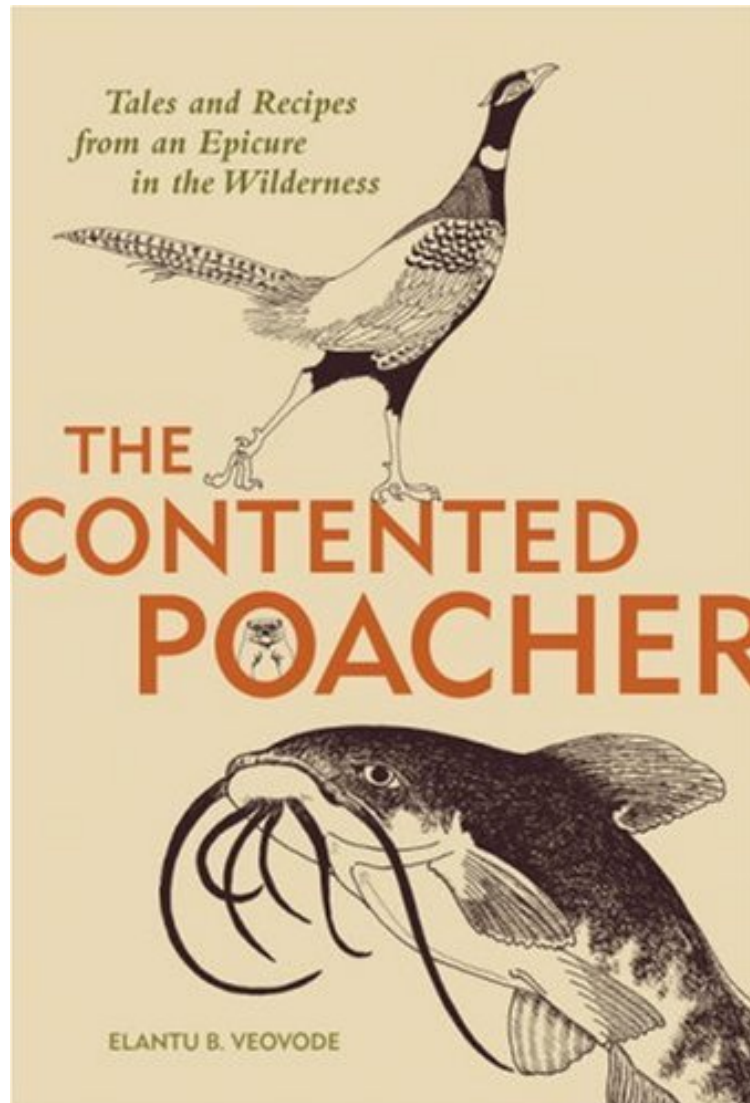


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Contented Poachers Epicurean Odyssey: Tales and Recipes from an Epicure in the Wilderness

Elantu Veovode

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Elantu Veovode : Contented Poachers Epicurean Odyssey: Tales and Recipes from an Epicure in the Wilderness before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Contented Poachers Epicurean Odyssey: Tales and Recipes from an Epicure in the Wilderness:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. From Sketches to Recipes...Some Tall Tales...and BackBy Ralph WhiteElantu Veovode (veh-VOH-duh) is, first, an artist. You may view her artwork at TheDreamMasters.org/Elantu.

