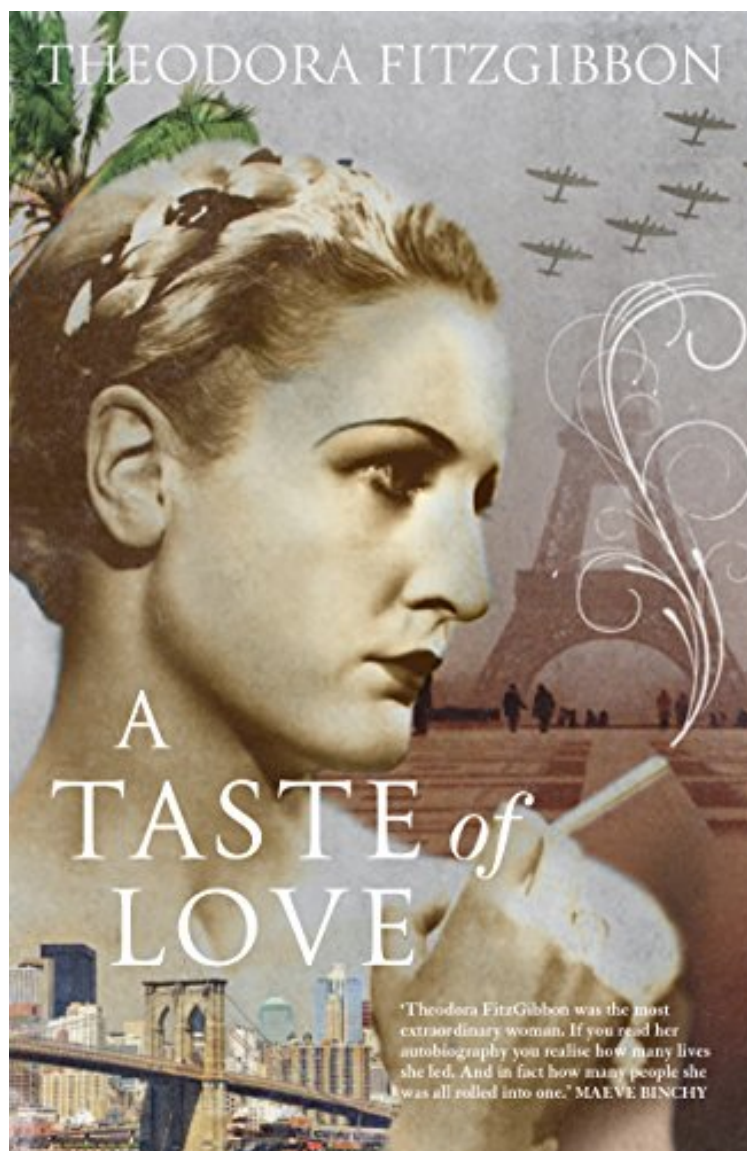




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Theodora FitzGibbon : A Taste of Love ndash; The Memoirs of Bohemian Irish Food Writer Theodora FitzGibbon: Adventures in Food, Culture and Love before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Taste of Love ndash; The Memoirs of Bohemian Irish Food Writer Theodora

Discover the many lives of free-spirited and much-loved Irish Times cookery writer Theodora FitzGibbon. I have starved in some of the most beautiful places in the world. The Irish Times food writer Theodora FitzGibbon lived a life filled to the brim. Born in London in 1916, her appetite for love, pleasure, good food and adventure took her all over the globe until she died, in Dublin, in 1991. *A Taste of Love*, her two-volume autobiography, beginning on the eve of the Second World War and ending on the eve of the 1960s, reveals a life fully lived: the names she used before settling on 'Theodora'; the cookery lessons given to her by the former Queen Natalie of Serbia; the 1920s childhood spent on food-chomping travels with her rakish father in Europe, the Middle East and India. As the century moved on, Theodora's globetrotting adventures took her to Paris, where she struggled to maintain an independent life as a young actress, began an affair with photographer Peter Rose Pulham and kept company with Balthus, Cocteau, Dali and Picasso. During the Blitz, Theodora daringly escaped wartime Paris for bomb-ridden London, where she was friendly with Dylan and Caitlin Thomas, Augustus John, Francis Bacon, Shane Leslie and Soviet spy Donald Maclean, and adopted Gwladys the penguin and Mouche the poodle. As the war came to a close, she married Irish-American writer Constantine FitzGibbon, travelling with him to the US, and divorced him fifteen famously stormy years later. In 1960 she married George Morrison, the film maker and archivist, and they lived together in Dalkey in the house with the 'sea at the bottom of the garden'. Be enthralled by the fascinating story behind the woman who broadened the culinary horizons of many people in Ireland and beyond. In this highly entertaining memoir, discover the sights, sounds and tastes of Theodora FitzGibbon — food writer, adventurer and thoroughly modern woman. 'Theodora FitzGibbon was the most extraordinary woman. If you read her autobiography you realise how many lives she led. And in fact how many people she was all rolled into one. She was a beauty, she was a deb, she knew all the crowned heads of Europe. She met and married extraordinary people along the way. She was a great cook. She went to a finishing school to learn amazingly useful things such as how to walk backwards away from royalty and how to eat a biscuit without making crumbs.' Maeve Binchy

About the Author Theodora FitzGibbon was born in London and educated in England and France. She was the author of more than thirty books, most of which were about food, and included her encyclopaedic *The Food of the Western World*, which took her fifteen years to complete and covered some thirty-four countries and thirty-two languages. Probably her best-known book is *A Taste of Ireland*. Her Saturday column in *The Irish Times*, which appeared for twenty years and became as legendary as everything else about her, was witty, pithy, filled with extra-curricular food knowledge and as avidly talked about as it was read. She had an unfailing instinct for putting both recipes and sentences together, and knew more than anyone how to be entertaining while doing both. She published two volumes of autobiography, *With Love* in 1982 and *Love Lies a Loss* in 1985, which are combined in the new publication *A Taste of Love*. She died in 1991.