



## Banana: A Global History (Edible)

*Lorna Piatti Farnell*

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## **Banana: A Global History (Edible)** Lorna Piatti Farnell

For over a century, the banana has been rumoured to be everybody's favourite fruit. Quick and easy to eat, tasty and versatile in its culinary uses, the banana is a staple of many diets around the world. The banana's history, however, is more than simply a succession of happy family scenes and the appeal of exotic locations. The growth and development of the fruit we know and love today is entangled with colonial practices, capitalist enterprise, sexual politics and even horrific murders. In this book, Lorna Piatti-Farnell delves into the long history of the banana, and looks into the circumstances that have aligned to make this fruit one of the most popular foods on the planet.

Banana: A Global History takes us from the agricultural beginnings of the banana in New Guinea to the fruit's almost ubiquitous presence in culinary repertoires around the globe, from the United States to the Caribbean, from regions of Africa to the heart of Southeast Asia. The book gives us an insight into the life of the banana over millennia, focusing on our recent history and its cultural affair with the fruit. The global life of the banana is traced in cultural practices, advertising, commercial schemes and the unmissable icons of popular culture, from nineteenth-century medical manuals to cookbooks, songs, the famous 'banana peel gag' and the well-known Miss Chiquita icon.

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