

## FOODIE FILMS

Get a snack before you start.

### ***Edible Stories: A Novel in 16 Parts* by Mark Kurlansky**

A novel composed of linked tales set in Seattle examines the lives of a variety of men and women through the lens of their relationships with food and drink.

### ***Blessed are the Cheesemakers* by Sarah-Kate Lynch**

Set mainly in Ireland on a dairy farm, *Blessed are the cheesemakers* tells the story of two old men, who are the best cheesemakers in the world, and the broken hearted women and whisky-soaked men they rescue in the course of their daily doing. There's a love story, a family story, the lore of cheese-making (fiction or not), and some wonderfully appealing characters, including the cows which only give their top grade product when milked by vegetarian, unwed, pregnant teenagers who sing "The sound of music" while at their task. A tender and funny novel with a colorful cast of characters.

### ***Eat Cake* by Jeanne Ray**

Ruth draws on her talent for concocting delectable cakes and desserts when her family begins to disintegrate around her--her husband loses his job, her mother moves in, and her long-estranged father shows up at the door with no place to go.

### ***The Book of Salt* by Monique Truong**

Considering whether he will accompany his employers, Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas, to America, a personal cook remembers his youth in French-colonized Vietnam and his days cooking for the doyennes of the Lost Generation.

**Mostly Martha (2001)** Martha is the chef who fusses and obsesses over each dish before it leaves the kitchen. The demands of her job and her natural shyness keep her from meeting new people. When her sister suddenly dies, Martha adopts Lina, her eight-year-old niece, completely changing both lives. (Remade in English as **No Reservations (2008)**)

**Julie and Julia (2009)** Julie Powell is a frustrated insurance worker who wants to be a writer. Trying to find a challenge in her life, she decides to cook her way through Julia Child's 'Mastering the Art of French Cooking' in one year, and to blog about it. As Julie begins to find her groove as a cook, and her voice as a writer, the project takes on a life of its own.

**The Ramen Girl (2009)** Abandoned by her boyfriend in Tokyo, a young woman finds a job working for a tyrannical chef in a local ramen house and learns how to put excitement and enthusiasm back into her life as well as her cooking.

**Scotland, PA (2001)** A modernized retelling of "MacBeth" set in 1970s suburban Pennsylvania. Joe McBeth, an unambitious hamburger stand employee, is driven to success by his scheming wife.

**Tortilla Soup (2001)** A heartwarming comedy that's all about food, family and a certain kind of magic that only happens at the dinner table. Martin is the culinary genius behind a successful restaurant and the widowed father of three daughters whom he has a compulsion to try and steer in the right direction.

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# A FEAST OF FICTION



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### ***Crescent* by Diana Abu-Jaber**

An Arab-American Chocolat--a sensual blend of food, love and longing. Populated by colorful and memorable characters--the lovely Sirine; the handsome Han; Sirine's story-telling uncle, whose fantastic fables are woven into the novel; a poet named Aziz; Nadia and her daughter Mireille--Crescent explores the universal themes of love and loyalty to countries old and new, to those left behind, and to tradition.

### ***Garden Spells* by Sarah Addison Allen**

A successful caterer in Bascomb, North Carolina, Claire has always remained tied to the legacy of the Waverly family, until her peaceful life is transformed by Tyler Hughes, an art teacher and new next-door neighbor, and by the return of her prodigal sister, Sydney.

### ***The Lost Art of Mixing* by Erica Bauermeister**

Restaurant owner Lillian manages an unexpected challenge while sharing her days with a circle of friends and regulars, including ritual-performing accountant Al, heartbroken chef Chloe, and unobtrusive giant Finnegan.

### ***The Particular Sadness of Lemon Cake* by Aimee Bender**

Discovering in childhood a supernatural ability to taste the emotions of others in their cooking, Rose Edelstein grows up to regard food as a curse when it reveals everyone's secret realities.

### ***Like Water for Chocolate* by Laura Esquivel**

At the beginning of the 20th century, Tita, the youngest of three daughters, is expected to serve her mother for the rest of her life, but in order to show her love to Pedro, who is engaged to her sister, Tita cooks for him.

### ***Friendship Bread* by Darien Gee**

Receiving an unexpected gift of friendship bread and instructions for creating more to pass along, Julia Everts, a woman chronically depressed by the loss of her son, surprises her family by making the bread and sparking new friendships.

### ***The Cookbook Collector* by Allegra Goodman**

While executive Emily questions her choices about her career and a long-distance relationship with a successful man, her environmental activist sister, Jessamine, struggles with her own doubts about her beliefs and love affair.

### ***When in Doubt, Add Butter* by Elizabeth Harbison**

Dedicating herself to her culinary patrons, private chef Gemma Craig goes home every night to boxed cereals until an unexpected event compels a confrontation with the past and an unexpected romance.

### ***Five Quarters of the Orange* by Joanne Harris**

A sensual novel follows a woman as she returns to the French village where she lived as a girl during the German occupation.



### ***The Blue Bistro* by Elin Hilderbrand**

Having worked for six years in the hotels of exotic resort towns, Adrienne Dealey relocates to Nantucket in the hopes of recouping her finances and gets a crash course in restaurant management at a popular locale that is preparing to close, an endeavor that is compromised by her budding relationship with her boss.

### ***Comfort Food* by Kate Jacobs**

Augusta "Gus" Simpson, a Martha Stewart-esque TV cooking personality, has come a long way since her husband died suddenly... Channeling her grief into hard work, she carved a successful career out of her natural talents as a chef and hostess. But now, she finds that her well-earned turf may not be as secure as she thought. A hot young Latin beauty queen with a flair for spices and an ambition for stardom is threatening to steal her spot on the Cooking Channel. As Gus struggles to remake herself for a new age of media, she discovers that her entire life may need a makeover, including her relationship with her daughters and, perhaps, another chance at romance.

### ***How to Cook a Tart* by Nina Killham**

Cookbook author Jasmine March's life is turned upside down after her publisher drops her, her husband begins an affair with an aspiring actress, and her sixteen-year-old daughter plans to lose her virginity.