She is known for a kind of artistic doodling called Celtic Knots, which follow certain rules, a repetitiveness of pattern, and an iconic spiritualism. Some of her designs began to include animal figures, and finding a natural talent there, she launched into sketches of wildlife. A signal characteristic of her animal sketches is the articulated body positions of the animals, in which she displays an understanding of the animal's muscular-skeletal structure as well as its exterior design. On trips into the field to observe wildlife, she would often find herself camped out overnight, living off the land, and eating...well...the subjects of her drawings. (This practice was consecrated by John James Audubon, and is far from rare in the art world.) When a particular dish came out well, her camping companions would remark, "Elantu, you should write that recipe down and include it in your book." Then it occurred to her that the drawings and the cookbook could be sold together, a sort of aggregated muse. Upon presenting the idea to a publisher the suggestion must have been made to include in the book some of her more colorful stories about hunting, trapping, and other methods of "tricking game onto my plate." At this point, Elantu began to weave allegory into her stories, just as she would weave animals into the story line of her Celtic Knots and Mandalas. At first there is plausibility to the stories, which are told in a kind of prose drawl, as if around the campfire. The reader imagines himself or herself pouncing on a plump pheasant which has been frightened to stillness with its head stuck in a toilet paper roll. But when you get to the one where you trick a moose into beating itself senseless by jousting with a boulder which you have rolled into its favorite path, you finally realize that your leg is being pulled. The book includes several such Paul Bunyan-like stories. Once you catch on, it's easier to understand how the woman pictured on the dust jacket managed to hoist an eight point buck on her back and carry it out of the woods; she imagined it; wrote it down; and it's just that simple. Many of the recipes inter-woven with the knots and woods lore would probably work fine. The ginger rabbit and squirrel parmesan are certainly worth a try, as is the venison stroganoff (though it would be worth the extra effort to cook the butter and flour into a proper roux). I think some recipes were inserted for their marketing impact: javelina brain, woodchuck with coconut, roadkill porcupine, rattlesnake pot pie, stir-fry field mouse, and roast grasshopper trail mix. And do not, repeat - not - eat that snapping turtle cream soup. And long after you have given up trying to trick game onto your plate you will still have the cute illustrations - and a bunch of outrageous-sounding recipes.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Unlike any cookbook you've ever read! By Ann Walker Zipperer Wonderful book! Entertaining and funny! It's a cookbook, but also full of humorous stories as well.

2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. The BEST cookbook in YEARS By A fan It doesn't get any better than this. Tremendously useful and clever recipes, charming stories, rich humor, and beautiful artwork, all from the hands and mind of one remarkable person. I had the privilege of reading an advance copy of this book, and I have already woven some of the clever stories in this book into MY fiction work. There simply has not been a better cookbook in years, and yet this is far more than a cookbook. With its wise, gentle, sweet love of nature and nature's creatures woven into every page, this book will change the way you view nature... and cooking. This is THE gift for outdoorsmen, nature lovers, and anyone who spends time in the wild. It is also perfect for the chef in your life who wants to explore entirely new, delightful realms of culinary adventure.

Throughout history, the poacher has been pigeonholed as scoundrel, thief, and criminal. But there exists another breed of poacher: one who proudly hunts without a gun, using art and guile alone. Wily woodswoman Elantu B. Veovode has spent a lifetime observing animals and cleverly coaxing them onto her plate. She shares her secrets in THE CONTENTED POACHER, the collected tales of her successful (and not so successful) close encounters with the wild side. With wit and wisdom, she'll show you how to nab a turkey using a fishnet, tap into woodchuck psychology, avoid meeting a bear on a mountain path, and catch catfish with cornmeal cakes, as well as other fine points of the chase. While chronicling her quest for cheap and savory vittles, Elantu also shares 60 original recipes for the true do-it-yourself gourmet, including her Lemon Roadrunner with Almonds, Porcupine in Pomegranate Sauce, and Rattlesnake Potpie with Prickly Pear Apples. Other recipes feature venison, buffalo, prairie dog, armadillo, field mouse, and grasshopper (along with store-bought substitutions for squeamish city dwellers). A rare catch for hunting buffs, armchair survivalists, and curious culinarians, THE CONTENTED POACHER will satisfy your taste for all creatures great and small.

From the Publisher Richly narrated hunting stories and more than 90 original recipes from a lifetime wilderness enthusiast. Learn how to catch a turkey with a fishnet, avoid meeting a bear on a mountain path, and remove the pungent odor of skunk.

About the Author By the time she was ten years old, ELANTU B. VEOVODE knew how to catch fish with an umbrella and fell a moose without a gun. She has lived all over North America and earned her living as a chef, cooking instructor, garbage collector, fire-watch resident, and artist. Besides hunting, fishing, camping, and cooking, she also enjoys hockey, spelunking, snowshoeing, designing Celtic knotwork, reading, bluegrass, and opera. She lives in Bighorn Canyon, Colorado, where she is currently working on several other books.