

St. Monica Film Club

November 12, 2020

Background



Julie and Julia (2009) a film by writer director Nora Ephron, weaves together the autobiographies of Julie Powell (*Julie and Julia*) and Julia Childs (*My life in France*). Struggling writer Julie Powell decides to cook every recipe in Julia Child's classic cookbook, *The Art of French Cooking* and to blog about the results. In this ambitious task, Julie begins to appreciate the same wonder about cooking as her culinary hero Julia Childs did.

Cast & Crew



Julia Child... Meryl Streep
Julie Powell... Amy Adams
Paul Child... Stanley Tucci
Eric Powell... Chris Messina
Linda Edmond... Simone Beck
Louisette Bertholle... Helen Carey
Sarah... Mary Lynn Rajsakub
Dorothy McWilliams... Jane Lynch

Producer... Nora Ephron,
Director... Nora Ephron
Writers... Nora Ephron, Julie Powell, Julia Child, Alex Prud'homme
Music... Alexandre Desplat
Cinematographer... Stephen Goldblatt
Editor... Richard Marks
Production Design... Mark Ricker
Wardrobe... Ann Roth

Trivia



-Meryl Streep won the Golden Globe in 2010 for her performance and was nominated for her 16th Oscar.

-This was Nora Ephron's last film. She directed the actors to actually eat the food and react to the experience. She was nominated for best writing for *Silkwood*, *When Harry Met Sally*, and *Sleepless in Seattle*.

-This was the first feature film based on a blog, by Julie Powell.



For Reflection

1. What was your response to the story and filmmaking?
2. How did the wardrobe choices serve the film's effort to show the parallel stories of these two women?
3. Beauty can inspire a sense of wonder and amazement, a sense of transcendence. Julia Child found beauty in food, in creating, sharing and eating it. What sort of things in your life draws you into a sense of wonder?
4. How did relationships with their respective spouses influence Julie Powell and Julia Child in the development of their cooking and writing? How might spouses, family or close friends, support or hold back someone from a passion?

Julia taught me what it takes to find your way in the world. It's not what I thought it was. I thought it was all about-I don't know, confidence or will or luck. Those are all some good things to have, no question. But there's something else, something that these things grow out of. It's joy.

Julie Powell, *Julie Powell* in *Julie and Julia*

For more info: www.imdb.com/title/tt1135503/reference