

Life Is Meals: A Food Lover's Book of Days

James Salter, Kay Salter



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From the PEN/Faulkner Award-winning author James Salter and his wife, Kay—amateur chefs and perfect hosts—here is a charming, beautifully illustrated tour de table: a food lover's companion that, with an entry for each day of the year, takes us from a Twelfth Night cake in January to a champagne dinner on New Year's Eve. *Life Is Meals* is rich with culinary wisdom, history, recipes, literary pleasures, and the authors' own memories of successes and catastrophes.

For instance:

• The menu on the *Titanic* on the fatal night

• Reflections on dining from Queen Victoria, JFK, Winnie-the-Pooh, Garrison Keillor, and many others

• The seductiveness of a velvety Brie or the perfect martini

- How to decide whom to invite to a dinner party-and whom not to
- John Irving's family recipe for meatballs; Balzac's love of coffee
- The greatest dinner ever given at the White House
- Where in Paris Samuel Beckett and Harold Pinter had French onion soup at 4:00 a.m.
- How to cope with acts of God and man-made disasters in the kitchen

Sophisticated as well as practical, opinionated, and indispensable, Life Is Meals is a tribute to the glory of

food and drink, and the joy of sharing them with others. "The meal is the emblem of civilization," the Salters observe. "What would one know of life as it should be lived, or nights as they should be spent, apart from meals?"

BONUS: This edition includes an excerpt from James Salter's All That Is.

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