

GALLIC

The Gourmet

Muriel Barbery (translated by Alison Anderson)

The Book:

France's greatest food critic is dying, after a lifetime in single-minded pursuit of sensual delights. But as Pierre Arthens lies on his death bed, he is tormented by an inability to recall the most delicious food to ever pass his lips, which he ate long before becoming a critic. Desperate to taste it one more time, he looks back over the years to see if he can pin down the elusive dish.

Revealing far more than his love of great food, the narration by this larger-than-life individual alternates with the voices of those closest to him and their own experiences of the man.

Muriel Barbery's gifts as an evocative storyteller are put to mouth-watering use in this voluptuous and poignant meditation on food and its deeper significance in our lives.

A delectable treat to savour.

The Author:

Muriel Barbery teaches philosophy.

The Elegance of the Hedgehog is her second novel. **The Gourmet**, her first novel features some of the characters from **Hedgehog**.

Praise for The Gourmet

'An exquisite French black comedy' **The Times**

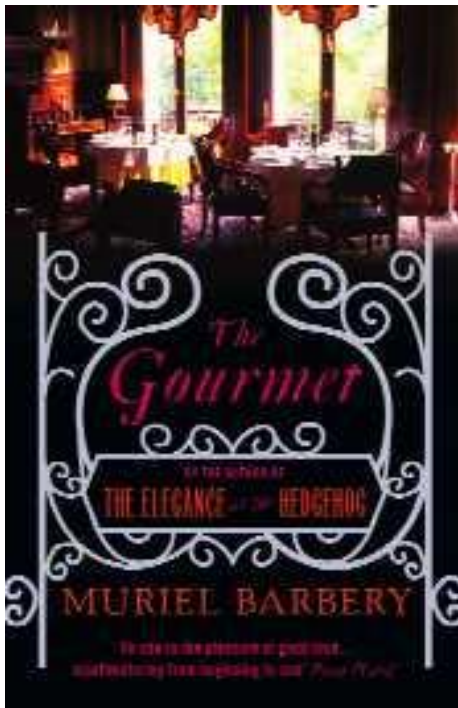
'It's a foodies delight; just don't read it when you're hungry' **Daily Mail**

Praise for The Elegance of the Hedgehog:

'Resistance is futile...you might as well buy it before someone recommends it for your book group. It's charm will make you say yes' **The Guardian**

'Clever, informative and moving... this is an admirable novel which deserves as wide a readership here as it had in France.' **The Observer**

'This breathtakingly singular novel...is totally French yet completely universal' **Good Housekeeping**



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