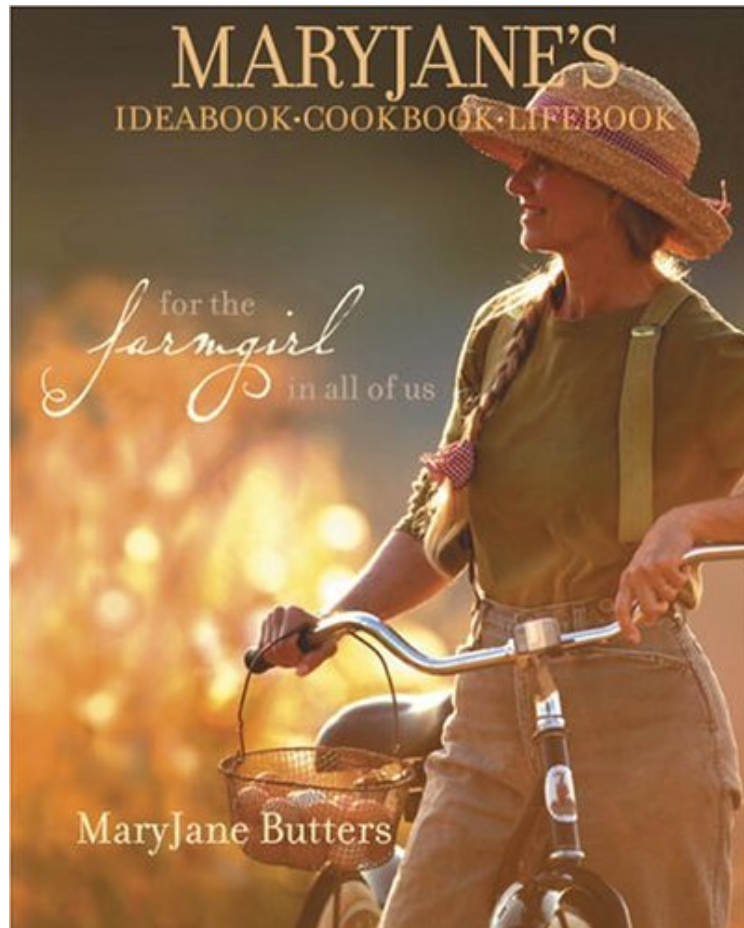


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MaryJane's Ideabook, Cookbook, Lifebook: For the Farmgirl in All of Us

MaryJane Butters

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MaryJane Butters : MaryJane's Ideabook, Cookbook, Lifebook: For the Farmgirl in All of Us before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised MaryJane's Ideabook, Cookbook, Lifebook: For the Farmgirl in All of Us:

97 of 97 people found the following review helpful. Well worth it!By LaurieI believe that I first heard of MaryJane from the Food Network's "Food Finds" show. Intrigued, I checked out her website, and ordered a few products, along with an issue of her magazine. I was pleased with what I received and ordered more of both. And when I heard that she would be coming out with a book, I put it on my wish list before it was published...but then I sort of forgot about it. Recently, I was perusing my wish list, looking for an item to fill up an order so that it would qualify for free shipping, and I spied this book. It was considerably more than I needed to spend, but for some reason, it felt right. So I ordered it, not knowing exactly what to expect -- would it just be a rehash of the magazine? How can something be an

