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Mr. Fruit Cart Guy On My Corner

On My Corner:

you are.
 country you hail.
 you are married or single, straight or
 live.
 children.
 you own a dog, or a cat, or a ferret.
 get your fruit.
 mousse or spray-on gel to get that
 hair.
 es you to put blueberries on sale one day (2 cartons for \$5) and
 next (2 cartons for \$ 4)



Shit.

I do not even know your name.

But I do know this...

Dear Mr. Fruit Cart Guy On My Corner:

I do not know how old you are.
 I do not know from what country you hail.
 I do not know whether you are married or
 single, straight or gay.
 I do not know where you live.
 I do not know if you have children.
 I do not know whether you own a dog, or a
 cat, or a ferret.
 I do not know where you get your fruit.
 I do not know where you go when you need to
 pee.
 I do not know if you use mousse or spray-on
 gel to get that Elvis-like wave in your hair.
 I do not know what drives you to put
 blueberries on sale one day (2 cartons for \$5)
 and strawberries on sale the next (2 cartons for \$ 4)



Shit.

I do not even know your name.

But I do know this:

I know you have quietly become part of my daily life.
 I know you make sure I smile every morning when I leave for work.
 I know you make sure I smile every night when I come home.
 I know you never run out of anything – or if you do – you apologize profusely.
 I know you are there for me through the hottest of days, and the coldest of nights.
 I know you always pet my dog, even when he rudely lifts his leg on your milk crate.
 I know you care that your strawberries are fresh.
 I know you care that your avocados are ripe.
 I know you never snap at my old bitty neighbors who poke at your produce and then don't
 buy anything.
 I know your shopping bags make great garbage bags for my kitchen waste basket.
 I know you sometimes give me 5 bananas for \$ 1 even though your sign says, "4 bananas
 for a \$1".
 I know you've saved me embarrassment at many a dinner party when I ran out of lettuce
 for the salad, or mushrooms for the soup, or cantaloupe for the dessert.
 I know you are a decent man because you always tell me I look pretty, even when I don't.

No, Mr. Fruit Cart Guy On My Corner,
 I do not know how you came to choose my corner.
 Or why you stay on my corner so faithfully.
 (There are an awful lot of corners in this big city of ours.)

But I do know I'm real glad you're there.

Alison is the author of "The Man Translator: Your Essential Guide to Manland" and "The Smart Girl's Guide To Getting Even", a couple of children's joke books and works at the Friars Club in New York City.

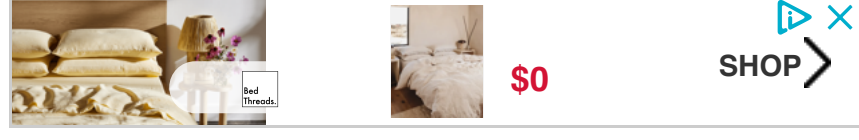
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3 Comments



Search One for the Table...

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Happy Thanksgiving!

Duckhorn Merlot
 Veuve Clicquot Pink
 Champagne

Caviar Pie & Salted Crackers
 Assorted French Cheeses &
 Sliced Apples

Perfect Roast Turkey
 Smokey Sweet Potato Souffle
 Mashed Potatoes
 Green Beans with Almonds
 Brussels Sprouts with Bacon
 Corn Bread Stuffing
 French Meat Stuffing
 Apricot Jello Mold
 POM Cranberry Sauce
 Old Fashioned Cranberry
 Sauce

Pumpkin Pie
 Deep Dish Apple Pie
 Cherry Pie
 Gingersnaps

Brandy & Coffee

Senator Biden's Favorite Oatmeal Raisin Cookies

1 cup shortening or butter
 1 cup firmly packed brown sugar
 1/2 cup granulated sugar
 2 eggs
 1 teaspoon vanilla
 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
 1 teaspoon baking soda
 1 teaspoon cinnamon
 1/2 teaspoon salt
 3 cups old fashioned oats
 1 cup raisins
 nuts (optional)

Read recipe...

