

non-fiction



Gran's Kitchen
 Natalie Oldfield and
 Dulcie May Booker,
 Hardie Grant, \$45.

At 95 years old, the lovely Dulcie May Booker shares her 76 best recipes and

cooking tips peppered with reminiscences and photographs of her life as dressmaker, market gardener and homemaker extraordinaire. Compiled by Dulcie's grand-daughter, foodie Natalie Oldfield, this gorgeous book is practical nostalgia: it contains easy-to-follow instructions on how to make Dulcie's excellent, classic fare, from hearty fisherman breakfasts to dance supper dainties, as well as Dulcie's secrets to award-winning baking and preserves. Continuing the home cooks' tradition of sharing recipes with each other, tucked in with Dulcie's recipes are favourites from family and friends. One to treasure and pass on to the next generation.



Country Style, Country Chefs

Lantern, \$39.95.

Compiled by Notebook's sister publication, *Country Style*, this is a collection of recipes and stories from Australia's best-loved country chefs. Pick lemons with Maggie Beer in the Barossa Valley and forage for mushrooms with John Cross in the Blue Mountains. With its stunning photography, this is a heartfelt celebration of the personalities, produce and places that are redefining the way we think about country cooking.



We Love Food

Kirsty Manning-Wilcox and Peta Heine, Hardie Grant, \$39.95.

This comprehensive guide for parents contains more than 80 delicious everyday recipes the whole family will love – and all made using vegies and herbs from the garden. From breakfast treats, creamy soups and easy weeknight dinner ideas to roasts and delectable desserts, these recipes celebrate the simple joy of cooking and eating together. Spread throughout are step-by-step features on planting and growing vegetables and herbs, even in small spaces. Certain to become a family favourite.



Dear Mum: M.I.L.K.

Edited by Geoff Blackwell, Hachette, \$16.99.

This charming little coffee-table book pays homage to one of life's closest relationships – that between mother and child. The unforgettable images within celebrate what it is to be part of a family, to share the gift of friendship and, more than anything else, to be loved. They've been carefully selected from the M.I.L.K. collections, a photography project that began more than 10 years ago as a global competition to find extraordinary and geographically diverse images portraying humanity's 'Moments of Intimacy, Laughter and Kinship'. A cute gift for Mother's Day.



SPOTLIGHT
on an author

Li Cunxin's extraordinary journey from a poverty-stricken childhood in communist China, to years of harsh training at the Beijing Dance Academy and eventually defecting to the West and performing as a principal dancer with the Australian Ballet made a fascinating autobiography and one of the most successful locally made films in years. To celebrate the film's DVD release, Li shares the latest book, film and album he's loved.

BOOK: Josh Hartnett Definitely Wants to Do This... True Stories From a Life in the Screen Trade, Bruce Beresford
Not only do I admire Bruce as a director, I also enjoy his humour and the intrigues of the movie industry he has shared.

FILM: Avatar
I saw this with my children. It's truly a visual sensation, especially so in 3D.

ALBUM: Crazy Love, Michael Bublé
I really like his music and lyrics.

Reading by Moonlight

Brenda Walker, Hamish Hamilton, \$29.95.

As a novelist and professor of literature, Brenda Walker's life had been built around reading and writing. So when she was fighting for her life against breast cancer, it was only natural that she turned to books for solace and sustenance. In this touching memoir, Brenda describes the five stages of her treatment and how different books and authors helped her through the tumultuous process of recovery. As well as offering wonderful introductions and insights into the work of writers such as Dante, Tolstoy, Nabokov, Beckett and Dickens, she shows how the very process of reading – surrendering and then regathering yourself – echoes the process of healing. Truly inspirational.



The Completely Superior Person's Book of Words

Peter Bowler, Bloomsbury, \$35.

*Words are not only tools; they are also weapons...
But... they are also toys. They are fun to play with.*

Sydney author Peter Bowler explains the idea behind his witty, charming and clever encyclopedia of weird and wonderful words such as cepaceous (like an onion), juvenescent (becoming youthful) and ponophobia (fear of work).

