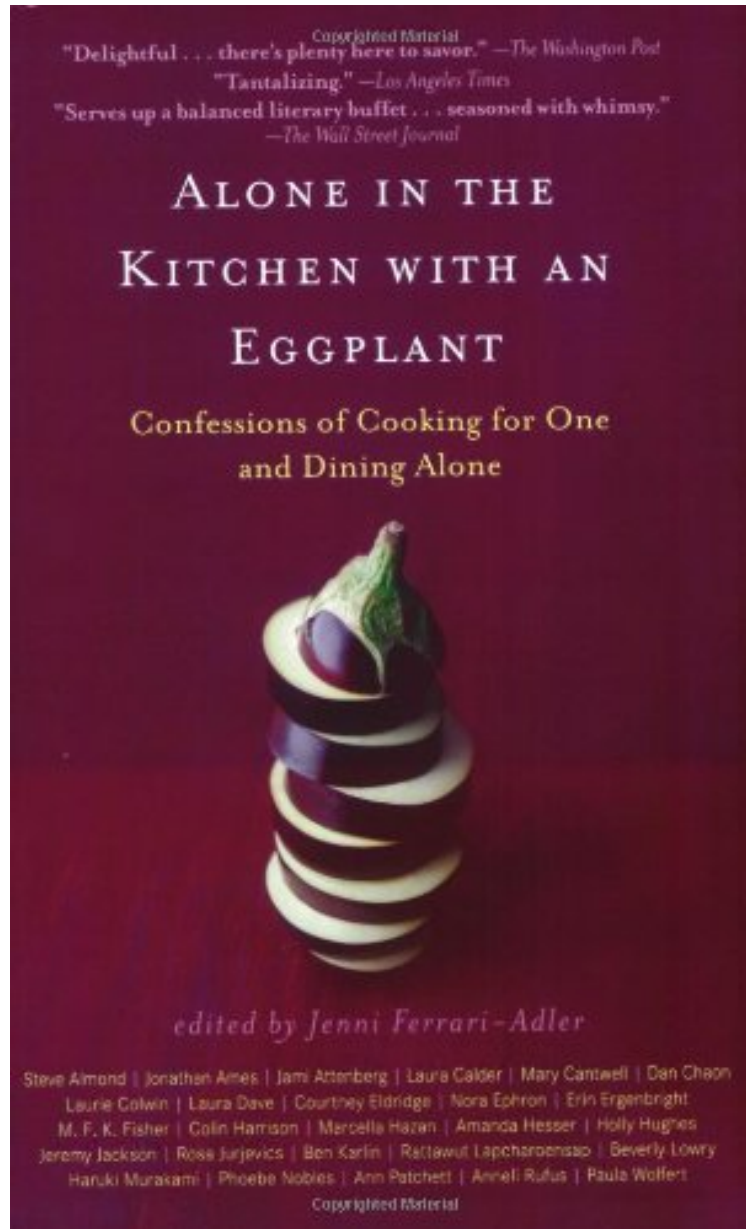


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Alone in the Kitchen with an Eggplant: Confessions of Cooking for One and Dining Alone

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From Brand: Riverhead : Alone in the Kitchen with an Eggplant: Confessions of Cooking for One and Dining Alone before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Alone in the Kitchen with an Eggplant: Confessions of Cooking for One and Dining Alone:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. delightful reading, eloquent, varied, lovely!By Gwendolen GrossI would have picked up this book based on the Laurie Colwin quote alone (and the gorgeous jacket!), but was thrilled by the diverse essays--some of which are really about food ("Asparagus Superhero" by Phoebe Nobles, which is also really a bit of a body confessional), some about loneliness (Haruki Murakami's stylish "The Year of Spaghetti," and Jeremy Jackson's impressions of exile in "Beans and Me"), and some more tangential, even abstract. I loved the relationship between the essays, recurring themes and variations. Ferrari-Adler's eloquent introduction is like a welcome into a bread-scented kitchen--I felt entirely at ease, taking up a wine glass to join the conversation. Delicious!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Can't wait for my husband to go out of town, so I can cook for myself again!By SarahspondaI really like this book. I'm halfway through it. I have enjoyed reading it an essay at a time. It has sparked great conversations with my friends and the people I work with when we are at lunch. I thought I was alone in the way I cook for myself when I'm the only one eating, but that's not the case! One might choose to spoil one's self by making something deliciously rich and having a great glass of wine to accompany the meal. On the other hand, some think it is a treat not to have to make a mess in the kitchen, making one's self the simplest of meals.cheese and crackers. I've gone both routes myself! Anyhow, I think it would be a fun book for a book club!1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent collection of culinary based talesBy S. GlickmanThis book contains a wide variety of stories centered on each author's experiences with and personal relationships with food. Whether an author is famous or lessor known, it will make no difference to the reader as the editor has done a wonderful job assembling a stellar collection of tales to which the reader can relate. I personally have been inspired to eat as much asparagus as I possibly can this year in large part because, as it seems that every year I seem to glom on to some fruit or vegetable and eat about as much of it as I can, one of the authors in the book relates her similar foray into asparagus and now that is this year's spot lit food for me.Some of the stories will lead you to be able to recreate the food or dish that meant so much to the author. Some will just make an emotional connection with you (you'll laugh, you'll cry, it'll become a part of you) and you'll appreciate the author's life view as reflected in their take on food.Ultimately, you will read this book, you will feel your time has been well spent, and you will leave it on a conveniently located shelf so you can quickly check on the spelling of asparagus in German.

