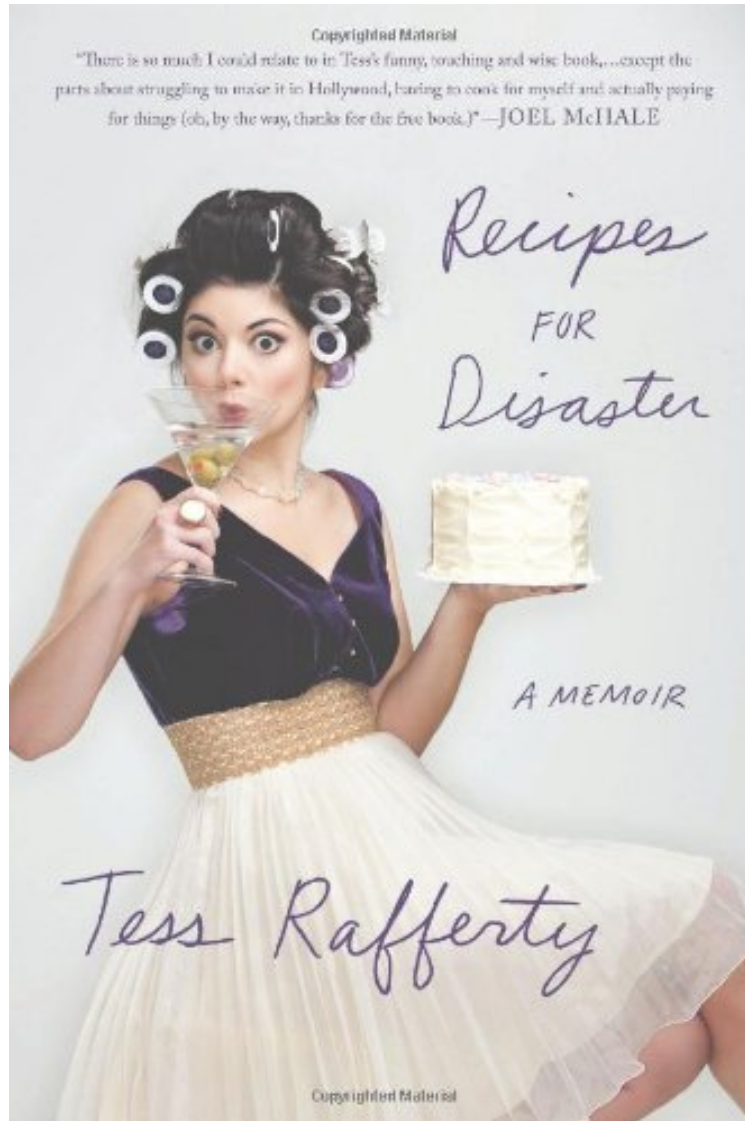


(Ebook pdf) Recipes for Disaster: A Memoir

Recipes for Disaster: A Memoir

Tess Rafferty

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Tess Rafferty : Recipes for Disaster: A Memoir before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Recipes for Disaster: A Memoir:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Food is Like Life with Do Overs!By Sylvia KrakauerTess Rafferty's often heart breaking but always heart warming "Recipes for Disaster" felt like it was written for me. Maybe it was.I opened this book expecting to find fun recipes and cute anecdotes. I expected to laugh, because on stage, on the small screen and in real life, Tess has always made me laugh. What I didn't expect was the intricate weave of philosophy,

unspeakable loss, family dysfunction, friends and friendships of all iterations explored amid a backdrop of food. What I should have, but didn't expect, was to be so captivated by foods I always knew existed and a person I thought I knew really well. I mean, who knew that Tess couldn't eat fruit? This book is truly delightful and will make you want to laugh and cry but you'll wait to do both because you'll want to run into the kitchen and cook something and then call five friends to share it with. My late husband loved meat loaf, which I didn't make often enough. Of course, even if I'd served it three meals a day for our all-too-short time together it wouldn't have been enough. Of all of the people who came in and out of my life, only one of them understood my meat loaf regret. In fact, she told me that it changed her life. That person, of course, was Tess Rafferty. Speaking about creating a meal and sharing it with friends, Tess reminds us to keep it light by cautioning: "You're not taking a tumor out of a child's brain." And yet, after reading this book, you'll believe that Tess could probably manage to do that. And more importantly, reading this book will make you feel like you can too. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Not just for entertaining! By Colleen Wright I was eager to read Tess's memoir since I have known her since the prologue of the book and the high school dinner party. The book was lively and entertaining; I am willing to bet that the high school dinner party was too, though it was too long ago for me to remember. Tess's voice and humor shine loud and clear through the whole book, and it's encouraging to read that dinner parties *can* be as difficult to pull off as they have been for me - it's NOT just me. I plan to use the included recipes, especially for braising meats, since I usually manage only to braise them into dryness. What it comes down to is this - if you love food, and you love laughing, and especially if you love wine, you will love this book. Promise. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. LOVE everything about this book By Robin Rankow LOVE everything about this book. Family, culture, food, life....roll it up and share the love. I read (and attempt to write memoirs) this is brilliant...as is the author.

