

# Cookbook Giveaway and a Vegan Chocolate Orange Cake

It is Advent and Coptic Christians, of whom I am a poor example of late, are fasting for 43 days leading up to the Nativity feast on January 7th (per the Gregorian calendar).

During the fast of the Holy Nativity we should abstain from dairy and meat. Thus vegan cakes are abundant.

What I love about this cake is it takes very little time to make and the ingredients are pantry staples. Lately I've been stocking this [orange peel](#) which is super convenient to have during Christmas time when you don't want to run to the store just to buy an orange.

This cake recipe comes from my mother and we have been baking it for decades. It is yummy whether or not you are abstaining from dairy. And it's one of the recipes included in my [Egyptian cookbook](#).

Speaking of which I decided to do something fun with this post. DH claims I am not fun and that when I bake I go into mad scientist mode and thus transform my kitchen into a hostile environment. That is not far from the truth. In my defense, one can not keep track of puff pastry turns if one's husband is sitting in the kitchen constantly chattering about his eBay deals and football scores. But, I digress. Fun.

Right. Amazon no longer has my cookbooks in stock because I have the last dozen or so copies in my home. So I decided to have a giveaway. I will send a free copy of my cookbook to a randomly selected person. It will be my Christmas gift to you. You must do two things: 1) Leave a comment below this post and tell me about a post that you have enjoyed reading and/or a recipe you made from this blog; 2) subscribe to this blog if you haven't already because I will need your email to notify you if you're the winner of the giveaway. That's fun,

right? I will pick the winner on December 20th. Merry  
Christmas! Happy Nativity Feast!

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