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Acorn Pancakes, Dandelion Salad, And 38 Other Wild Recipes



Synopsis

Come On Out And Gather Wild Foods All that is needed is a penknife, a bag, and fingers. Wear old clothes and old shoes. Wild crops are found along roadsides and waterways; in marshes, fields, forests, city parks; and even on sidewalks. Then follow Jean Craighead George's simple recipes for cooking these wild foods -- and enjoy!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Gr. 4[^]-6. Even those who never quite get around to baking a loaf of acorn bread, tossing a "Weedy Lawn Salad," or frying up a mess of dandelion fritters will get a kick out of browsing through this attractive book. Based on George's more complete *The Wild, Wild Cookbook* (1982), this volume includes fewer plants and recipes, but looks much more inviting. Botanically precise and visually appealing, Mirocha's full-color artwork in gouache and colored pencil appears on every page yet never dominates the book. For those who find wild foods intriguing, George offers sensible foraging guidelines and creative cooking ideas. Carolyn Phelan

Born in Washington, D.C. and raised in a family of naturalists, Jean George has centered her life around writing and nature. She attended Pennsylvania State University, graduating with degrees in English and science. In the 1940s she was a member of the White House press corps and a reporter for the Washington Post. Ms. George, who has written over 90 books - among them *My Side of the Mountain* (Dutton), a 1960 Newbery Honor Book, and its sequels *On the Far Side of the Mountain* and *Frightful's Mountain* (both Dutton) - also hikes, canoes, and makes sourdough pancakes. In 1991, Ms. George became the first winner of the School Library Media Section of the

New York Library Association's Knickerbocker Award for Juvenile Literature, which was presented to her for the "consistent superior quality" of her literary works. Her inspiration for the Newbery Medal-winning *Julie of the Wolves* evolved from two specific events during a summer she spent studying wolves and tundra at the Arctic Research Laboratory of Barrow, Alaska: "One was a small girl walking the vast and lonesome tundra outside of Barrow; the other was a magnificent alpha male wolf, leader of a pack in Denali National Park ... They haunted me for a year or more, as did the words of one of the scientists at the lab: 'If there ever was any doubt in my mind that a man could live with the wolves, it is gone now. The wolves are truly gentlemen, highly social and affectionate.'" The mother of three children, Jean George is a grandmother who has joyfully read to her grandchildren since they were born. Over the years Jean George has kept 173 pets, not including dogs and cats, in her home in Chappaqua, New York. "Most of these wild animals depart in autumn, when the sun changes their behavior and they feel the urge to migrate or go off alone. While they are with us, however, they become characters in my books, articles, and stories."

Great book! Excellent recipes and ideas, even though a children's book.

It's okay, not the best book for recipes though

This is the first wild-foods book I have found that is ideal for children. Preteens and young teenagers can be intimidated or overwhelmed by Billy Joe Tatum, or tuned out to the personal story flavor of Euell Gibbons. This book is so clear and so beautifully illustrated-- it is perfect to get young people involved in the foraging lifestyle. It's botanically precise, as well, to assuage the fears of worried mothers! The book is not just for young people, of course; it is a joy for foragers of all ages.

Simply fascinating book on ordinary plants in your own yard. Great recipes and very entertaining. I did not know you could eat half of this stuff! Wowie!

Schools have increasing nut allergies in children as a major health and safety issue- acorns in acorn pancakes are tree nuts and it's really a poor choice to encourage an activity that is not appropriate for today's severe anaphylactic child.

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