



## **What Books to Buy for Christmas: The Best Cookbooks of 2007**

**Sunday Times of London, November 25, 2007**

**By Bee Wilson**

### **MEMORIES OF PHILIPPINE KITCHENS by Amy Besa and Romy Dorotan**

Stewart, Tabori & Chang £19.95

In this globalised age, how many truly unknown cuisines remain? In Britain, we still know next to nothing about Filipino food. This beautiful and informative book is a compelling argument for why this should change. Besa and Dorotan run Cendrillon, a popular Filipino restaurant in Manhattan. They have distilled their happiest food memories into this book, drawing out the many connections in the kitchens of the Philippines – with Spain (paella made with coconut milk), with Mexico (empanadas) and with America (banana chiffon pie). Most remarkable of all, though, are the indigenous dishes such as lumpia – delicate purple spring rolls filled with vegetables; and chicken adobo, a casserole simmered with vinegar, garlic and chilli. As well as being an outstanding recipe book, this is also a gorgeous travelogue, which makes you yearn to visit the Philippines.

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