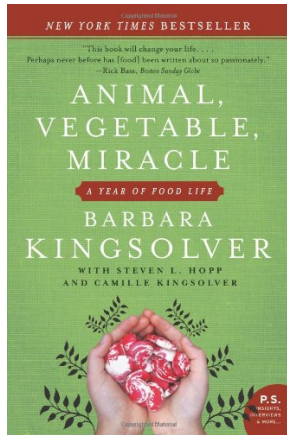


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[Spectacular Books]

Animal, Vegetable, Miracle by Barbara Kingsolver



One of my favorite books of all time, **Animal, Vegetable, Miracle** will have you longing for an enormous plot of land and some feathery turkeys running around your backyard.

Here's an excerpt from the starred review by publishers weekly:

“Accomplished gardeners, the Kingsolver clan grow a large garden in southern Appalachia and spend summers “putting food by,” as the classic kitchen title goes. They make pickles, chutney and mozzarella; they jar tomatoes, braid garlic and stuff turkey sausage. Nine-year-old Lily runs a heritage poultry business, selling eggs and meat. What they don't raise (lamb, beef, apples) comes from local farms. Come winter, they feast on root crops and canned goods, menus slouching toward asparagus. Along the way, the Kingsolver family, having given up industrial meat years before, abandons its vegetarian ways and discovers the pleasures of conscientious carnivory. This field—local food and sustainable agriculture—is crowded with

books in increasingly predictable flavors: the earnest manual, diary of an epicure, the environmental battle cry, the accidental gardener. *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* is all of these, and much smarter.”

They learn many lessons along the way, you shouldn't name chickens you intend to eat, and putting up enough food for a year takes about thirty days over a hot stove, among them.

One of the best things about this book, though, is that it has recipes. If anything in this book lets you down, the Mushroom Asparagus Bread Pudding, Sweet Potato Quesadillas and Strawberry Rhubarb Crisp and all the other unique recipes will surely make up for it.

While most of us will never have the opportunity to grow all the food we need to feed our families, this book is sure to inspire you to grow a garden, maybe raise some chickens, and at the very least, support the farmers in your community. I highly recommend it!

author: melissa chappell

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