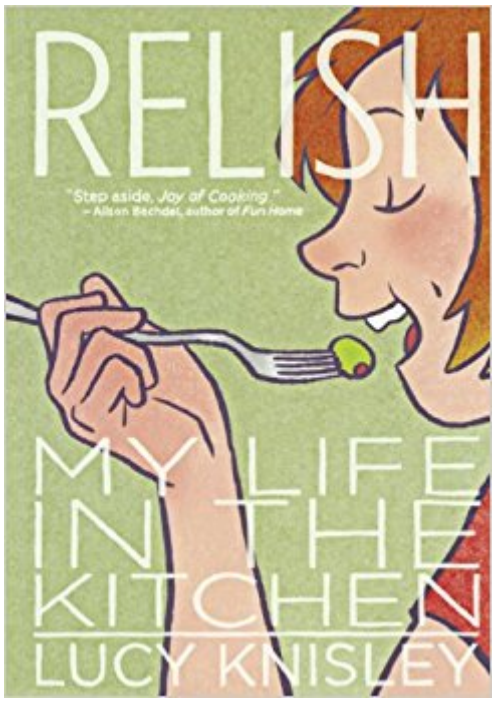
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Relish: My Life In The Kitchen (Turtleback School & Library Binding Edition)



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Synopsis

FOR USE IN SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES ONLY. A graphically illustrated, recipe-complemented memoir by the indie cartoonist author of French Milk describes her food-enriched youth as the daughter of a chef and a gourmet, key memories that were marked by special meals and the ways in which cooking has imparted valuable life lessons.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Gr 6 Up-In 12 autobiographical vignettes, a comic artist recalls growing up surrounded by a love of food. Knisley shares coming-of-age experiences in tandem with recipes for some memorable dishes. All are illustrated with full-color cartoons that guide readers step-by-step to the creation of these culinary delights. Ã Â (c) Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. --This text refers to an alternate Library Binding edition.

Knisley, daughter of a chef mother and gourmand father, had the kind of upbringing that would make any foodie salivate, and sheÃ¢â ¬â„¢s happy to share. In this collection of memories studded with recipes, she explores how food shaped her family life, friendships, travel experiences, and early career as a cartoonist. Loosely connected chapters chart a child- and young adulthood surrounded by cooks and bakers, bouncing between Manhattan kitchens and upstate farmhouses, and through art school and the booming culinary scene in Chicago. KnisleyÃ¢â ¬â„¢s artwork has a classic,

Richard Scarry vibe, and her illustrated recipesÃ¢â ¬â •from a family-special leg of lamb and huevos rancheros to the trick for perfectly sautÃƒÂ©ed mushroomsÃ¢â ¬â •are particularly delightful and inventive. Knisley tempers any navel-gazing impulses with humor, humility, and honesty, noting, for example, that even someone who loves fine food can still put away a truckload of McDonaldÃ¢â ¬â„¢s fries from time to time. Just about everything in this rambling memoir is handled with good cheer, which hints at the positive energy and personal fulfillment Knisley has wrought from her young life in food. --Ian Chipman --This text refers to an alternate Library Binding edition.

Personally I loved this graphic novel. Also, I think it’s worth mentioning, since a lot of reviewers seem to be unfamiliar with what a "Graphic Novel" is. It’s a comic book. It’s got pictures in it, that’s why it’s called "graphic", and it tells a story, hence being a "novel". Ugh!Okay, now to my actual review! If you’ve read any other books by Knisley then you’ll love this. Relish is a really lovely, slow paced memoir about Knisley’s life through food. Each chapter is sort of based around a specific event, and the food is what seems to bring the event all together at the end. There are only a few recipes in the book but they’re all accompanied by lovely infographic illustrations and directions. I especially love the cheese guide. This book will make you want to eat at every restaurant she mentions and I dream of her grandma’s pickles! I must say I’m actually pretty jealous of her life, she traveled a lot as a kid, and even went to Europe with only a friend as a teen. What I would have given for my mother to let me do that! The way she describes each food item will make your mouth water, never have I craved a good croissant so much! Haha.Anyway, this is not an action packed spiderman type book, this is not a batman comic, it’s a thought out, elegant graphic novel about a girls life through food, suitable for reading with your preteens, as a gift for teenagers, or any adult you know that likes food and art.