"Ideabook, Cookbook, Lifebook"? Having received it, now all I can say is "WOW"! I am definitely more than pleased with my purchase. While not an exhaustive report on any one subject, it is overflowing with tidbits about such a variety of topics that I am truly amazed. And I can see why it was named "Ideabook, Cookbook, Lifebook". MaryJane touches on everything from her daughter's beautiful farm wedding, to ways to easily sprout seeds, to a how-to on building your own "wall tent", to vintage embroidery patterns for kitchen towels. There's a primer for most of the basic stitches in sewing. There are recipes and reminiscences. Advice on cutting kindling. Vacation ideas. Breathtaking photos. And most importantly, there is inspiration. If you want to buy a few acres and start your own farm, this book gives you some ideas to explore. If you want to sell your produce, this book gives you sources for supplies. If you want the best garden hoe, the best food dehydrator, the purest jam -- this book tells you where to go. And if you're just a "farmgirl" at heart, this book feels like your best friend. There are so many tidbits tucked here and there throughout the book that I imagine that most people would find something to pique their interest. As a matter of fact, when I was flipping through the book, trying to find an item I had seen before and wanted to share with my husband, he stood over my shoulder, repeatedly stopping me when he spotted something that caught his eye. Trust me, that usually doesn't happen. Our reading interests don't often overlap. (But I'm pretty sure I could talk him into building a wall tent now!) All in all, if you're at all interested in this topic, I really don't think you could go wrong with this book. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Mary Jane's Ideabook, Cookbook Lifebook By Eric J. Kolber I had been watching for this book for quite a while for my wife. Since this is the beginning of Mary Jane's books it actually puts a lot of her other books in perspective and gives her life history and philosophies. My wife has been very excited to receive this book since it is out of print. This is an exciting book that gives you many ideas and insights into that inner Farm Girl. My wife carries this book around with her it is so chock full of ideas. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. ... Butters books I have read and it remains my favorite although each of them have their own charms By old dog w/new tricks This is the first of MaryJane Butters books I have read and it remains my favorite although each of them have their own charms. I SO want to meet this lady! Wow, what a gal! (If I ever decide to grow up I want to be her.) Creative, fun, healthy, old fashioned but timely. Beautiful photos and fun projects.

MaryJane Butters sense of purpose is as big as the Idaho landscape where her organic farm is nestled. She wants nothing less than to reconnect us all with the food we eat and the heritage of farming that belongs to all of us, and nothing more than to empower and encourage rural women everywhere ... she is cultivating not just a farm but a philosophy of living. Body Soul Carpenter, waitress, janitor, upholsterer, secretary, milkmaid, wilderness ranger, environmental activist, entrepreneur the founder of MaryJanesFarm has worn many hats in her day, but none more proudly than that of modern-day farmgirl. Speaking to the farmgirl in all of us, MaryJane Butters offers a captivating introduction to the organic lifestyle, resurrects forgotten domestic arts, and shares lessons gleaned from her diverse background and two decades of life as an Idaho farmer. Whether you simply need encouragement to embrace a more authentic, wholesome lifestyle or you're looking for guidance on building a greenhouse, chopping firewood, hosting a town event, caring for a flock of chickens, making your own butter, growing a winter salad, or choosing a water filter, MaryJanes Ideabook, Cookbook, Lifebook is both an inspiration and a practical road map for farmgirls of all stripes. Dreams are MaryJane Butters business, and she has always pursued them without pausing to consult conventional wisdom. House Garden MaryJane Butters, a natural teacher, has a gift for simplification, and makes it seem that everything she does is easy and attainable. The New Yorker

About the Author MaryJane Butters discovered she was a writer when, at age forty-five, she needed a mail-order catalog for her line of organic foods, produced at her Idaho farm. When her passion for good stories got out of hand, her catalog became a "storefront" magazine (MaryJanesFarm), finding its way into stores like Barnes Noble and Wal-Mart, and eventually landing on the desk of a literary agent in New York. MaryJane grew up in Utah in a self-sufficient family of seven, longing for fertile ground where she could raise her own flock of chickens, maybe a cow or two, and a family. Working her way north, she made her living as a carpenter, waitress, seamstress, secretary, janitor, wilderness ranger, community organizer, and milkmaid. Rooted now on her own five acres for the past twenty years (seven of those as a single mom), MaryJane has accomplished everything she set out to achieve, including a few surprises. Twelve years ago, she married her neighbor, Nick Ogle, a third-generation farmer. Together they raised four hard-working children, plus bees, chickens, goats, cows, peas, beans, hay, wheat, and every vegetable imaginable, including a biodiesel crop to fuel MaryJane's car. She also cultivated twenty-seven future organic farmers in her apprenticeship program called Pay Dirt Farm School, bought an historic flour mill, and created the "Farmgirl Connection," a website that brings together hundreds of women sharing their farmgirl dreams and big farmgirl hearts. From AudioFile The Martha Stewart of the West proves that not only is she proficient at organic farming, carpentry, food preparation, and much more, but also that she can sell with the best of them. Her delivery is clear and forceful. She seems like someone you might like to have as a neighbor or as a manager running your company. Tender moments such as sewing a last-minute Christmas rag doll for her daughter share air space with the organization of a vendor sale. She happily provides Web sites of products she likes as well as her own. So what if you don't need to

know how to keep an outhouse smelling fresh--this is a great listen. J.B.G. AudioFile 2005, Portland, Maine--
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