

Foreword

The best cookbooks tell stories, and the story of this cookbook starts with a box of handwritten documents that I found in my basement. Upon a closer look it turned out to be an exceptional compilation of recipes, which made the impression of having been written by a halfling cook herself. I modernized this precious collection here and there, commented on it and made a book of it to share with you.

It is perfectly fine to simply use this as you would a normal cookbook. But if you are looking for more, it is there, along

with a few halfling lessons for living a better life: Cherish your friends. Be generous. Welcome unexpected visitors. Don't be hasty. Plant seeds. Tell stories. Be polite to trees. Hope, always.

Leafing through the notes, cooking the dishes, and sensing the fragrances and flavors, I feel myself pulled closer to this fantastical world, where those short, happy eaters live in a secluded bit of countryside, set apart from the bustle of the modern world. And then I like to imagine this world really exists.

Chelsea

