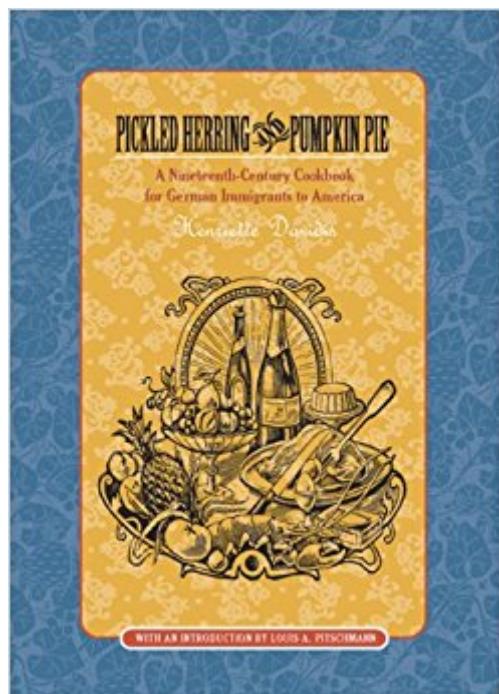


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Pickled Herring And Pumpkin Pie: A Nineteenth-Century Cookbook For German Immigrants To America



Synopsis

Pickled Herring and Pumpkin Pie is the reprint of a best-selling nineteenth-century German cookbook that was adapted for Germans living in America. As several German-language editions were published in Milwaukee, the recipes and other information evolved considerably, and the book was eventually translated into English with the title Practical Cookbook. The result is a fascinating mix of recipes from Old and New Worlds, ranging from traditional German fare (see the Beef Rouladen) to very American dishes (try the version of Strawberry Shortcake) to frontier cuisine—how about some roasted beaver tails? In addition to such culinary delights, Pickled Herring and Pumpkin Pie offers a glimpse into life in a nineteenth-century immigrant household and how immigrants tried to preserve the old ways while adapting to a new environment. Features of the cookbook include advice on how to use such "new" ingredients as corn or equipment like the Dutch oven, and how to shop in America, grow a proper kitchen garden, preserve food, cook medicinal dishes, and entertain properly. Pickled Herring and Pumpkin Pie offers authentic immigrant recipes in their cultural, social, and historical context. It is a delightful resource for epicures with a historical bent as well as for those who enjoy learning more about the day-to-day life of their ancestors.

Book Information

Series: Nineteenth-Century Cookbook for German Immigrants to America

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Customer Reviews

Henriette Davidis (1801–1876) is widely regarded as Germany's most famous and

influential cookbook author. A minister's daughter from Westphalia, she spent her young adult years working as a house mistress at wealthy estates and as a teacher at a school for young women. Striving to educate her students to be good housewives and proper young ladies, she saw a lack of written guidelines in the education of young girls and women, especially in their education as young cooks. In the middle of the nineteenth century, at a time when more than four hundred mostly regional cookbooks were already flooding the German market, Davidis created a cookbook of "tested recipes" from all over German-speaking Europe, recipes that were so clear "that even inexperienced young housewives and children could follow them and become good cooks." Her Practical Cookbook, first published in 1844, became an instant success. It went through twenty personally revised editions during her lifetime, and another forty-two editions before 1906. It was translated into Danish, Dutch, and English.

This is a wonderful book, as useful today as it was when it was published. It contains an interesting overview of cookbooks written for immigrant families, a genre which started not too long after the European cookbook itself. In the book I found recipes that my German grandmother had cooked. Many of the recipes are written to serve 30+ people, and there are recipes for beaver tail and bear, among other entree items that do not appear often on today's table. The German recipes were those of the most respected author in Germany at the time. Kindly, the editors included a section of American recipes so that the immigrant cooks could learn how to cook food common to their new home.

This book has both the historical context regarding cookbooks in general and recipes in specific. The recipes are useful once you become comfortable with the language and the fact that measurements are different.

If you like to read old-time recipes, or try to duplicate ethnic dishes, this book is for you! Some of the ingredients are rarely seen nowadays, but the recipes are fun to try and duplicate. Some even turn out really yummy.

Great info

Pickled Herring And Pumpkin Pie is a reprint of a best-selling nineteenth-century German cookbook by Henriette Davidis which was adapted for Germans living in America. From Milk Soup to Colored

Sugar to Meat Pie, this outstanding culinary compendium blends recipes from both the Old and New Worlds, and presents a unique glimpse into a nineteenth-century immigrant's way of life. Pickled Herring And Pumpkin Pie is an superbly presented and mouth-watering repository of classic cultural recipes that have survived the test of time.

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