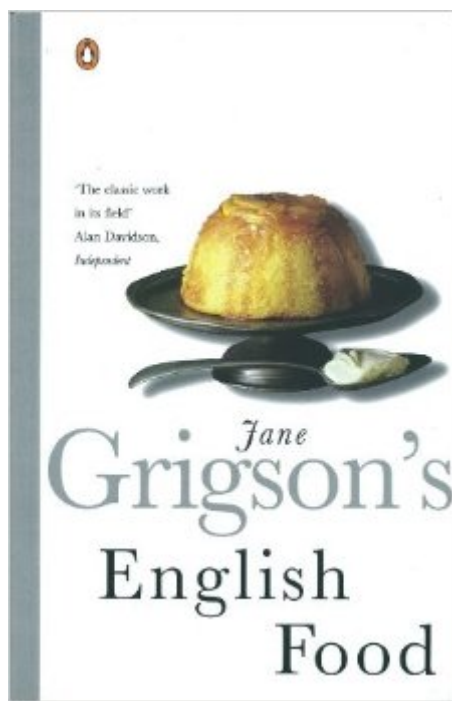


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Jane Grigsons English Food



Synopsis

ENGLISH FOOD reveals the richness and surprising diversity of England's culinary heritage. Fully updated and revised by Jane Grigson before her death in 1990, this joyful celebration of our national cuisine is a pleasure to cook from and a delight to read. 'This is the perfect English companion' - Guardian 'ENGLISH FOOD is an anthology all who follow her recipes will want to buy for themselves...enticing from page to page' - Spectator 'She restored pride to the subject of English food' - Evening Standard

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

'English Food' is eminent culinary writer, Jane Grigson's last and probably finest book, revised, except for the last chapter, just before her death in 1979. Grigson is in the fine tradition of English female culinary writers, and a disciple of the foremost English woman culinarian, Elizabeth David. In fact, in this Penguin edition, the book bears a spooky similarity to David's finest book on English bread baking. The value of this book is no better stated than on pages 56 - 57 where Grigson says 'We (the English) are always after some new thing. Which is fine in many ways, but in matters of food often disastrous. We are so busy running after the latest dish, that the good things we have known for centuries are forgotten as quickly as the boring things.' Just as the author points out that the use of the vegetable, sorrel has been lost to her audience, books such as this one seem to slip into obscurity while newer books don't entirely replace them, and what was once common knowledge is lost to modern amateur culinarians. Before going any further, I must warn you that this book is not your typical collection of 'authentic old recipes' as you may find from famous culinary locales such as Williamsburg restaurants or Philadelphia's City Tavern. It is much more of a

historical study like that of her mentor, David, cited above. That is not to say one cannot glean lots of good recipes from this book, especially for 'forgotten' dishes. In fact, in comparing her recipes with those in David's bread book, I find Grigson's much easier to follow, as she gives more highly structured lists of ingredients and more detailed descriptions of techniques.

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