

Contents

Introduction	ix
1. Walk On Securely	1
<i>Soup for a Group: Sweet Pea Pesto Dip, Italian Soup, Garlic Bread, Cannoli Bites</i>	
2. The Heart of Dating	15
<i>Sit-Down Dinner for Eight: Balsamic-Pepper Salad, Short Ribs in Tomato Sauce with Pappardelle Pasta, New Orleans Strawberries</i>	
3. A Sweet Story	25
<i>Taco Night: Guacamole with Grilled Corn and Cotija, Spicy Shrimp Tacos with Sriracha Crema, Citrus Slaw, Mexican “Fried” Ice Cream with Homemade Hot Fudge</i>	
4. Pioneers	37
<i>Holiday Brunch: Bloody Mary Pitcher, Frittata, Curried Avocado Toast, Hot Cross Buns</i>	
5. Closer to Eden	51
<i>Afternoon Tea: Tea, Trio of Tea Sandwiches (Cucumber on White Bread, Curry-Macadamia Chicken Salad on Sweet Brown Bread, Smoked Salmon Dill Rounds on Rye Bread), Watermelon Fruit Bowl with Lemon Curd Dip, Scones with Blackberry Butter</i>	
6. Peace over Perfect	67
<i>Salad Day Soiree: Lemonade Iced Tea with Mint or Rosé Sangria, Steak Cobb Salad, Sweet Potato Fries with Dip, Best-Ever Chocolate Chunk Cookies</i>	
7. Waiting Well	79
<i>Summer “No-Grill” Barbecue: Dill Dip with Mini Pumpernickel Bowls, Oven Barbecue Ribs, Mustard Fingerling Potato Salad, Nutella Banana Bread</i>	

8. Time to Gather	91
<i>Wine and Cheese Social: Wine, Elderflower Mocktail, Charcuterie and Cheese Board, Flourless Chocolate Cake</i>	
9. Eternal Wealth	101
<i>Back-to-School Dinner: Mandarin-Chèvre-Blueberry Salad, Honey-Curried Chicken, Garlic Rice, Brown-Butter Crispies with Sea Salt</i>	
10. Travelers	111
<i>Fall Feast: Roasted Butternut Squash Soup, Spectacular Stuffed Pumpkin, Kale Salad with Cider-Maple Vinaigrette, Any-Fruit Crisp with Homemade Caramel Sauce</i>	
11. A Faith for All Seasons	125
<i>Perfect Roast Chicken Dinner: Arugula Cranberry-Orange Salad, Perfect Roast Chicken, Baked Potatoes with Creamy Feta, California Carrot Cake</i>	
12. Like a Child	137
<i>Pizza Party and Cookie Swap: Christmas Punch; Three Pizzas, Three Different Ways (Meat Lover's Pizza, Southwestern Pizza with Avocado Crema, Mediterranean Pizza with Pomegranate Molasses); Green Salad with Lemon Dressing; Gingersnap Cookies</i>	
Entertaining Tips	153
Pantry Staples	163
Tools of the Trade	167
Notes	169
Ingredient Index	173