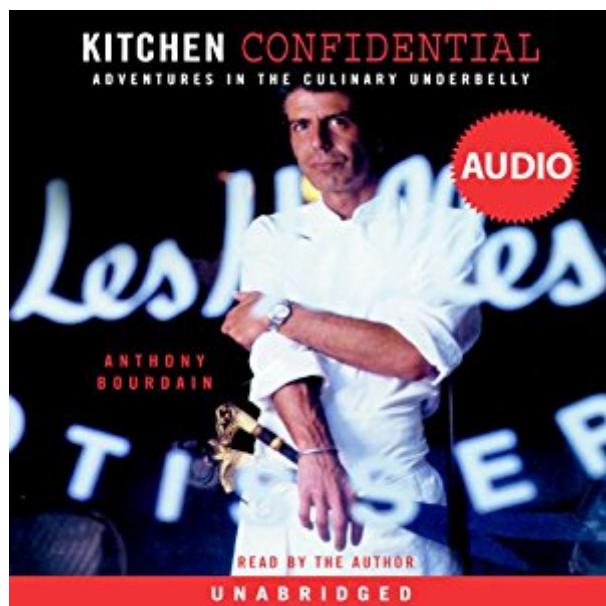


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Kitchen Confidential: Adventures In The Culinary Underbelly



Synopsis

Six cassettes, 9 hrs. Read by the author When Chef Anthony Bourdain wrote "Don't Eat Before You Read This" in The New Yorker, he spared no one's appetite, revealing what goes on behind the kitchen door. In KITCHEN CONFIDENTIAL, he expanded the appetizer into a deliciously funny, delectably shocking banquet that lays out his twenty-five years of sex, drugs, and haute cuisine. From his first oyster in Gironde to the kitchen of the Rainbow Room atop Rockefeller Center, from the restaurants of Tokyo to the drug dealers of the East Village, from the mobsters to the rats, Bourdain's brilliantly written and wonderfully read, wild-but-true tales make the belly ache with laughter. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 8 hours

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Random House Audio

Audible.com Release Date: February 6, 2001

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B00005AAQ7

Best Sellers Rank: #5 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Nonfiction > Lifestyle & Home > Cooking #12 in Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Cooking Education & Reference > Essays #14 in Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Beverages & Wine > Wine & Spirits

Customer Reviews

GREAT book! I couldn't put it down. Having been in food service most of my life, I'm only 26 yrs old and feel like I've already been exposed to it all. After reading this...not even close. Anthony never goes far beyond the truth of spending his time in a kitchen. Explaining each and every detail about his experiences from culinary school all the way to executive chef running his own restaurant. There's definitely some evil out there, but also many rewards. He tells it how it is. There's plenty of spoilers in this book including talk about what kinds of knives to use, kitchen equipment and about how to improve upon your own skills as a chef, restaurant employee or even an owner. However, this is really a story--not business for dummies. He's done a great job here.

We are all different, I realize. But Anthony Bourdain is undoubtedly the most unique person I've ever met. I've met him through his TV show, and gotten much better acquainted through this book. I particularly appreciate his being willing to share parts of his childhood plus deeply personal parts of his life that few of us would be willing to share with others. And the way he tells his some of his stories is very funny. Yes, I loved this book.

As a foodie and former restaurant owner I found this book a great read. My better half didn't like the language or attitude but the reality is that Bourdain is accurate in his story telling and even though we were located in our state's third largest city, nothing like NYC, I heard and saw the same attitude in our "urban" kitchen. After the read I came across a young man who wanted to work in my kitchen; after a few miserable days of sloppy work I told him that he needed to read this book to understand the world he thought he wanted to be in and why my standards on cleanliness and prep was so important. I gave him another week and as of today he has left food service (fired rather for using oven cleaner on my grill top) and pursuing a career as a nurse. Let's just say I plan on avoiding the hospital he gets a job in! So, my point is, if you were ever interested in food service and have dreams of being a fancy chef you seen on the Food Network then read this book for a dose of reality!

After watching Bourdain on Kitchen Confidential, I wasn't entirely surprised at most of his extra curricular activities and general attitude that he chooses to share in this book. I DO, I believe, have a greater respect for the work and dedication that goes in to choosing this line of work and I believe I will probably be much more suspect of what might be happening behind the closed doors of the restaurants I go to. I am also more conscious of the things I use to cook with. Along with being more biographical, he balances the details with colorful stories of his life and behind the scenes "goings on" which holds your interest throughout. This is the first book of his that I have read and I would like to read another one! My problem is - which one should I choose.

OK. I admit, I read it because I have a huge crush on the man. That said, I'll read his other books too, because he is a very entertaining writer, who comes across very much like he does on TV. "Kitchen Confidential" is about everything you don't want to know about what goes on in a restaurant behind those swinging doors, and if it doesn't put you off going out to eat for a while, you're a far better man than I. Being a carbawhore (and artisanal bread slut in particular), I would kill to taste bread made by Adam Real-Last-Name-Unknown. It sounds heavenly, even if he doesn't.

I love watching any and all things Anthony Bourdain and finally gave his first book a read to learn more about the origins of the man. It may be because I have watched so many of his shows, but I can picture him telling the story as if he's in the room with me as I read. He has an amusing and blunt writing voice that makes you laugh out loud at his crazy young antics and previous restaurant shenanigans. The layout of the book is very unique and intriguing as well, as he bounces around from childhood, to the necessities for any kitchen, to a day in the life at Les Halles. No stone is left un-turned in the "real" restaurant world by the time you finish reading. It was a book I couldn't stand to put down and yet couldn't bare to finish since I wanted more.

very easy to read, it's written in an easy english so even those like me who use english as a second language can enjoy understanding all of it. great for a beach reading

Anthony Bourdain's Kitchen Confidential has already turned a few stomachs with its frank discussions of what goes on in the kitchens of America's favorite restaurants. He revels in anecdotes that would make an Ozzy Osbourne roadie question the catered stuff on his plate. Sex, drugs, sex near food while on drugs: Bourdain gleefully dishes the dirt on some of his former haunts, from the fish houses of New England to the elegant-on-the-outside eateries of New York. Yet the tone he takes with his joyously muckraking expose/memoir follows a distinctive rhythm, a blunt, boastful swagger that recalls some accounts of organized crime. Bourdain is just as likely to tantalize with his descriptions of food as disgust with his descriptions of the people and actions swirling around it, the activities disgusting yet somehow funny at the same time. It's an exhilarating combination often invoked in mobster tell-alls, but while there's more than a little goodfella in Bourdain—he dices, dresses, and dishes with trash-talking braggadocio—he clearly loves what he does. While he admits early on that the call of the kitchen often comes only after every other option has failed, he clearly enjoys working in such terrible conditions. It's like he has the key to the ultimate backroom club, a place of privilege where everyone operates with a different set of rules and gets off on a different set of thrills. Eat to live, don't live to eat, the saying goes, and for Bourdain, life is never better than when he's the one doing the cooking.

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