

admit that this is likely an academic conceit, comparable to complaining about the lack of a page dedicated to a note about the font – many readers are unlikely to care – but it would have rounded out well what is otherwise a commendable and important book. The book's website, www.extravirginity.com, is a great additional research tool which extends and complements the book. Highly recommended.

ZACHARY NOWAK

Jean-Marc Carité: *Pourriture Noble et Vengeance Tardive*: Utovie, 2010, 248 pp., paperback, €11.40; *Araignée Rouge et Cigogne Noire*: Utovie, 2011, 231 pp., paperback, €11.40.

Alcohol in some form has always had a role in detective fiction, but these two titles represent a new and unique genre in which misdeeds and murder mix with organic viticulture, a dash of sex and the occasional aroma of regional cuisine – *poulet rôti aux Sauternes, poêlée landaise*.

In each book the plot, which advances largely through dialogue, pits the forces of good (scientifically rationalized organic practices) against the forces of evil (represented by producers and distributors of agri-chemicals along with dishonest wine companies and local government officials), with the former triumphant at the end. In *Pourriture Noble* the dashing, wine-loving detective Lecoanet is called in to investigate the sudden death of a head of an old wine-making family (discovered in a vat of Sauternes); in *Araignée Rouge* he helps discover the reason for sterility problems in vignerons in the fictional region of 'Coteaux de Maillan' in south-west France.

There's plenty of detail of vineyard management, winemaking and wine appreciation, even if the text at times comes close to back-label winespeak, and although the crime component might sometimes be seen as subordinate to an *éloge du bio* it is also good-natured entertainment.

BARBARA SANTICH

Hattie Ellis, *What to Eat? 10 Chewy Questions about Food*: Portobello Books, 2012, 440 pp., paperback, £14.99.

What to Eat? taps into the increasing middle class paranoia over what we should be eating. It explores questions such as 'what is sustainable fish?', 'does any diet work?' and 'what is a green kitchen?'. Hattie Ellis has gained a glowing reputation for her investigative journalism (her book *Planet Chicken* won the Derek Cooper Award for investigative writing in 2008) and *What*