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What's on Your Summer Reading List? The James Beard Foundation Recommends *Fourteen Great Reads for Food Lovers*

New York, NY (May 21, 2012) – If you devour food literature with the same passion that you bring to consuming the latest dining trends, the James Beard Foundation has the ultimate summer reading list for you. “Fourteen Great Reads for Food Lovers” is a collected list of memoirs, history, and fiction for foodies to dive into during the 14 weeks between Memorial Day and Labor Day. Selected by an array of culinary experts from the James Beard Foundation Book Awards Committee, this essential list was inspired by the popularity of the Book Committee’s 2010 “The Baker’s Dozen” list, a compilation of 13 essential baking books that spanned almost four decades, from 1973 to 2010.

“Great food writing springs from so many different sources and we want to make people aware of just how many terrific choices that gives them for summer reading,” said Matt Sartwell, chair of the James Beard Foundation Book Awards Committee. “We include memoirs, plenty of wry humor, a good dose of natural history, and a shot of exuberant fiction, turning to writers who are as current as Gabrielle Hamilton, or as venerated as A.J. Liebling and M.F.K. Fisher.”

All of the titles were selected by the James Beard Foundation Book Awards Committee, a group of seasoned culinary publishing professionals who have been writing, editing, reviewing, buying and selling cookbooks for decades.

Books were chosen by the following committee members: Naomi Duguid, cookbook author; Carol Mighton Haddix, former food editor of the *Chicago Tribune*; Martha Holmberg, cookbook author and editorial director of Watershed Communications; Ellen Rose, former owner of the Los Angeles cookbook store The Cook's Library; Matt Sartwell, manager of Kitchen Arts & Letters in New York; Irene Sax, food writer and food-writing instructor for New York University; Tara Q. Thomas, senior editor, *Wine & Spirits*; Andrea Weigl, food writer for *The News & Observer*, and Grace Young, cookbook author.

Fourteen Great Reads for Food Lovers:

1. *The Art of Eating* by M. F. K. Fisher (John Wiley & Sons)
2. *Between Meals: An Appetite for Paris* by A.J. Liebling (North Point Press)
3. *Blood, Bones & Butter* by Gabrielle Hamilton (Random House)
4. *Day of Honey: A Memoir of Food, Love, and War* by Annia Ciezadlo (Free Press)
5. *A Debt to Pleasure* by John Lanchester (Picador)

6. *An Everlasting Meal: Cooking with Economy and Grace* by Tamar Adler (Scribner)
7. *The Fortune Cookie Chronicles: Adventures in the World of Chinese Food* by Jennifer 8. Lee (Twelve)
8. *Heat: An Amateur's Adventures as Kitchen Slave, Line Cook, Pasta-Maker, and Apprentice to a Dante-Quoting Butcher in Tuscany* by Bill Buford (Vintage)
9. *Home Cooking: A Writer in the Kitchen* by Laurie Colwin (Vintage)
10. *The Man Who Ate Everything* by Jeffrey Steingarten (Vintage)
11. *Oranges* by John McPhee (Farrar, Straus & Giroux)
12. *The Oysters of Locmariaquer* by Eleanor Clark (Ecco Press)
13. *Simple Cooking* by John Thorne (North Point Press)
14. *The Tummy Trilogy* by Calvin Trillin (Farrar, Straus, & Giroux)

For further information on the James Beard Foundation and its “Beard on Books” and “Enlightened Eaters” literary series, go to jamesbeard.org/education.

About the James Beard Foundation

Founded in 1986, the James Beard Foundation is dedicated to celebrating, nurturing, and preserving America’s diverse culinary heritage and future. A cookbook author and teacher, James Beard was a champion of American cuisine who helped educate and mentor generations of professional chefs and food enthusiasts. Today the Beard Foundation continues in the same spirit by offering a variety of events and programs designed to educate, inspire, entertain, and foster a deeper understanding of our culinary culture. These programs include educational initiatives, food industry awards, an annual national food conference, Leadership Awards program, culinary scholarships, and publications. In addition to maintaining the historic James Beard House in New York City’s Greenwich Village as a “performance space” for visiting chefs, the Foundation has created a robust online community, and hosts tastings, lectures, workshops, and food-related art exhibits in New York City and around the country. For more information, please visit jamesbeard.org. You can find insights on food at the James Beard Foundation’s blog [Delights & Prejudices](#), become a JBF member at jamesbeard.org/join, like the James Beard Foundation on [Facebook](#), and follow the James Beard Foundation on [Twitter](#) and [Pinterest](#).

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