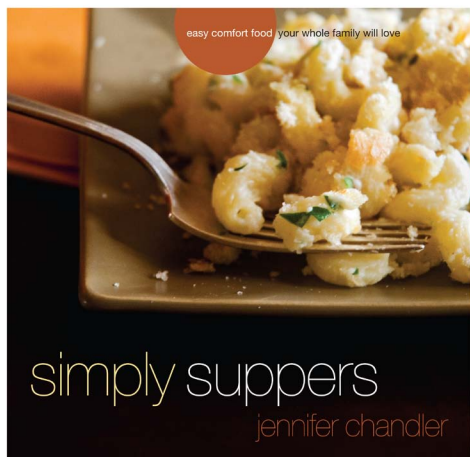


SHELF LIFE

The Basics: In 2007, Memphian, Cordon Bleu graduate, restaurateur, and food writer Jennifer Chandler made salads a cinch with *Simply Salads*, a book that featured recipes using prepackaged greens. Now she's followed that book up with what comes after salad in American households, supper, in a book called *Simply Suppers: Easy Comfort Food Your Whole Family Will Love* (Thomas Nelson).

The scrumptious photographs are by Natalie Root of New Orleans, but the recipes — for soups, entrees, side dishes, and desserts — are mostly Chandler's, including 30 time-tested favorites you can make in 30 minutes,



10 leftover chicken makeovers, and 20 freezer go-to's, which promise to make life easier in the kitchen and maybe get your loved ones to sit down and eat as one family. And what's not to love? Chicken a la King (and not from a can), mac-and-cheese ("with a twist"), green bean casserole (raised to new heights using haricots verts, pecans and cheddar cheese), and banana pudding (in pie form). More basic than those basics, though, are the book's recipes for chicken stock, tomato sauce, pie crust, and other essentials.

But if the recipes here are Chandler's, she gives credit where credit's due: The blackened catfish borrows from Soul Fish; the Grove Grill inspired the shrimp and grits; the pasta carbonara is an interpretation of the Rendezvous'; the tuna melt owes to Alyce Mantia; the recipe for yellow squash casserole belongs to Linda Cornish, founding board member of the Memphis Farmers Market; and the glazed lemon pound cake won Chandler's friend Kristen Keegan a "best in show" award at the Mid-South Fair. The smothered pork chops? They're not *like* mom used to make. They *are* what Mom used to make — the mom being Jennifer Chandler's. M

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