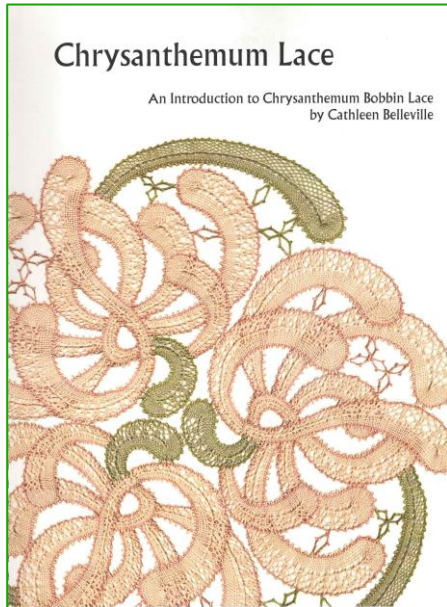# Chrysanthemum Lace: An Introduction to Chrysanthemum Bobbin Lace
Cathleen Belleville

If you are ever looking for an easier to do lace that is very pretty, but easy, Chrysanthemum Lace may be a good choice. This style of lace uses limited techniques. It is also fast to make.

Chrysanthemum Lace is a book that will get you going on these techniques. It starts with a brief history, which is largely a mystery. This mid-19th century lace is claimed by several countries as its origin. It has some semblance to Milanese and Russian laces, but some also think that there is a connection to Bloemwork. Due to non-existent documentation, the origins are lost.

While this book is not recommended for complete beginners, it starts with a description of beginning techniques. From there it goes to techniques specific to Chrysanthemum Lace. There are descriptions of how to handle the tape including "cheating" on curves. There are discussions on how to make the semicircle pivots on the end of petals. There is detailed discussion on how to do the spider ground tape. Additionally, starts and stops, how to add or decrease pairs, how to start a petal, and how to end off are included. There is even information on how to carry pairs between petals.

To check out the instructions, I made the first piece. It was very fast to make. I consider it a worthwhile project since I could make a few mistakes and understand what should have been done. I consider it an excellent exercise piece.

The end of the book is devoted to design. There are a lot of ideas here. There is also guidance on how to make a good design, both artistically as well as physically. There a lot of drawings of petals that someone could use in their designs.

I recommend this book to people with at least a little more than beginning level. For people who still consider themselves beginners, having someone around to help guide you would let you try this. Given the limited techniques involved, it should be fairly easy to learn.

Sharon Sacco