



To Drink and to Eat: Treats and Tribulations from a French Kitchen

Guillaume Long

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Intelligent and humorous, *To Drink and to Eat* covers Guillaume Long's delightful culinary adventures.

Long doesn't claim to be a food critic, but his work with *Le Monde*, and his previous volumes of *To Drink and to Eat*, established his reputation as a writer who appreciates good food. In this edition, he travels to Spain and regions of France, attentive to the preparation and enjoyment of local fare.

Here, a cartoon version of hard-rocker Lemmy Kilmister instructs on the preparation of a leek appetizer, and highbrow lines like "This hot chocolate is as dense as a James Joyce novel" stand alongside Long's simple but maddening quest for a Burger King. Pages of tips include advice on making a successful tart crust and picking a perfect lobster, along with more pedestrian tasks like reheating cold pasta and using plastic wrap.

Step-by-step illustrations make the process of cooking easier and more fun to follow, showing details that a typical cookbook might describe in its text or ignore altogether: a recipe for sardine butter contrasts the consistency of "good" and "not good" mixtures via side-by-side visuals.

The content is varied, featuring culinary travelogues and recipes, mixed with standalone comic strips, recollections of great (and not-so-great food experiences, and information about a great variety of foods. An illustrated guide to spices and herbs is included—a valuable kitchen reference.

To Drink and to Eat is as delicious a treat as the foods showcased within it.

PETER DABBENE (January / February 2022)

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