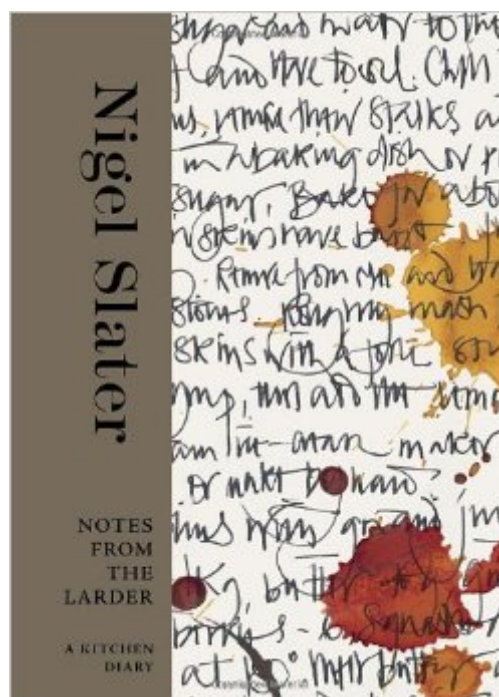


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Notes From The Larder: A Kitchen Diary With Recipes



Synopsis

Following on the success of *Tender* and *Ripe*, this companion to the bestselling *Kitchen Diaries* is a beautiful, inspiring chronicle of a year in food from beloved food writer Nigel Slater. *Notes from the Larder* is a collection of small kitchen celebrations, whether a casual supper of grilled lamb, or a quiet moment contemplating a bowl of cauliflower soup with toasted hazelnuts. Through this personal selection of recipes, Slater offers a glimpse into the daily inspiration behind his cooking and the pleasures of making food by hand, such as his thoughts on topics as various as the kitchen knife whose every nick and stain is familiar, how to make a little bit of cheese go a long way when the cupboards are bare, and his reluctance to share desserts.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

There is something very special about Slater's books. They are as much creative non-fiction masterpieces as they are compilations of easy-to-put-together recipes. He combines playful and insightful impromptu with his vast cooking experience to create dishes that will delight you.

Sometimes his combinations are almost whimsical and amusing, sometimes so very simple and tasteful that they are masterful. Sometimes they are a marvel in basics. If you are a cook, looking for a serene and peaceful, thoughtful read, complete with wonderful recipes and beautiful pictures, this is a book you should pick up. Slater does not cook for a large family, not even a small family. He

cooks for one or two. He does cook for friends. I didn't really think about how that affects the tone of a cookbook until recently, when I went from reading this book to one written by a woman--possibly about the same age--who had a large and loving family for whom to cook. I realized these two different family situations resulted in a totally different tone and attitude in a cookbook. That's not to say that if you cook for many, you won't get anything out of this book. You will--no matter how large an audience you have. There will always be a need for the type of dish that Slater creates. If, because of your lifestyle and your responsibilities, you are a busy, no-nonsense, hurry-up-and-get-something-nourishing-on-the-table type of cook, you will find help in this book. You will even find some respite from the frantic activity. But if you need to find recipe instructions and ingredient lists very quickly and at a glance, well, then, maybe this book is not for you. Or, maybe it is, most definitely, just what you need.

This very weighty tome is a kitchen diary offering many observations, facts, happenings and of course over 250 different seasonal recipes from acclaimed British food writer and broadcaster Nigel Slater. Would it be fairer to describe this book as a more edited, polished memory dump from the author, providing a little bit of everything along the way that is wrapped around a diary? The author is clear to note that whilst items follow over the course of a year, they are not a strict chronology but more a focussed collection of events that have happened over the years, so something that happened on a given November day would have happened on that given day, but not necessarily in the same year as the previous or subsequent diary "entry". Not that it makes a difference in the grand scheme of things though! This is a book that, to be fair, you will get as much out of it as you put in through reading and comprehension. If you use the book solely as a source of recipes then, whilst you will invariably find many interesting recipes from the sheer multitude on offer, you will be missing much by ignoring the surrounding text. When browsing through this book one notes that whilst the recipes have been "translated" to U.S. imperial units, at the same time ignoring their metric equivalencies, there are many cultural references that might have non-native Britons scratching their head in puzzlement before seeking clarification to a small, possibly insignificant point. There are a number of average to relatively good photographs to break up the text but they just don't feel like they fit, feeling instead that they are there solely as filler material to "illustrate" the book.

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