



The David LaChapelle image that inspired *Bite Me*

Bite marks

"How often do you get to flip to a famous photo while you're cleaning a chicken breast?" quips Julie Albert, one half of the sister duo behind *Bite Me: A Stomach-Satisfying, Visually Gratifying, Fresh-Mouthed Cookbook*. Unless you keep your copy of *Hotel LaChapelle* or *Melvin Sokolsky: Seeing Fashion* on your kitchen counter, it's unlikely. Albert and her



Bite Me sisters Lisa Gnat and Julie Albert

sister, Lisa Gnat, take the term "culinary art" literally in their witty and whimsical cookbook. Alongside 175 "trusted and true" recipes, you'll find 70 stunning photographs—some by photog stars, such as David LaChapelle, Miles Aldridge and Melvin Sokolsky, as well as inventive food shots by Michael Alberstat. "It's a cookbook colliding with a coffee-table book," explains Albert. "The one photo in the book that started

this whole thought process for me was LaChapelle's *Death by Hamburger*. I thought, 'This has to go into the 'Meet me' section.'" The text, which is written by Albert, is irreverent and playful and divided into sections like "Grab me" (appetizers), "unDress me" (salads) and "Fork me" (desserts). The menus, created and written by chef Gnat, are simple yet tempting. (You don't need to buy "guava paste or a blowtorch to turn a bag of groceries into a satisfying meal.") The book is self-published by Pinky Swear Press Inc. because, as Albert says, "no company wanted to take a chance on two women who are only known for their cooking in a 10-block radius." Aside from visual inspiration, the sisters also suggest "tunes to cook to," from Yusuf Islam's "Heaven" to Erma Franklin's "Light My Fire" to Al Green's "Tired of Being Alone." "Come on, who doesn't want Al in their kitchen?" says Albert, laughing. **NOREEN FLANAGAN**

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MIREILLE GUILIANO
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ERIN WOODS DON'T GET FAT



Mireille Guiliano, of *French Women Don't Get Fat*, on career success.

We love to mock the work habits of the French—daily bistro lunches, the month of August off—yet despite these sybaritic habits, the country has managed to create a number of powerhouse brands, from fashion to pharmaceuticals to champagne. And that brings us to Mireille Guiliano, the author of *French Women Don't Get Fat*. Guiliano was the spokesperson for Champagne Veuve Clicquot and later the CEO of Clicquot Inc. and senior executive at LVMH. In her first bestselling book, Guiliano revealed how French women can eat Brie every day and still fit into their cigarette pants. In her latest book, *Women, Work & the Art of Savoir Faire*, Guiliano tackles workplace challenges. "Too many women feel that they have to have everything at once," she says. "It's a puzzle, and you have to pick your priorities. In France, women value their personal relationships. In America, career, salary and status take precedence." Guiliano describes how she landed the top job at Veuve Clicquot and how she was often the lone woman in the boardroom. As in her previous books, Guiliano is a champion for balance. "Too often we have dreams that are not realistic," she says. "I've seen it destroy both professional and personal lives." Guiliano admits that not having children was a choice she made, the same way she planned her early retirement from Veuve Clicquot. Her friends warned her that, after more than two decades on board, she would miss the perks and the status of the job. "I didn't miss one second," she says, laughing. "I think I have an angel somewhere that helps me pick the right projects at the right time." **RITA SILVAN**

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