The art is wonderful and whimsical and really enjoyable in its simplicity. The layouts were also thoughtful and never overwhelming or misdirecting. The story was just okay- it was a book of moments but the author could go further in being reflective, meta-cognitive and more vulnerable emotionally. For that reason it felt more travelogue via food than a book I could emotionally connect to- felt too descriptive, leaving me wondering why the author wrote this book other than to say she grew up a foodie- even moments in her life like her parents’ divorce or coming of age romance moments fell emotionally flat when I doubt they felt that way to her in read life. The book’s recipes were a highlight, fun to read and I am tempted to make them. My 5th grade students really enjoyed

it though I don’t think this was the author’s intended audience. For a book called Relish, there was so little sensuality infused moments- more like nibble or taste.Biggest complaint- I had to buy it twice because the digital version is REALLY difficult to read, it’s a poorly formatted mess and shouldn’t even be offered digitally. Buy the physical copy if you actually want a readable copy.

Growing up, LucyÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s parents loved food. Her mom, who liked to work in kitchens in New York, turned caterer after her parentsÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢ divorce. Her dad just loved good food. As she grew older and more appreciative of good cooking, Lucy never forgot her roots or her ingrained love of food. Told in chapters titled with her favorite food dishes, Lucy talks about her first delicious bites of each dish as well as some of her later life experiences. A fun read for fellow foodies everywhere.The illustrations were colorful, fairly easy to follow, and complemented the text. The story was a little dry in parts and I had a hard time getting into the story. The recipes inside were enjoyable to look at, but I hadn’t had a chance to try any yet. Overall, I think people interested in food will enjoy this book, but as a stand-alone biography, probably not.

The only reason I haven’t given ’My Life in the Kitchen’ five stars is because I’m intent on leaving 5 for her next book. If I do 5 stars now, where will I go afterwards?Kinisley has had me in her illustrative storytelling grasp for almost a decade. Her work never loses its charm. That’s because she tells real stories with heart. Her illustrations have such life that it never fails to color her books for me.Packed with recipes and lovely drawings of kitchen life, it’s bound to make foodies proud and newbies ready to roll up their sleeves and explore - or order Blue Apron. Lol

Lucy Knisley is one of my favorite comic book memoir creators. Comics are really one if the few ways in which we can visually examine life in ways that no other medium allows. Knisley’s work is thoughtful and immersive, in a way that fills the reader with appreciation for the world around. In this book, she looks at food as one of the often overlooked pleasures of being alive. We learn about her relationship with the act of eating, preparation, and sharing of a good meal. I’ve always felt like you really don’t know something until you’ve had the chance to draw it, and this book proves that drawing and writing life can enhance it and turn it into a shared experience. Knisley finds a kind of sweet depth in life that invites thoughtfulness, and the cherishing of life.

This book was a great disappointment. The drawings were too small so I could not read anything. It is not a book for the Kindle. I am sorry I bought it.

I enjoyed the general story, and I LOVE her art style; however, it fell a little flat in places. There were moments (shamed to say, the McDonalds section) that inspired me to eat good food, but the story seemed to vacillate from a little too "young" and then a little too "adult" at other parts. Because of that, I had a hard time placing what age group this book is really for--I think junior highers would like it, but there are some "raw" moments shared. With all that said, it IS the author/illustrator's story, so she should tell it like it is--it is just hard for teachers and parents to classify it.

I really enjoyed Relish - Lucy Knisley's artwork is crisp and colorful as always, and her stories of travel are, as usual, wonderfully drawn. The mixed in recipes were a very nice touch!

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