



# READ THIS

## BLUE PLATE SPECIAL: AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MY APPETITES

**AUTHOR:** Kate Christensen

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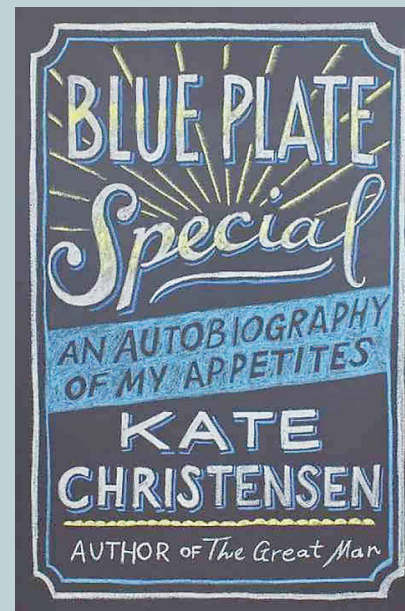
Kate Christensen, author of the PEN/Faulkner Award-winning *The Great Man*, as well as five other novels, has cooked up another book, this time a memoir titled *Blue Plate Special: An Autobiography of My Appetites*.

Modeled after her popular blog, [katechristensen.wordpress.com](http://katechristensen.wordpress.com), the memoir proves Christensen is a connoisseur of both hearty food and hearty literature. Her autobiography is written chronologically, beginning with her parents' divorce and continuing to halcyon days with her sisters in the wilds of Arizona as they revel in their mother's traditional American cooking.

The reader then travels with Christensen as she forges an unconventional path — first foregoing college to begin writing in Europe and later obeying the siren call of New York City, where she finds herself in a failing marriage.

Throughout the book, Christensen intertwines food with her memories. We first meet her as a child who witnesses her father beating her mother at the breakfast table. At the same time, she's trying to focus on the soft-boiled eggs and toast she has just eaten. She scatters recipes throughout her memories while letting the reader into her innermost self in a way that other memoirs cannot. Readers can sip Dark Night of the Soul Soup as they stumble through life's complicated recipe with Christensen and make their way to the much-anticipated happy ending — dessert.

+ MEGAN LEWIS



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