Starting with the Thanksgiving turkey that never quite finishes cooking, then moving to the polenta that unceremoniously goes runny and the guests that arrive a day early? there is no topic Tess Rafferty fails to encounter, or hilariously recount. Recipes for Disaster is as though Bridget Jones wrote a culinary narrative? the most pristine of intentions slowly disappear, as does the wine along with any hope of a seamless and well-orchestrated dinner party. Told with heart, humor and honesty; this memoir goes beyond culinary catastrophe and heartwarmingly unveils the lengths we go to in order to please our family, friends, and ourselves? and proves that it's not the food that counts, but the memories. Aptly timed for all the Thanksgiving chefs about to enter the holiday gauntlet; or the guests headed to their dinners? this is the perfect book to read and then savor.

From Booklist Between her book's title and several statements in the introduction like Cookbooks should have a whole chapter on dealing with disappointment, Rafferty may trick readers into thinking she's a comedy writer (TV's *The Soup*) first and foremost before she reveals she's equally talented in the kitchen. In this part entertaining manual, part memoir of the entertainment industry that will please entertainment junkies and foodies alike, Rafferty touches on the L.A. stand-up scene, her early exploration of which drew her attention to cooking out of pure necessity. She includes basic tips that no one ever tells you—choose one soda option for guests, don't attempt a new recipe when you have a crowd to impress and a canon of tried and true favorites—and advice that seasoned entertainers will find useful. Recipes, from braised short ribs over polenta to apple pie (because store bought is for people who don't love their boyfriends), come with conversational, detailed descriptions. Rafferty, who herself can't have fruit or many vegetables, also includes tips for accommodating food allergies. --Annie Bostrom "There is so much I could relate to in Tess's funny, touching and wise book, ...except the parts about struggling to make it in Hollywood, having to cook for myself and actually paying for things (oh, by the way, thanks for the free book.)" ?Joel McHale "This book combines two of my favorite things: food and parties that end with people crying." ?Whitney Cummings, comedienne and star of NBC's "Whitney" "Tess Rafferty doesn't take any of it too seriously--the food, or the failures. I like that about her." ?Giulia Melucci, author of *I Loved, I Lost, I Made Spaghetti* "This delectable book is a culinary memoir for those of us who love food but don't always know exactly when the turkey is safe to eat. Not since the disastrous dinner parties of the classic Mary Tyler Moore show has a sultry brunette more adorably fumbled her way through the kitchen. If you love Laurie Colwin or Nora Ephron, there's a new witty cook in town you must read: Tess Rafferty. Bon Appetit!" ?Cathryn Michon, author of *The Grrl Genius Guide to Life* "Reading RECIPES FOR DISASTER is like being at a terrific dinner party, chock full of comfort foods and lots (and lots) of wine. Tess Rafferty serves up delicious Hollywood stories that are sometimes heartwarming and always hilarious." ?Adena Halpern, author of *29*, and *Pinch Me* About the Author For 7 ½ years TESS RAFFERTY wrote on the cult comedy show, *The Soup*, where she skewered pop culture, parodied celebrities and helped her co-workers pick out gifts for their wives. She has frequently been seen on camera as herself, *Posh Spice*, a *Succubus*, a "Guidette" from *Jersey Shore*, and perhaps most notably "The Dancing Maxi Pad." Her first feature film, *Thicker Than Water*, is scheduled to begin filming in July 2012. While at Emerson College, Tess started performing stand up comedy at the clubs and Chinese restaurants around Boston, Massachusetts and continues to perform stand up in Los Angeles, when not holding herself to ridiculous standards at dinner parties or learning to speak Italian. Tess is also a regular performer at the storytelling show, *Public*

School, and frequently reads her essays at the Pez show. She can also be seen discussing pop culture on the TV Guide Channel and VH1. A drinking "enthusiast," Tess enjoys wine, specifically good wine. She's tasted wine from the Napa Valley to Long Island to the island of Ischia, and at every airport bar in between. Her travels have led to an appreciation for good food, which she attempts to bring home and recreate for her friends, with varying degrees of success. She lives in Los Angeles with her boyfriend, husband, (SIC) their 3 ungrateful cats, a modest wine collection and a pool. So, nothing bad can happen here.