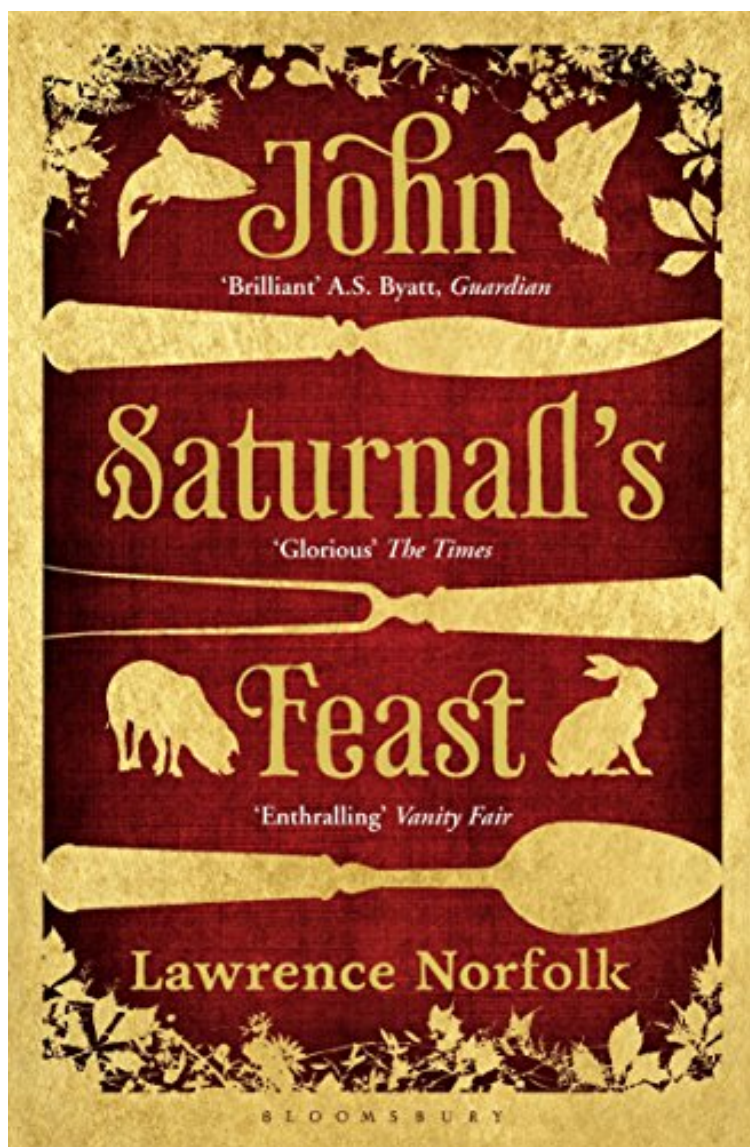


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John Saturnall's Feast



Par Lawrence Norfolk
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Description :

Prsentation de l'diteurFrom the bestselling author of Lempire's Dictionary, Lawrence Norfolk is back with an astounding novel of seventeenth-century life, love and war; the story of an orphan who becomes the greatest cook of his age.The village of Buckland, 1625. A boy and his mother run for their lives. Behind them a mob chants of witchcraft. Taking refuge among the trees of Buccla's Wood, the mother opens her book and tells her son of an ancient Feast kept in secret down the generations. But as exquisite dishes rise from the page, the ground beneath them freezes. That winter, the boy's mother dies. Taken to Buckland Manor, John is put to work in the house's vast subterranean kitchens where his talent raises him from the scullery to the great house above. A complex dish served to King Charles brings him before Lady Lucretia

Fremantle, the headstrong daughter of the house. He must tempt her from her fast. But both encounters will imperil him. As the Civil War begins and the New Order's fanatical soldiers march, John and Lucretia are thrown together into a passionate struggle for survival. To keep all he holds most dear, John must realise his mother's vision. He must serve the Saturnall Feast.

Revue de presse 'Lawrence Norfolk is a genius' -- Louis de Bernieres 'The overlooking of Lawrence Norfolk's first book in 12 years [for the Man Booker longlist] seems to me [a] grievous exclusion ... What unites this glorious book with Norfolk's previous works ... is a tremendous encyclopaedism ... Like all the best historical novels, John Saturnall's Feast is not just a novel set in some point in history ... but a novel about how histories infect stories ... Hopefully the judges on the Walter Scott Prize for Historical Fiction will atone for their colleagues on the Man Booker.' -- The Times 'Norfolk - he'll be remembered. He invented a new form in some ways. He has a good ear for the language and an original vision of the nature of things. He is also very playful [and] totally accessible. Not hidden away in some academic corner; he is right in the middle of the British literary tradition' -- A S Byatt 'Lawrence Norfolk is just about ahead of everyone in his generation of English novelists' -- Observer 'One of the finest novels of the Nineties ... Lempriere's Dictionary is a novel quite comparable in scale, intelligence and literary playfulness to the work of Thomas Pynchon or Umberto Eco' -- Malcolm Bradbury, *The Modern British Novel 1878-2001* 'Witchcraft, cookery and war in seventeenth-century England ... from the master of the historical behemoth' -- Guardian

Presentation de l'auteur From the bestselling author of *Lempriere's Dictionary*, Lawrence Norfolk is back with an astounding novel of seventeenth-century life, love and war; the story of an orphan who becomes the greatest cook of his age. The village of Buckland, 1625. A boy and his mother run for their lives. Behind them a mob chants of witchcraft. Taking refuge among the trees of Buccla's Wood, the mother opens her book and tells her son of an ancient Feast kept in secret down the generations. But as exquisite dishes rise from the page, the ground beneath them freezes. That winter, the boy's mother dies. Taken to Buckland Manor, John is put to work in the house's vast subterranean kitchens where his talent raises him from the scullery to the great house above. A complex dish served to King Charles brings him before Lady Lucretia Fremantle, the headstrong daughter of the house. He must tempt her from her fast. But both encounters will imperil him. As the Civil War begins and the New Order's fanatical soldiers march, John and Lucretia are thrown together into a passionate struggle for survival. To keep all he holds most dear, John must realise his mother's vision. He must serve the Saturnall Feast.