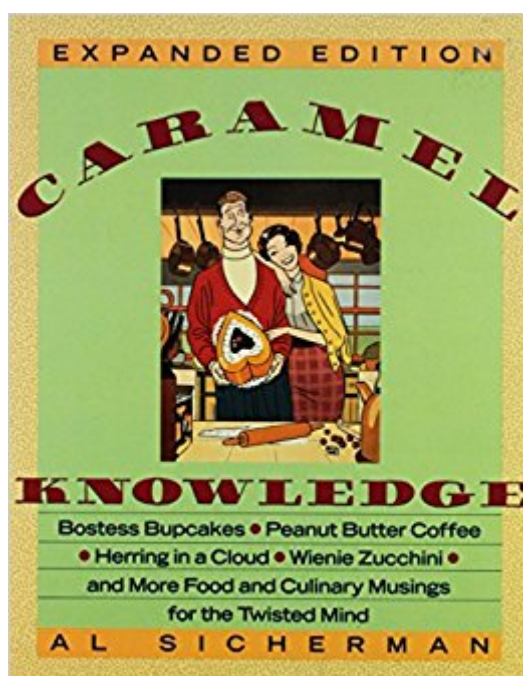


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Caramel Knowledge: Bostess Bupcakes Peanut-Butter Coffee, Herring In A Cloud, Wienie Zucchini, And More Food And Culinary Musings For The Twisted Mi



Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is my kind of book--amusing anecdotes from an offbeat mind splashed with a variety of tasty recipes. Al Sicherman is an admitted chocoholic (and food columnist) so the dessert recipes are GOOOOOOD! This is a collection of his diversely-themed columns, so you can find "mom-style" food (my husband has adopted the chicken and dumpling recipe as his own) just pages away from the junk-food clones. If you prefer your cookbooks traditional, divided by course and teamed with impossibly perfect pictures (whose food ever looks like that!) you will be disappointed and quickly frustrated. If, however, you believe food is fun, should taste good and hold no pretensions then beg, borrow or buy this book. Look for Al's column in your local paper and enjoy the read!

This cookbook was highly entertaining to read. I'm not sure how many of these menus I will actually make in their entirety, but I have already been inspired to create my own spin on these meals. For example, for the first day of school, I made a meal "in honor of 4th and 7th grades" (which my children were entering), for which every item on the menu contained a 4 or a 7 (7-grain crackers, 4 kinds of cheese, etc.) Maybe I'll try making the spam dinner for V-day, and I can think of fun dishes to make for the mock dinner and the "in a cloud" dinner, even if I don't attempt all the exact dishes in this cookbook.

Another great read from Al Sicherman. He is entertaining and I learned a few things. A wonderful light read.

This was my second copy of this book, I was replacing my original, which I had used so much that pages had been lost. Particularly fond of the mocha brownie recipe that one adds instant coffee too, and the all spam dinner menu.

I was a newspaper columnist and senior writer for 20 years, and I considered Al Sicherman (along with Cassandra Danz) a premier example of how to write an engaging, interesting, funny, subject-oriented column. The book is worth buying for the Bo-Bos and Bostess Bupcakes alone (not to mention Binkies, while they're in hiatus from commercial production), but it's a truly enjoyable read.

My brother gave me a recipe for a chocolate cake that was out of this world. He said it came from a book called "Caramel Knowledge" . He had looked for the book but was unable to find it. I began looking for it for him. I've looked for probably ten years! On a whim I typed it into and was more than surprised when it showed up. What a great find! I bought one for me and one for my brother.

I grew up reading an earlier edition of this title, closely after publication in 1985. This edition was published in 1988, and when I recently purchased it I was pleased to see that the columns and recipes were as I remembered them. How can you not smile to see a "Rainbow Dinner" in the same book with a dinner comprised of "Food in a Cloud?" Mr Sicherman's humor has withstood the test of time well, and while the recipes can be a tad unhealthy (reference the cake with over a pound of butter in it, I believe in the first chapter), they are a joy to prepare. My only criticism comes from the absence of the "Torte and Retorte" sections that originally appeared in the first edition. Chronicling the author's love of French pastry and a friendly argument with a fellow writer who prefers the Sachertorte and Eastern European desserts, they were a joy to read. I hope to find them again when I repurchase the older book.

Al wrote this book with pieces from his Minneapolis Star Tribune columns. He used to write a weekly column in the taste section dedicated to a themed meal. There was a peanut butter meal, Spam meal, etc... There are actually two versions of this cookbook and this is the expanded one. Al is being forced to retire as the Star Tribune recently changed ownership. For many years they have only let him write Mr. Tidbit columns and not his food menus. That was a terrible change as he is a very funny writer. This is my favorite cookbook and makes for a hilarious read.

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