



[Stir, Laugh, Repeat: Finding Joy While Playing in the Kitchen Book Reviews](#)  
by [Martha A. Cheves](#)

“I pride myself in being a non-domestic type. Far be it from me to attempt cooking anything that requires the use of an actual stove. I was surprised at how inspired I was by Martha Cheves's cookbook, Stir, Laugh, Repeat. As I read through the recipes, so many of them jumped out at me as things I might actually be able to cook. I especially liked the one for Hash

Brown Potatoes Au Gratin. Cheves has put together a reader-friendly cooking guide that gives you not only the information you need to attempt something new, but the inspiration. A wonderful read and a necessary addition to your cookbook collection. Nice work!”

Review by Rona Shively  
Friday, March 26, 2010

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**“This is the cookbook you've been waiting for....**

Like many cookbook collectors, I'm always on the lookout for a new cookbook and I've found it in Stir, Laugh, Repeat. The range of recipes is enormous, and all of the selections are fun, easy and a joy to prepare. I can see that the Coconut Loaf Cake is going to be a family favorite, with Pina Colada cake also at the top of the list. This is a fun book and the recipes are terrific, I also love the comments that Martha includes. She offers little stories about her experiences making the recipes, the reactions of the taste testers, etc. Whether you're looking for something fabulous to take to a party (Coconut Ice Box Sheet Cake) or a quick recipe for Sunday breakfast (Monkey Bread) you are bound to find something here to delight you! I had tried several of Martha's recipes on her website and just had to have this book.”

Review by Mary Kennedy  
Saturday, March 20, 2010

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Martha Cheves's cookbook, Stir, Laugh, Repeat. As I read through the recipes, so many of them jumped out at me as things I might actually be able to cook. I especially liked the one for Hash Brown Potatoes Au Gratin. Cheves has put together a reader-friendly cooking guide that gives you not only the information you need to attempt something new, but the inspiration. A wonderful read and a necessary addition to your cookbook collection. Nice work!"

Review by Rebecca Benson  
Wednesday, February 17, 2010

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**“Caution! You Are About to Enter the Fun Zone!**

Step into your kitchen, cook "from scratch" and end up with a tasty dish to place before friends and family, that is assuming you have brought "Stir, Laugh, Repeat" with you. Tuck it under your apron. This way instead of Martha A. Cheves (the author), you get all the credit. Don't forget to dab your brow a bit to make it look like you have labored away to create this delicious meal. It's hard to say what I like the most about this book - the "dinner's ready" easy recipes, the anecdotes about each recipe or the tidbits of useful information. Each is served up with straightforward charm. All I know is that every time I open it to select something to make, I find myself reading page after page and smiling. The recipes are easy to follow. The anecdotes and tips make you feel like you have a friend in the kitchen with you, just chatting about cooking, offering some advice while you prepare a dish. My favorite kind of cookbook is a cookbook that tells how each recipe came to be and how it was enjoyed, or in some cases, adjusted. Martha's book is already a favorite of mine. I have a cautionary tale though. I have to accept that if I make Martha's scrumptious coconut loaf cake every week, there are consequences. In that case, I would have to stir, laugh, repeat, and do some extra sit ups.”

By Rita Freud "book gal" (NJ)  
February 9, 2010

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“This is not your ordinary cookbook. This cookbook, written for those that are not familiar with working in a kitchen; or did not have the luxury of being in the kitchen with their mother; grandmother, or even their father and learned the joy of cooking from them while spending time in the kitchen.

The recipes are simple comfort food and some that you may not have heard of. The point is to try them and learn to become comfortable in the kitchen and possibly pass on the joy

of cooking to your children. There is no better way to spend time and have fun with your children then to work together in the kitchen as many children did years ago.

The anecdotes along with the recipes are fun to read on their own. What a treat to read while following the easy to prepare dishes in one pot. The recipes are easy to follow and create something special for one or a family.

This reviewer, thought back to the times he spent in the kitchen helping his mother by cutting up things, getting them ready for the pot. It does make for a special bond between child and parent.

For those that are single and avoid the kitchen due to lack of confidence around a stove, think of the sense of accomplishment when you create something yourself in the kitchen. We can't live by take-out or the microwave all the time. We should strive to eat healthy most of the time."

Review by Robert Medak  
Tuesday, January 26, 2010

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"I had a few reasons for wanting to read this book.

I get tired of the same things over and over.  
I love trying new recipes.  
I love laughing.

It has some of the strangest recipes I've ever seen.  
Here are a few:  
Mushroom Bread  
Sausage Cookies  
Meaty Mashed Potatoes  
Rabbit Food Sandwich  
Outside In Cake  
Stuffed Cube Steak Rolls

Here are a few foods I love and can't wait to try:  
Fried Pickles  
Southern Chow Chow  
Chinese Swiss Steak  
Hash Brown Omelets  
Key Lime Pie  
No Bake Cookies

(My mom let me start making No Bake Cookies by myself when I was about 11 yrs. old and they are still my favorite to make...and eat!)

There is a tip at the end of each recipes which I thought was a great addition.

This book is a great addition to any cookbook library. I love love love it!!!”

Review by Vicki - Reading At the Beach  
Sunday, January 24, 2010

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**[http://www.amazon.com/Stir-Laugh-Repeat-Martha-Cheves/dp/1604628189/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1274367680&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.com/Stir-Laugh-Repeat-Martha-Cheves/dp/1604628189/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1274367680&sr=1-1)**