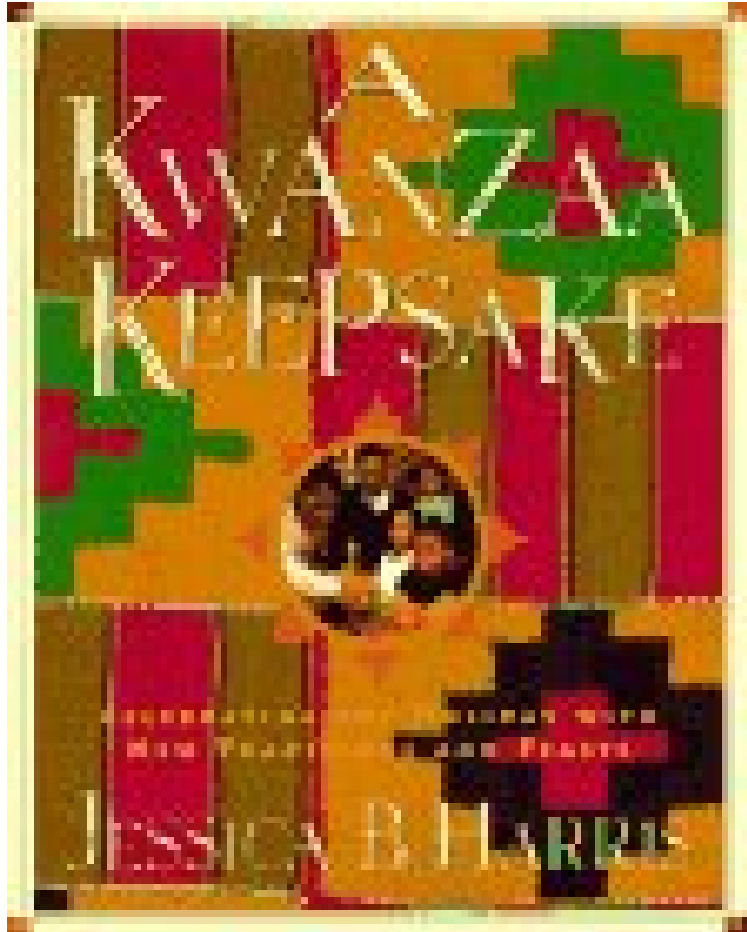


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Kwanzaa Keepsake

Jessica B. Harris

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Jessica B. Harris : Kwanzaa Keepsake before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Kwanzaa Keepsake:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This book is not only a keepsake, It's a ...By The Kwanzaa Coloring BookThis book is not only a keepsake; it's a keeper. In other words you can keep your Kwanzaa memories in the journal within book. Also, menus, recipes, and biographical sketches of Africans are provided; your whole week of Kwanzaa events have been plan for you. If that's not enough, buy the book for for the Kwanzaa Statement that can be found on the sixth night. It's a powerful ceremony that I plan to you use with my family this Kwanzaa, a moving experience that will strengthen your family.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. AN EXCELLENT EXPLANATION OF KWANZAA AND THE SEVEN PRINCIPLESBy Steven H ProppJessica B. Harris is a "Professor of English in New York City and a culinary consultant." She has written many other books such as The Africa Cookbook: Tastes of a Continent, High on the Hog: A Culinary Journey from Africa to America, Sky Juice and Flying Fish: Traditional Caribbean Cooking, Iron Pots Wooden Spoons: Africa's Gifts to New World Cooking,

Beyond Gumbo : Creole Fusion Food from the Atlantic Rim, and The World Beauty Book: How We Can All Look and Feel Wonderful Using the Natural Beauty Secrets of Women of Color. She writes in a prefatory page to this 1995 book, "May the principles of Kwanzaa reinforce the values of our families and keep all of our children, those of the womb and those of the heart, also." Here are some quotations from the book: "Kwanzaa... is not designed as an alternative to or replacement for any of the holidays. Kwanzaa may be celebrated jointly with any or all of the year-end holidays. More importantly, it also offers a time for reflection and self-affirmation, in contrast with the rampant commercialism that has overtaken some of the other holidays." (Pg. 13-14) "Celebrants are open to find the way to the holiday that best expresses their individuality. Some followers of Kwanzaa fast from sunrise to sunset during the seven days, as with the Muslim Ramadan." (Pg. 15) "Because Kwanzaa aims to avoid the crass commercialism that has overtaken the other year-end festivities, handmade gifts are also particularly appropriate, whether made by the giver or by other African-Americans. Again, as with all Kwanzaa purchases, in purchasing Kwanzaa zawadi, the principle of Ujamaa should be kept in mind. With Kwanzaa symbols and handmade Kwanzaa gifts, the principle of Kuumba should be kept in the foremost." (Pg. 21)

