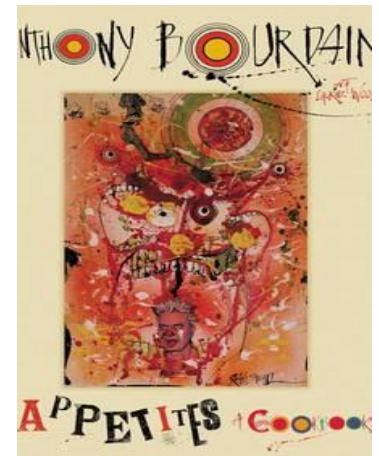


November 9, 2016

*Spotlight on Books:*

*Appetites: A Cookbook* by Anthony Bourdain

Yellowknife Public Library is proud of its robust collection of cookbooks, food memoirs and microhistories. These books are expensive to own and so our patrons appreciate being able to borrow them; as well, their availability and variety enhance the home cook's repertoire for whom amongst us makes every recipe in a cookbook?



Fans of the globe-trotting, ribald Anthony Bourdain (*Kitchen Confidential*, *No Reservations* to name a few) will delight in his latest offering *Appetites: A Cookbook*. While always reverent about food his speech and writing styles are frequently highly irreverent but that is part of Bourdain's charm and his introductions to the various recipes included in this collection are lively and instructive. For example, the preamble to one recipe for Bluefish describes it as the "much maligned ugly girl at the prom".

The author describes his latest offering as a family cookbook and considers the recipes both authentic and achievable by the average family cook with reasonable time on his hands. Bourdain's recipes draw on American and foreign cookery with roots in comfort food. (Imagine such unpretentious and delicious recipes as cream of tomato soup served with saltines on the side!) Instructions are thorough and were developed over time and after considerable repetition. They range from recipes for scrambled eggs to a heavenly sounding *Portuguese Kale Soup*. Many will appreciate Bourdain's multi-page, highly amusing and tactical primer on Thanksgiving dinner.

*Appetites: A Cookbook* offers a treasured collection to savour in many ways – it is a delight to read as well as providing a springboard to culinary experimentation. Check it out from Yellowknife Public Library's display of *Pantry Backstories!*

- Reviewed by Deborah Bruser, Library Manager