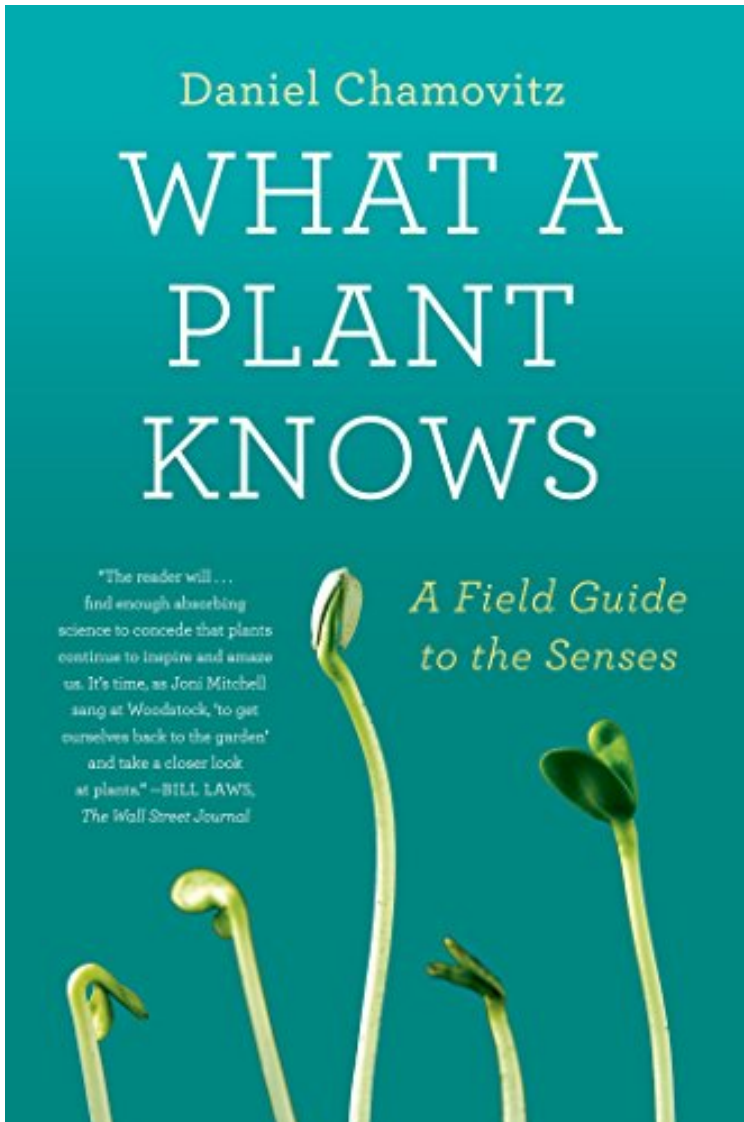


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# What a Plant Knows: A Field Guide to the Senses



Par Daniel Chamovitz  
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## Description :

Prsentation de l'diteurHow does a Venus flytrap know when to snap shut? Can it actually feel an insect's tiny, spindly legs? And how do cherry blossoms know when to bloom? Can they actually remember the weather?For centuries we have collectively marveled at plant diversity and formfrom Charles Darwin's early fascination with stems to Seymour Krelborn's distorted doting in Little Shop of Horrors. But now, in What a Plant Knows, the renowned biologist Daniel Chamovitz presents an intriguing and scrupulous look at how plants themselves experience the worldfrom the colors they see to the schedules they keep. Highlighting the latest research in genetics and more, he takes us into the inner lives of plants and draws parallels with the

human senses to reveal that we have much more in common with sunflowers and oak trees than we may realize. Chamovitz shows how plants know up from down, how they know when a neighbor has been infested by a group of hungry beetles, and whether they appreciate the Led Zeppelin you've been playing for them or if they're more partial to the melodic riffs of Bach. Covering touch, sound, smell, sight, and even memory, Chamovitz encourages us all to consider whether plants might even be aware of their surroundings. A rare inside look at what life is really like for the grass we walk on, the flowers we sniff, and the trees we climb, *What a Plant Knows* offers us a greater understanding of science and our place in nature.

Revue de presse Thick with eccentric plant experiments and astonishing plant science... Delightful - The Sunday Times Exhilarating - The RHS Garden Elegantly written... Chamovitz lets us see plants in a new light, one which reveals their true wonder. - The Guardian Chamovitz's book is pop science at its best, full of vivid examples of barely imaginable ways of living --BBC Wildlife, Book of the Month An intriguing and scientific - but easy to read - look at how plants experience life - Gardens Illustrated Plants may be brainless, eyeless and devoid of senses as we know them, but they have a rudimentary awareness, says biologist Daniel Chamovitz. In this beautiful reframing of the botanical, he reveals the extent and kind of that awareness through a bumper crop of research. - Nature The reader... will find enough absorbing science to concede that plants continue to inspire and amaze us. - Wall Street Journal By comparing human senses to the abilities of plants to adapt to their surroundings, the author provides a fascinating and logical explanation of how plants survive despite the inability to move from one site to another. --Kirkus s *What a Plant Knows* is lively, eloquent, scientifically accurate, and easy-to-read... I commend this engaging text to all who wonder about life on Earth, and seek a compelling introduction to the lives of plants revealed through centuries of careful scientific experimentation. - Professor Stephen D. Hopper, Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

Chamovitz walks the *Homo sapiens* reader right into the shoes - or I should say roots - of the plant world. You will marvel and be haunted by a plant's sensory attributes and the shared genes between the plant and animal kingdoms. - Elisabeth Tova Bailey, author of *The Sound of a Wild Snail Eating* With deftness and clarity, Chamovitz introduces plants' equivalents of our senses, plus floral forms of memory and orientation. When you realize how much plants know, you may think twice before you bite them! - Hannah Holmes, author of *Suburban Safari* Just as his groundbreaking research uncovered connections between the plant and animal kingdoms, Daniel Chamovitz's insights in *What a Plant Knows* transcend the world of plants. You'll see plants in a new light after reading this book. - Gloria Coruzzi, Professor of Biology, New York University

A fascinating book that explores accessibly the evidence that plants share more properties with animals than most people appreciate. --John and Mary Gribbin, authors of *The Flower Hunters*

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