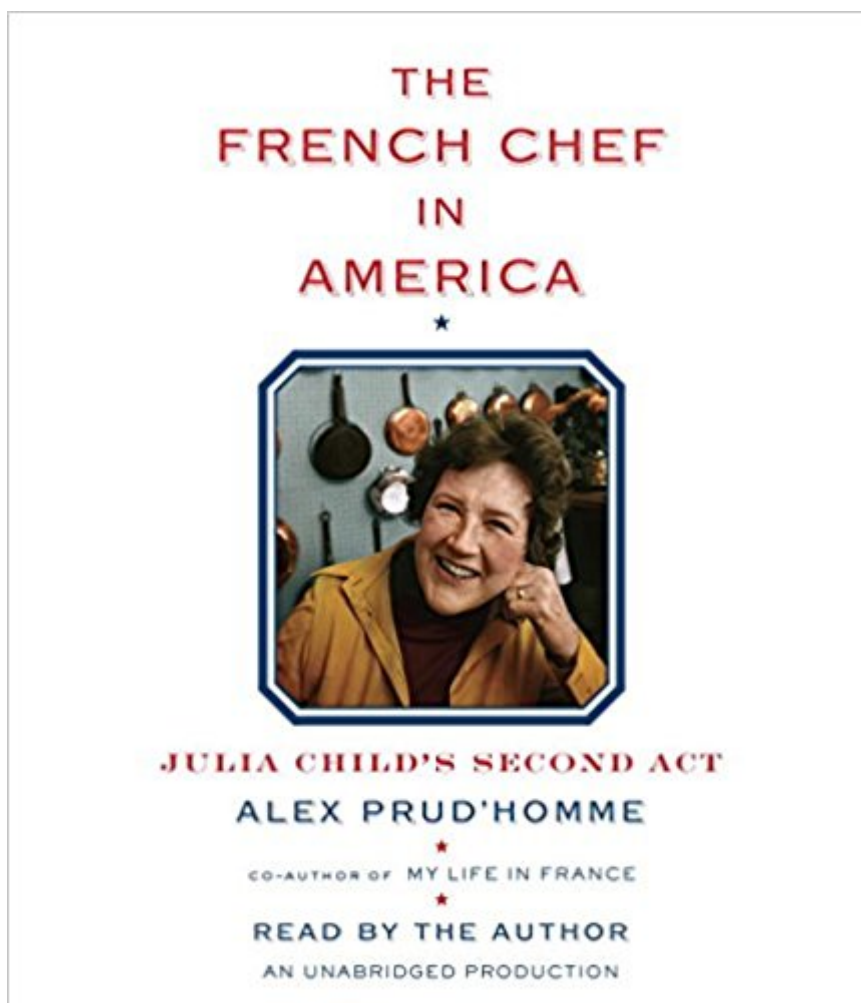




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The French Chef In America: Julia Child's Second Act



Synopsis

The enchanting story of Julia Child's years as TV personality and beloved cookbook author--a sequel in spirit to *My Life in France*--by her great-nephew Julia Child is synonymous with French cooking, but her legacy runs much deeper. Now, her great-nephew and *My Life in France* coauthor vividly recounts the myriad ways in which she profoundly shaped how we eat today. He shows us Child in the aftermath of the publication of *Mastering the Art of French Cooking*, suddenly finding herself America's first lady of French food and under considerable pressure to embrace her new mantle. We see her dealing with difficult colleagues and the challenges of fame, ultimately using her newfound celebrity to create what would become a totally new type of food television. Every bit as entertaining, inspiring, and delectable as *My Life in France*, *The French Chef in America* uncovers Julia Child beyond her "French chef" persona and reveals her second act to have been as groundbreaking and adventurous as her first.

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Customer Reviews

Praise for *My Life in France*: "Lively, infectious.... [The] elegant but unfussy prose pulls the reader into her stories" -- Chicago Sun-Times "Captivating.... [Child's] marvelously distinctive voice is present on every page" --San Francisco Chronicle "Delightful and ebulliently written.... [Child's] joy just about jumps off the book's pages" --Christian Science Monitor

ALEX PRUD'HOMME is Julia Child's great-nephew and the coauthor of her autobiography, *My Life in France*, which was adapted into the movie *Julie & Julia*. He is also the author of *The Ripple*

Effect: The Fate of Freshwater in the Twenty-First Century, Hydrofracking: What Everyone Needs to Know, and The Cell Game, and he is the coauthor (with Michael Cherkasky) of Forewarned: Why the Government Is Failing to Protect Us--and What We Must Do to Protect Ourselves.

Prud'homme's journalism has appeared in The New York Times, The New Yorker, Vanity Fair, Time, and People.

This is a wonderful book for Julia Child fans. I thought I'd read all I could read about Julia Child, and was worried that this book would rehash (ha!) things I already knew, but it gave new perspective and information, as well as appreciation for a wonderful woman. The author is Child's nephew and co-author of her amazing memoir, *My Life in France*. He made good use of the Child papers collection at Radcliffe and did lots of interviews with people who worked with or were related to Julia, including Judith B. Jones, her editor at Knopf, who was a treasure trove for the author. Well-researched, well-written, extensive endnotes, bibliography, and index. Rest in peace, dear Julia, and to us all, Bon appetit!

As a long-time fan of Julia Child, I've read pretty much every thing about her. I debated getting this book as I wondered if it would be a warmed over rehash of "memories." However, her nephew stumbled onto something unexpected -- Julia Child went through an existential crisis of her own and decided to reinvent herself. Not once, either, but repeatedly. A fascinating, insightful look at a woman who seems to keep surprising.

Exceptional. Compelling and revealing.

Arrived on time, as advertised.

This book is a continuation of Julia Child's life story after her time in France, which was described in the book *My Life in France*, also by this author. Unfortunately, this book just doesn't work. The first 150 pages are just a condensed retelling of the first book. Those who have read it will be bored; those who have not will be confused with all the unexplained name-dropping. The latter half of the book details the remainder of her career. It is very repetitive because her career during that time frame was also very repetitive -- repeated attempts, most not too successful, to recapture the magic and wild success of *The French Chef* TV show and companion books. To fluff up the redundant latter half, the book veers off onto long, tangential digressions detailing the episodes in the lives of

other people who worked with Julia Child (Sara Moulton, for example).

A very fun and amusing read. I recommend to any fan of Julia Child.

I learned a lot more about Julia Child: her life and her life's work. I can more fully appreciate her cookbooks and plan to re-read the ones I have. She has had a profound effect on American cooking.

Well written-added troves to my love of all things Julia . Loved the visuals and geographical references as well as listing of chefs over Julia's lifetime whom she championed

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