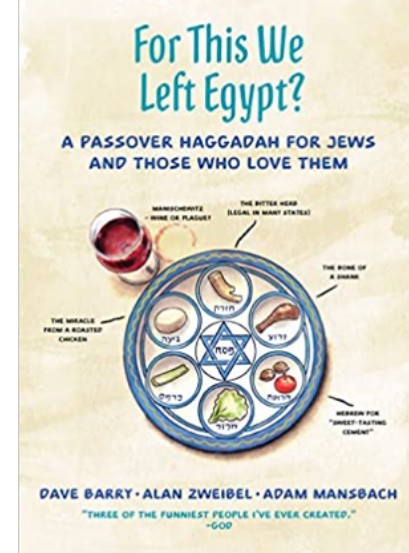
Favorite Things

The Beekman 1802 Heirloom Dessert Cookbook



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POM Cocktail Recipes.



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Restaurant News

Loteria Grill on the Santa Monica Promenade

Los Angeles
 by David Latt

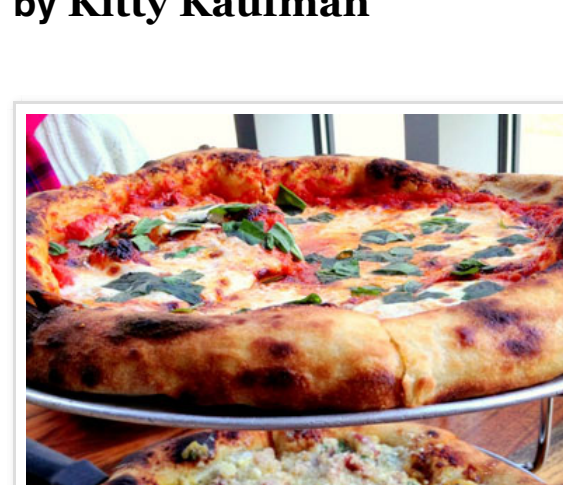


Westside fans of the Loteria Grill at the Farmers Market who lamented the long drive into LA can now enjoy Loteria's freshly made Mexican food right here in Santa Monica in the old Gaucho Grill...

Read more...

Boston Bakery and Restaurant - Area Four

Boston
 by Kitty Kaufman



It's inauguration Monday. Neither bison nor lobster's on our Cambridge menu but we're celebrating. The first place is "not doing lunch today," so around the corner we go to the second where I'm...

Read more...

Antojería La Popular: Mexican Street Food Debuts in Soho

New York
 by Alex Rader



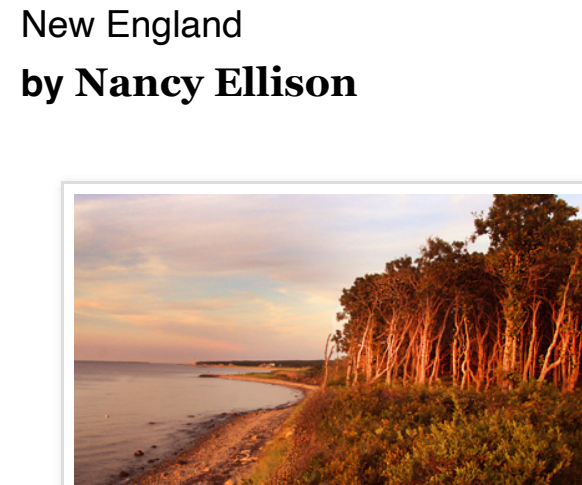
Nestled under a nail salon, down just a few stairs, there lives an outpost of delicate seafood, with a touch of unexpected spice.

The thing most people will have heard of from Chef Andres...

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Falling in love with the Vineyard: Out of season pleasures at Atria

New England
 by Nancy Ellison



Martha's Vineyard in the Fall is the secret treasure of vineyarders. The "summer people (some are not)" have returned to their sophisticated rat races, leaving perfect weather and fabulous...

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- The Pig Roast
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- St. Felix Bar
- Kai Lobach's World, and His Currywurst

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