



Pie & Whiskey: Writers Under the Influence of Butter & Booze

Kate Lebo (Editor) , Samuel Ligon (Editor)

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Pie & Whiskey is the tent revival of literary events where writers such as Anthony Doerr, Steve Almond, and Elissa Washuta present original works based on prompts that include the words *pie* and *whiskey*. This anthology collects the best of that writing along with new pieces to bring this spirited gathering to the printed page.

Pie & Whiskey, the book, is a literary collection of readings presented over the past six years in Spokane, WA, and Missoula, MT, at Pie & Whiskey, the event, run by Kate Lebo and Samuel Ligon. Writers like Jess Walter, J Robert Lennon, Kim Barnes, and ML Smoker were invited to generate new work based on prompts that involve pie or whiskey or both. Sam and Kate figured that good writing served with a slice of pie and a shot of whiskey would create an energized atmosphere uncommon at literary events. The contributors, drawn mainly from the west, but not exclusively, responded with surprising, funny, heartbreak, fantastically written stories and poems. The book will include a smattering of pie recipes and whiskey-centric cocktails. Look here for tasty literary servings.

Pie & Whiskey: Writers Under the Influence of Butter & Booze Details

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Philip says

This! And every. Thing. About. This. You don't have to like Pie or Whiskey (for those 3 of you that I know who don't). Or you can like just one. Or the other. And it still doesn't matter. Because this right here is your perfect 2017 holiday gift for every one on your list, including yourself. And... when you run out of money this year, it'll be around for every future holiday and gift giving occasion.

What I mean by all of that is that in this anthology there is a tale, a poem, a roil, a rile, a rant, and a recipe for every kind of human you know. Even the ones who can barely read or don't want to. I mean that. I challenge you to get yours and tell me the kind of human who wouldn't find something in this book for them. I'll wait...

And while you are trying to detract my assertions, have fun. I guarantee you will. Think. I guarantee you will. Laugh. I guarantee you will. And go ahead with that inclination you are having in your mind while you are trying to disapprove me, the one with the little voice that is telling you to call your best friend, or partner, or family member, or tap that stranger on the bus and say, "Hey, you gotta minute? I want to read this to you. Real quick. You're gonna love it!" Go ahead and do that. Because I did. And every one of those people, whether I knew them or even liked them or not, did love what I read aloud to them.

That's what kind of book this is. Something for everyone. And something that will make friends, influence people, or just make you feel closer to all the strangers in the world.

Do it. You're welcome!

Seluca says

Incredibly funny and often poignant. Will read again.

Sue says

Pie. Whiskey. Let's just stop and savor those thoughts for a moment. This collection of stories and poems came out of the Pie and Whiskey reading series the editors started in Seattle. They supplied prompts related to pie and whiskey, then invited the writers to come read what they had written. As they listened, the audience nibbled on pie and sipped whiskey, not enough to get plastered, just enough to feel good. Now we have this book. It's so delicious I was going to buy copies for everyone on my Christmas list, but some of the stories get a little naughty and use words that might offend. I say deal with it, but my relationship with the family is complicated enough. Anyway, when I read an anthology, I circle the page numbers of the pieces I like. Pretty soon I was circling everything in this book. We've got someone trying to make a Martha Washington Pie that includes every type of wild game and would probably be six feet across. We've got a couple considering divorce over pie, we've got wicked stepchildren getting around their teetotalling stepmother's prohibitions by mixing booze into every dish they bring for Thanksgiving, including a chocolate pecan whiskey pie that never sets, so they just drink it. We've got pies that bring back memories of

special times, of wonderful cooks and horrible ones. And we've got recipes for both drinks and pies, some of them not quite serious, we hope. For example, while making The Lonely Martha cocktail, basically a Manhattan, we are instructed to shoot anyone who insists the drink must be served "up." This book is a delight, from its bright blue and orange cover to its Pie School Pastry Crust. Up or over ice, I don't care. Just have some.

John says

Very nice, Kate
Pie as ever
Pie taste better after church with brandied coffee--

Iris Graville says

I'll be under the influence of this book for a long time to come! The collection of recipes and pie and whiskey-influenced writing is fun, inspiring, and mouth-watering. I'll keep returning to it for the essays and short stories by accomplished Pacific Northwest writers and the cocktail and pie ideas. Makes me want to have such an event in my community, and Lebo and Ligon give tips about how to do that, too!

Andrea says

Lebo and Ligon have been hosting raucous, celebratory literary events featuring pie, whiskey, and readings of short pie-and-whiskey-inspired works by local authors for over five years. Gathered here are a selection of those short stories, essays, poems, and pie recipes. Something for everyone to love.

Seluxes says

I chose to read *Pie & Whiskey: Writers Under the Influence of Butter & Booze* due to the title (how could anyone pass up a book with such an amazingly tasty title?) and Jess Walter's short story, "Whiskey Pie" because I love Jess Walter's stuff and there's never enough of it. I was not once disappointed in my choice. I laughed so often, so loudly, and with so much happiness at the ridiculous situations and interactions.

"Whiskey Pie", of course, ended up being my favorite but all of the stories, poems and recipes are fabulous. Lebo and Ligon have compiled a fun, elegantly written collection that has something for everyone. Also, it's a beautiful book and would be an excellent gift.

Michelle says

I am not an anthology fanatic but this was a delightful read by local (to my area) authors which I found to be lovely, although I was surprised how often Iowa came up. If you're looking for something to get you out of a reading rut this is a delight!

Emily says

A wide-ranging and entertaining collection of stories, essays, and poetry, plus some pretty great looking pie recipes. Standouts for me were stories by Jess Walter and Steve Almond and a poem by Devin Becker. Enjoyable even if you aren't bursting with hometown pride every time you see it. Bonus points for a great cover, but my copy had some printing issues (blank pages, right in the middle of a story!)

Neghena says

Definitely a must if you love poetry and fun narratives.
