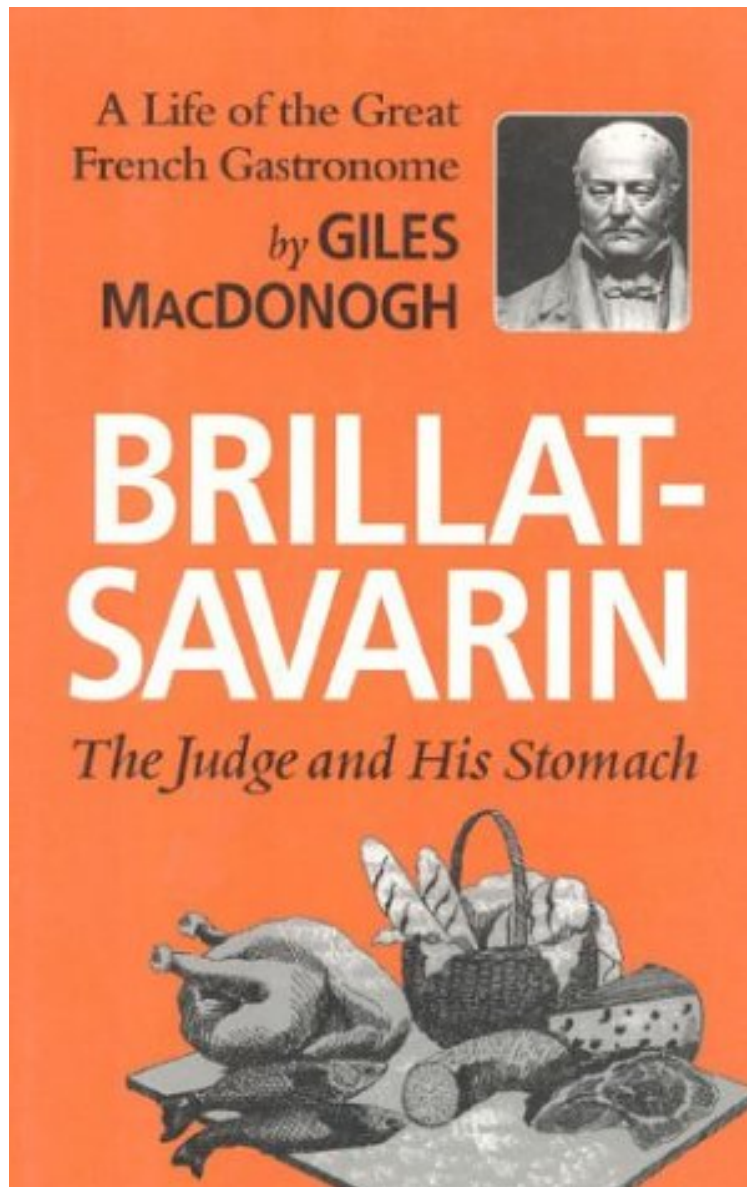


[Free and download] Brillat-Savarin: The Judge and His Stomach

Brillat-Savarin: The Judge and His Stomach

Giles MacDonogh

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Giles MacDonogh : Brillat-Savarin: The Judge and His Stomach before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Brillat-Savarin: The Judge and His Stomach:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Great food anecdotesBy Lynn HarnettMacDonogh's biography of the 18th century French gastronome, public official and judge, Jean-Anthelme Brillat-Savarin, spans the French Revolution and the Napoleanic Empire. Brillat-Savarin, best known for the book written in the last years of his life,

"The Physiology of Taste," swam in the thick of French politics and upheaval. A provincial member of the revolutionary French Assembly, Brillat-Savarin was forced to flee to America during the worst of guillotine fever. In the midst of flight he met a sailor whose tongue had been cut out by pirates and was curious to know if he retained the ability to taste. McDonogh seasons Brillat-Savarin with such anecdotes - lavish feasts at pre-revolutionary abbeys where the young lawyer played violin with an ensemble of friends, turkey shoots in America, contests of gluttony in inns and restaurants, specialties discovered in cafes and homes during his extensive travels throughout Europe. After years of rocky fortunes, Brillat-Savarin found favor with Napoleon and landed tenure as a judge. He recalls Napoleon's abstemious habits and the groaning tables of some of his aides. In retirement, upon Napoleon's defeat, he grew grapes and wrote about law, medicine and food. McDonogh's gastronomic anecdotes make better reading than the volatile politics. Not much is really known of Brillat-Savarin's days (his relatives destroyed many of his letters and stories) and the biography is filled with "probably's" and "may have done's." Sometimes humorous, sometimes dry, this is an interesting volume for the setting and the food. 4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. A life torn between revolution and gastronomy. By Pierre Cormon Brillat-Savarin is without contest the nicest figure in French history. Far from being only a gourmet, he was also deeply involved in the events of the French revolution. Giles Mac Donogh renders perfectly the atmosphere of a life turned upside down by history, at a time when the cuisine itself experienced a deep change: the first restaurants were opened a few years before the revolution.

The first full and authoritative biography of the father of gastronomy. MacDonogh not only chronicles Brillat's many pursuits, he also presents a fascinating picture of provincial France under the ancien regime and the dangerous years that followed its fall. The world of revolutionaries and gourmets explored with elegance and scholarship. Observer.

An engaging and well-researched biography... Brillat-Savarin emerges as an enormously likeable man. (Christina Hardymont Independent) MacDonogh explores with elegance and scholarship the world of revolutionaries and gourmets. (Robin Smyth Observer) Highly readable... a convincing portrait of this marvelous hedonist. (Bruce Palling Country Life) "An excellent, absorbing, and very amusing book." (Jennifer Patterson Literary) About the Author Giles MacDonogh was educated at Oxford and at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes Pratiques in Paris. He is recognized for his writings on wine and food, and for his book *A Palate in Revolution*. He lives in London.