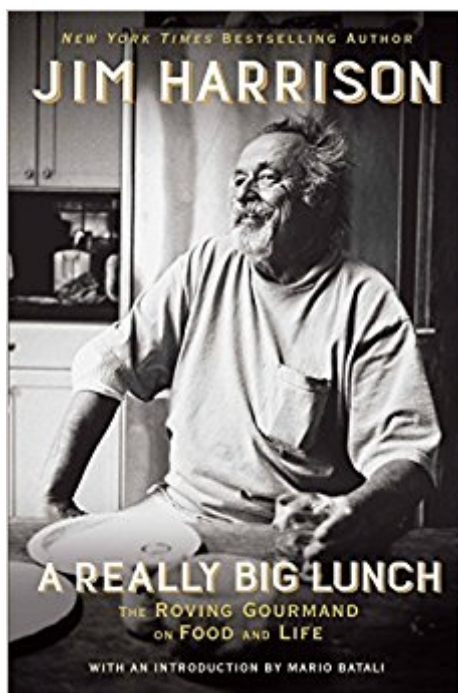


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A Really Big Lunch: The Roving Gourmand On Food And Life



Synopsis

“[A] culinary combo plate of Hunter S. Thompson, Ernest Hemingway, Julian Schnabel, and Sam Peckinpah . . . Harrison writes with enough force to make your knees buckle and with infectious zeal that makes you turn the pages hungry for more . . . Jim Harrison has staked out a distinctive place in the world of food writing.”—Jane and Michael Stern, *New York Times* Book Review on *The Raw and the Cooked*
New York Times bestselling author Jim Harrison was one of this country’s most beloved writers, a muscular, brilliantly economic stylist with a salty wisdom. He also wrote some of the best essays on food around, earning praise as “the poet laureate of appetite” (*Dallas Morning News*). *A Really Big Lunch*, to be published on the one-year anniversary of Harrison’s death, collects many of his food pieces for the first time—and taps into his larger-than-life appetite with wit and verve. Jim Harrison’s legendary gourmandise is on full display in *A Really Big Lunch*. From the titular *New Yorker* piece about a French lunch that went to thirty-seven courses, to pieces from *Brick*, *Playboy*, *Kermit Lynch Newsletter*, and more on the relationship between hunter and prey, or the obscure language of wine reviews, *A Really Big Lunch* is shot through with Harrison’s pointed aperçus and keen delight in the pleasures of the senses. And between the lines the pieces give glimpses of Harrison’s life over the last three decades. *A Really Big Lunch* is a literary delight that will satisfy every appetite. “Harrison is the American Rabelais, and he is at his irreverent and excessive best in this collection.”—John Skowles, *San Diego Union-Tribune* on *The Raw and the Cooked*

Book Information

Hardcover: 272 pages

Publisher: Grove Press; 1st Edition edition (March 24, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0802126464

ISBN-13: 978-0802126467

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 1.1 x 8.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.1 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 37 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #29,159 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #51 in Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Cooking Education & Reference > Essays

Customer Reviews

Praise for *A Really Big Lunch*: “*A Really Big Lunch* showcases Harrison’s enthusiastic, funny,

and uncompromising views on how to eat, drink, and live well. His tone is conversational, generous, the sort of person with whom you'd want to share a 37-course lunch that lasts 11 hours . . . His writing is bodily, bawdy, sharp. The more we have of his voice, the better.

•Nina MacLaughlin, Boston Globe

•Dry wit and mordant insight are on glorious display in this new collection of essays . . . Nearly every piece . . . has a saying wise enough to carry in your wallet. Some will flat out break your heart.

•Ann Levin, Associated Press

•Jim Harrison lived as he wrote, vividly . . . A Really Big Lunch, whose publication marks the first anniversary of Harrison's death, brings him roaring to the page again in all his unapologetic immoderacy, with spicy bon mots and salty language . . . His language is punch-drunk lively . . . Snacking on classic Harrisonisms . . . is deliciously filling.

•Heller McAlpin, NPR

•This collection of essays on food and drink showcases [Harrison's] irascible wit and lust for life.

•Tom Beer, Newsday

•Sage and succulent essays . . . Simply to call Harrison salty is to ignore the myriad flavors of Harrison's searing wit and capacious heart. He was a consummate poet with an appetite to match, and his food writing is among his best and most fun . . . In this collection, Harrison's wisdom shines throughout . . . We can add Harrison's writing to this list of life's pleasures.

