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CHOCOLATE: The Consuming Passion

Written, Illustrated, and Overresearched by Sandra Boynton

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

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Synopsis

Wait. Sandra Boynton wrote a book about CHOCOLATE? For grown-ups? Oh YES! Boynton’s beloved classic returns, updated and redrawn by her for a whole new generation of chocophiles. In addition to her extensive new research, Boynton also nobly sourced and consumed untold quantities of great chocolate, with no thought for her own personal safety. Lavishly illustrated and filled with useful facts and cheerful misinformation, CHOCOLATE: The Consuming Passion is the absolute ideal gift for every true chocolate obsessive. Discover the many faces of chocolate—milk chocolate, dark chocolate, boxed chocolates, pretend chocolate, and the wild new frontier of small-batch craft chocolate. Learn about chocolate’s complex effects on the body, the psyche, and the soul. Prepare select simple recipes, such as “Hippo Pot de Mousse.” Learn how to grow your own chocolate, assuming you don’t mind relocating to within 15º of the Equator. There’s even a handy guide to saying “Excuse me, where is the nearest chocolate?” in eleven languages, including Klingon. (Nook-dock YOOCH dah-PULL?) Boldly go.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I love Boynton’s work, and somewhere have the original 1982 edition of this book of hers. But this one is better! She says the drawing have been redone, and the text is longer and modernized. It is still silly fun, all about chocolate, with some informative interludes. Recommended for Boynton fans, and for whimsical chocolate lovers.

Sandra Boynton manages to roll "charming," "informative," and "hysterical" into one big chocolate
delight. I love how she can show so much of what her characters are thinking just by the way she
draws their eyes. I don’t how you learn to communicate with such simple lines, but she nails it every
time. Bought one for myself and two copies as gifts. I may yet be buying more.

received my copy of the updated book, and boy, is it different! Most of the original material is still
there, but many of the endearing turns of phrase have been altered or removed. The content has
been resequenced, and the text is in a larger font. The illustrations have been mostly redone, and
the legal department has clearly been involved, removing a brand name or two. It’s still fun, but not
nearly so clever.

My siblings and I grew up on the first book, and those illustrations are burned into my childhood
memory. Even before I was old enough (or had enough control of ADHD) to follow the actual text, I
was learning about chocolate through the fun drawings and cartoons alone. My mother follows
Sandra Boynton on Facebook, and one day she decided to contact the family to see if they’d be
coming out with an update. She was excited when she was told that this current update was actually
already underway, and proceeded to follow the publishing until it came out. The update has not
disappointed. Its every bit as fun as the original, with some extra fun added in with further updates
that Boynton did in her research. This is a well researched book, and shares that research in the
most humorous way possible for chocoholics. I’m a big fan of both chocolate and humor, so this
book deserved a cover-to-cover read through several times. I found myself blasting back to my
childhood, looking at drawings of hippos and pigs and turkeys eating a variety of brown colored
blobs, or spouting random sentences and facts about my favorite treat. This is a must-have if you’ve
ever been even slightly curious about chocolate.

The reissue of this old comic is as welcome as the original. There is still only one chocolate chip
cookie left after testing the batter. The turkey still likes white chocolate, the drawing is still rich with
humor and color. The hard cover is probably a good idea, too, as my old paperback copy is frayed
around the edges. Wonderful humor.

This book is not only informative it will make you laugh. Sandra Boynton knows and loves her
chocolate.. she freely admits to writing this updated version of her book to take advantage of being
able to buy chocolate for research so she can write off the expense. A very tongue in cheek
educational book on the history of chocolate. Read eat and enjoy.
I am so delighted that Sandra Boynton has recreated Chocolate: The Consuming Passion, and she has done a lovely job. I have to admit, it has been a very long time since I have purchased a printed book (and I work in the printing industry!) But this one you definitely need in print. The only thing that could make it better is if it were scratch and sniff. It would either help me cut back on my chocolate consumption or make me want more! Anyone who has any interest in chocolate at all, or knows someone who does, should get this lovely, informative and fun book. Great holiday gift!

This is a revised book, originally published in 1982, but with new text and drawings in Boynton’s charming style that we have grown to love. What a great gift when accompanied by a box of chocolates!

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The Chocolate Connoisseur: For Everyone With a Passion for Chocolate
The Inn at Little Washington Cookbook: A Consuming Passion
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Guittard Chocolate Cookbook: Decadent Recipes from San Francisco’s Premium Bean-to-Bar Chocolate Company
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