In this delightful and much buzzed-about essay collection, 26 food writers like Nora Ephron, Laurie Colwin, Jami Attenberg, Ann Patchett, and M. F. K. Fisher invite readers into their kitchens to reflect on the secret meals and recipes for one person that they relish when no one else is looking. Part solace, part celebration, part handbook, *Alone in the Kitchen with an Eggplant* offers a wealth of company, inspiration, and humor and finally, solo recipes in these essays about food that require no division or subtraction, for readers of Gabrielle Hamilton's *Blood, Bones Butter* and Tamar Adler's *The Everlasting Meal*. Featuring essays by: Steve Almond, Jonathan Ames, Jami Attenberg, Laura Calder, Mary Cantwell, Dan Chaon, Laurie Colwin, Laura Dave, Courtney Eldridge, Nora Ephron, Erin Ergenbright, M. F. K. Fisher, Colin Harrison, Marcella Hazan, Amanda Hesser, Holly Hughes, Jeremy Jackson, Rosa Jurjevics, Ben Karlin, Rattawut Lapcharoensap, Beverly Lowry, Haruki Murakami, Phoebe Nobles, Ann Patchett, Anneli Rufus and Paula Wolfert. View our feature on the essay collection *Alone in the Kitchen with an Eggplant*.

From Publishers Weekly A mishmash of foodie writers dispute, humorously or more self-seriously, the pros and cons of cooking and dining alone. While eating by oneself can be the busy worker's greatest pleasure, as Colin Harrison notes of his solitary Manhattan lunches during a work day ("Out to Lunch"), and mother Holly Hughes ("Luxury") agrees is a secret but too rare pleasure, other writers see it as depressing or shameful. In "The Lonely Palate," Laura Calder quotes Epicurus as saying, "we should look for someone to eat and drink with before looking for something to eat and drink" then offers a recipe for Kippers Mash. Eating is an act of love, thus prompting Jonathan Ames ("Poisonous Eggs") to dine out and flirt with the waitress. "Table for One" by Erin Ergenbright records how the single diner is perceived uneasily by the wait staff. And M.F.K. Fisher relishes solitary dining ("A Is for Dining Alone") as a way to escape "the curious disbelieving impertinence of the people in restaurants." The collection is named after an essay by Laurie Colwin, who found a dozen different ways to cook eggplant on her two-burner hot plate while living alone in a tiny Greenwich Village flat. (July) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist In this celebration of the meal for one, Ferrari-Adler connects short essays from a diverse set of writers recounting solitary suppers and reflecting on the singular rewards and blissful consolation of indulging no one else's hungers but one's own. Marcella Hazan affirms this truth, noting that the single diner tends to disdain nutrition for comfort and familiarity, but without sinking into childhood formulations. Many of these writers address the specific challenges of cooking in the severely limited conditions presented by tiny Manhattan apartments. Laura Dave contends that in such cramped circumstances the conscientious cook learns never to prepare anything that may leave a lingering odor. Ann Patchett seems ultimately to reject the notion of dining alone, contending that feeding others is one of the most basic means of making human connections. In the few recipes recorded here, cheese figures prominently, from fine Gruyere through pedestrian cottage cheese. Knoblauch, Mark aA balanced literary buffet...seasoned with whimsy.a a"Wall Street Journal"?A balanced literary buffet...seasoned with whimsy.? ?"Wall

