



“*A Tale of 12 Kitchens* is an enchantingly evocative kitchen memoir that chronicles the life and travels of an engaging, convivial, artistic family that loves food and cooking. It is fascinating and the recipes are delicious. Visually, Jake Tilson has created an exhilarating work of art around his love of food.”

**Claudia Roden**

“Jake shares his experiences of food and some great recipes. As you would expect from an artist this is a gorgeous book to look at. Go on, try it - we will.”

**Sally Hughes, Books for Cooks**

# A Tale of 12 Kitchens

## FAMILY COOKING IN FOUR COUNTRIES

# by Jake Tilson

**Published by Weidenfeld & Nicolson  
on 11th May 2006, price £20**

*A Tale of 12 Kitchens* is a wonderfully fresh and original piece of gastro-art which draws culinary inspiration from Tuscany, New York, London, Scotland, Los Angeles and the Californian desert.

Jake Tilson, artist, designer and food lover, grew up in a house where every aspect of food was a part of the daily family routine. This is the story of his culinary discoveries, with food as the element that crystallises the atmosphere of a place and a moment.

Teeming with recipes and references, *A Tale of 12 Kitchens* recounts Jake’s lifelong adventures with food, which he sees as something which binds all the bits of life together – family, work, journeys, homes, holidays, thoughts and memories. He touches on childhood meals in Pop Art London and his family’s radical move to self-sufficiency in organic Wiltshire, jet-lagged breakfasts in New York diners and recipes for Cherry Cola Ham, his experience of plucking a duck in the snow, choosing a pie in a Scottish bakery with his daughter, and locating exotic ingredients in Peckham.

Unusually, the author has created every aspect of the book – the photography, design, typography and recipes – and his acute eye, evocative writing style and enticing culinary experiments make *A Tale of 12 Kitchens* an extraordinary book, to be read, savoured, used – and above all enjoyed.

Jake studied painting at Chelsea School of Art and the Royal College of Art in London. His work has been exhibited around the world and is held in many museums and public collections. He is married to the Scottish ceramic artist Jennifer Lee, and they live with their daughter Hannah in Peckham, London.

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