•Katie Weed, Shelf Awareness (starred review)

•If anyone could pull off eating in the afterlife, it would probably be Harrison, well known for all kinds of appetites here on Earth . . . Harrison saw a clear subterranean connection between mortality, language, the good meals he'd eaten along the way, and those to come . . . A new collection, A Really Big Lunch: Meditations on Food and Life from the Roving Gourmand, offers one last look at what he ate, felt, reveled in, and raged about in the last of his swashbuckling years.

•Melanie Rehak, Bookforum

•It's a pleasure to dive headlong into his vivid recounting of these appetites . . . It's a pity Harrison never had a documentary show à la Anthony Bourdain's No Reservations . . . Funny, pithy essays . . . What an omnivore and what a writer.

•Molly Boyle, Santa Fe New Mexican

•A celebration of eating well and drinking even better as a recipe for the good life . . . The author waxes wickedly funny over matters of art, politics, spirituality, sex, and the commingling of all of them. His advice: "Your meals in life are numbered and the number is diminishing. Get at it." If this is the last we get from Harrison, it serves as a fitting memorial.

•Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

•One of America's greatest writers . . . The intimacy and enthusiasm of Harrison's food correspondent style makes reading A Really Big Lunch feel like sitting at a table during a really big lunch with the best, and smartest, and most entertaining of friends.

•David Masciotra, Salon

•Transcendent . . . Devour this book one course (or chapter) at a time. It's like a rich meal, best savored so that no word goes unappreciated . . . In a life too short for all the adventures, drinks, lunches, loves and books we

desire to consume, Jim Harrison reminds us not to waste another day. Wake up. Go too far. Dig in.

- Melissa Stephenson, Missoula Independent [Harrison's] gusto sparkles throughout this collection . . . Harrison treats all these subjects with his usual earthy wit and delighted curiosity; the result is a tasty nosh for foodies with a literary bent.
- Publishers Weekly Impure, unadulterated Jim Harrison . . . A Really Big Lunch is such a gem . . . Let's hope there are more collections of the work of this unique and uniquely American writer to come.
- John Greenya, The Washington Times [Harrison's] playful quotability is boundless . . . With an introduction from Harrison's longtime friend Mario Batali, this is for Harrison fans as well as a great addition to popular food and wine collections.
- Annie Bostrom, Booklist There's much more to the book than its author's enormous appetite—just as there was more to Harrison than his appetite, and more to his appetite than mere indulgence.
- Peter Nowogrodzki, Literary Hub Get this. That's my earnest advice. If you merely have a passing interest in the revolution in food writing of the past 50 years, you need to know about the most macho food writer of them all . . . He is the best cure for nouvelle cuisine prose ever.
- Jeff Simon, Buffalo News (Editor's Choice) The world lost one of its most unique and gifted food writers when Jim Harrison passed away last March . . . A must buy for any Harrison fans.
- Noah Rothbaum, Daily Beast One final homage to the pleasures of living.
- Kristen Inbody, Great Falls Tribune Harrison realized new possibilities for food writing, convincing me that food writing could touch on so many vectors and subjects while remaining vivid, insightful, and wryly funny.
- Mayukh Sen, Food52 That food can bring together history and geography, not to mention love and desire, is the purpose of A Really Big Lunch . . . Longtime readers who appreciate his coda to "eat vividly," will savor this new collection. Good Reading.
- Petoskey News

Jim Harrison (1937–2016) was the New York Times–bestselling author of thirty-nine previous books of fiction, non-fiction, and poetry, including *Legends of the Fall*, *Dalva*, and *Returning to Earth*. A member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and winner of a National Endowment for the Arts grant, his work was published in twenty-seven languages.

Harrison is missed...this collection of essays from multiple periods of his life remind us how to live

Great collection of Harrison's food focused essays. Always entertaining. Miss him

This book kind of grows on you, especially if you've ever attempted writing or are into food and

wine. Harrison's sense of humor is definitely one of a kind.

Pure unfiltered Harrison. A joy and an exclamation point to his life.

great book!

The final work of a man who loved great food and great wine, loved nature even more, and loved language above all.

Really loved this book. You can hear Jim's voice so clearly. And the food and wine! You can taste it.

I gave this to a friend for her birthday and she hasn't stopped laughing since.

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