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A wonderful introduction to the celebration of Kwanzaa. By elly@west.net Ms. Harris' book, "A Kwanzaa Keepsake: Celebrating the Holiday With New Traditions and Feasts," is excellent. I knew nothing about Kwanzaa when I picked it up but felt as though I had been thoroughly introduced to a marvelous seven-day series of ceremonies, feasts and celebrations. I came away with a great deal of respect for Kwanzaa and the seven principles behind it. It is unfortunate, however, that the creator of Kwanzaa, Maulana Karenga, felt it necessary to discriminate against all but African Americans, for all mankind would benefit from participating in this moving celebration. We could all stand to be affirmed and reaffirmed as members of our families, our communities and our cultures on an annual basis.

A rich and festive distillation of the joy surrounding the African-American celebration of Kwanzaa offers more than fifty delicious recipes, along with facts and projects that add to the holiday's spirit. 30,000 first printing. National ad/promo. Tour.

From School Library Journal YA? A comprehensive guidebook on this African and African American feast. Prefaced by a history of the seven principles of Kwanzaa, the text comments on practical ways to enhance each phase of the celebration and offers concrete descriptions of rituals associated with each one. Also, a project that families can complete together is presented for each night. This is an excellent companion to Eric Copage's Kwanzaa (Morrow, 1991), which provides more recipes and some culture. This volume has more culture and some recipes. The two together reap the richness of this reflective feast. Margaret Nolan, W. T. Woodson High School, Fairfax, VA Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Library Journal Because Kwanzaa, the celebration of African American heritage and culture, was established as recently as 1966, it is still in some ways an evolving holiday, and these two books provide a variety of different ways of marking the weeklong (December 26-January 1) festivities. Harris, the well-known author of *The Welcome Table* (LJ 12/94), includes menus for each night of the holiday, along with texts to be read, biographies of honored ancestors, ideas for homemade gifts, and a special project for each night. For example, on the third night, with its theme of collective responsibility, the project is to help fight against hunger, and Harris proposes a potluck supper to which each guest can bring an extra dish for a homeless shelter or other beneficiary. Medearis (*The African-American Kitchen*, LJ 8/94) offers recipes organized by course, along with separate chapters on cooking for company and bringing gifts from the kitchen. She begins with a step-by-step guide to the holiday, and succeeding chapters describe the different nights of celebration. Quotations from important African Americans serve as headnotes for many of the recipes; it's a bit disconcerting, however, to see a statement about struggle by Frederick Douglass attached to Medearis's recipe for Cheese Steaks. With its readable, informative text and thoughtful menus, Harris's book [BOMC alternate; BOMC HomeStyle Bks. alternate] is the first choice but both titles are recommended. - is the first choice but both titles are recommended. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Booklist Harris presents another collection of ethnic dishes for celebrating Kwanzaa. The name of this African American celebration is rooted in the Swahili word kwanza, which means "first." From its inception more than 30 years ago, African Americans have affirmed their ethnic dignity by participating in Kwanzaa. Harris begins by defining the heritage and importance of the celebration with focus on the Nguzo Sabo (seven principles): Umoja (unity), Kujichagula (self-determination), Ujima (collective work and responsibility), Ujamaa (cooperative economics), Nia (purpose), Kuumba (creativity), and Imani (faith). More than 50 recipes are included in menus that provide themes reflecting the principles of each day of the celebration; and for each day, ceremonies are discussed. This cookbook is indeed a keepsake, for space is provided to record family history, memories, and recipes for sharing old traditions and creating new ones. Lillian Lewis