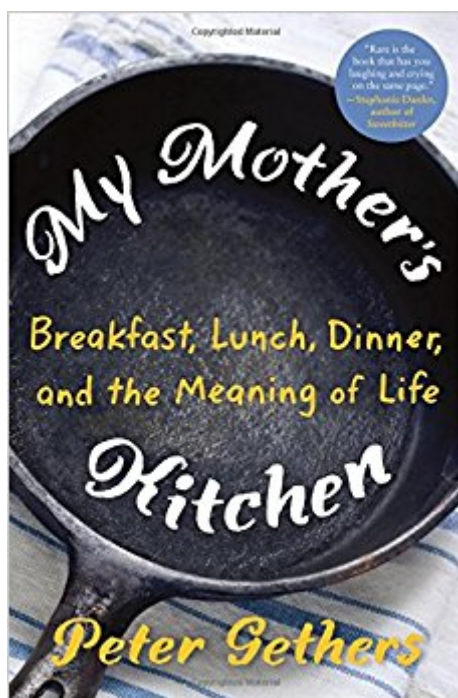


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# My Mother's Kitchen: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, And The Meaning Of Life



## Synopsis

My Mother's Kitchen is a funny, moving memoir about a son's discovery that his mother has a genius for understanding the intimate connections between cooking, people and love. Peter Gethers wants to give his aging mother a very personal and perhaps final gift: a spectacular feast featuring all her favorite dishes. The problem is, although he was raised to love food and wine he doesn't really know how to cook. So he embarks upon an often hilarious and always touching culinary journey that will ultimately allow him to bring his mother's friends and loved ones to the table one last time. The daughter of a restaurateur, the restaurant was New York's legendary Ratner's. Judy Gethers discovered a passion for cooking in her 50s. In time, she became a mentor and friend to several of the most famous chefs in America, including Wolfgang Puck, Nancy Silverton and Jonathan Waxman; she also wrote many cookbooks and taught cooking alongside Julia Child. In her 80s, she was robbed of her ability to cook by a debilitating stroke. But illness has brought her closer than ever to her son: Peter regularly visits her so they can share meals, and he can ask questions about her colorful past, while learning her kitchen secrets. Gradually his ambition becomes manifest: he decides to learn how to cook his mother the meal of her dreams and thereby tell the story of her life to all those who have loved her. With his trademark wit and knowing eye, Peter Gethers has written an unforgettable memoir about how food and family can do much more than feed us—they can nourish our souls.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"[In My Mother's Kitchen,] Gethers decides to learn to cook his mother's favorite dishes, then cook

them for her.... Their relationship has always been solid, and her son's patience and love are wonderful to behold." [The New York Times Book Review](#) "Each [recipe] is an avenue into Gethers's own personal memories of his family, which he tells in a funny, practiced, exuberant voice, a raconteur's voice. [His] depiction of [his mother's] merciless palate, quiet feminism and courageously resilient spirit give My Mother's Kitchen a reliable homing signal. Its recipes may not change your life, but some dish has, somewhere along the line; if you're fortunate you remember who made it for you as clearly and lovingly as this book does." [USA Today](#) "With a splash of good humor, a twist of Jewish kitsch, and a generous sprinkling of fun, Gethers's love and appreciation for his mother, and her spontaneous, late-in-life jump into a brand-new chapter stand as a most fitting tribute to freedom, strength, and independence for Judy and for every woman who dares to take a leap into the unknown." [ReformJudaism.com](#)

Peter Gethers is an author, screenwriter, playwright, book editor, and film and television producer. His books include *The Cat Who Went to Paris*, the first in a bestselling trilogy about his extraordinary cat, Norton. He is also the cocreator and coproducer of the hit off-Broadway play *Old Jews Telling Jokes*. He lives in New York City, Sag Harbor, New York, and, whenever possible, Sicily.

As Neil Simon once wrote, "In our family we didn't say 'love', we said 'eat!'" Peter Gethers makes manifest what Simon claimed. This book is a love triangle: Mother, Son and Food. And the cooking of food is the expression of love, so it's a triangle without any possible bad outcome except the inevitable one - the loss of a parent. The book is a loving tribute to an indomitable soul, expressed by another indomitable soul -- with recipes! If you are a foodie, a fan of wit and real, not cloying, sentiment, or just in need of a great read in these times that are so much about acrimony and bad behavior, here's a tribute to fellow-feeling and being kind to each other. It's a much needed tonic -- with gin and lime. And delicious from the first page to the last.

It was funny and informative and heartwarming. I laughed and cried. I hated the book to end. His mother was amazing!

A warm and totally delicious family story that revolves around the exquisite food and the perfect love one can find in life. The comfort of it is there if we just slow down long enough to notice.

It was heart warming and just a wonderful book

This is a good, funny, and, heartwarming read. I'm in the process of trying the recipes in the book, and I love how he has woven them into his narrative about his famous mother.

Honest, heartwarming, and interesting account of the author's love of food and family. A must for all goodies and for everyone who has a mother!

love the book

I am a foodie and I enjoyed that aspect but to me it was just a book tooting his own horn, his Mothers and a lot of name dropping.

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