# Mixed Plate

### CHRONICLES OF AN ALL-AMERICAN COMBO

## JO KOY



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## Lumpia

#### MAKES 30 *LUMPIA*, TO SERVE 8-10 PEOPLE (IT DEPENDS ON YOUR APPETITE!)

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#### INGREDIENTS

1 tablespoon vegetable oil, plus more 1 teaspoon ground black pepper for frying 1 teaspoon sea salt 1 pound ground pork or beef 1 teaspoon soy sauce 2 garlic cloves, crushed 2 eaas 1/2 cup onion, medium diced 1 box of pre-prepared *lumpia* 1/2 cup minced carrots wrappers (you can buy these in any Asian grocery; each box usually 1/2 cup thinly sliced green cabbage contains 30 wrappers) 1/2 cup bamboo shoots 1 cup of dipping sauce (sweet and 1 teaspoon garlic powder sour, ketchup, or soy sauce)

- 1. In a wok or large saucepan, heat the vegetable oil over high heat. Add the ground meat and cook, stirring often, until browned, about 5 minutes. Transfer the meat to a strainer/colander to drain the excess oil from the meat and set aside. Drain all but about 1 tablespoon of the grease from the wok. Add the garlic, onion, carrots, cabbage, and bamboo shoots and season with the garlic powder, pepper, salt, and soy sauce. Cook over medium heat, stirring often, until the vegetables are softened, about 7 minutes, then stir in the browned meat. Remove from the heat and let cool for about an hour, or until cool enough to handle.
- 2. Beat the eggs in a small bowl. Separate the *lumpia* wrappers and lay them on a clean work surface (work in batches, if necessary). Place 1 tablespoon of the cooled *lumpia* filling on a wrapper, placing it toward the end closest to you. Working from the filled end, roll the wrapper tightly away from you to enclose the filling, then fold in the left and right sides and continue rolling. When you get to the

end, use your fingers to brush the edge of the wrapper with the beaten egg to seal the *lumpia*. Lay the assembled *lumpia* flat in a large zip-top plastic bag. Keep the bag closed as you work so the assembled *lumpia* don't dry out. Continue filling the wrappers, separating each *lumpia* with layers of waxed paper so they don't stick together.

**3.** In a medium saucepan, heat 2 cups vegetable oil over high heat until oil is so hot it sizzles if you add a pinch of filling. Carefully drop 4 or 5 *lumpia* into the hot oil and fry for about 2 minutes, until golden brown on all sides. Using tongs, transfer the *lumpia* to a paper towel to drain and repeat to fry the remaining *lumpia*. Best served hot. Dip it in your choice of sweet and sour sauce, ketchup, or soy sauce, and enjoy!

## Jo Koy's Chicken Adobo

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Chicken adobo is one of my favorite Filipino dishes. It's easy to make and it is delicious! I put my own spin to it and make it with chicken wings . . .

#### SERVES 2-4

#### INGREDIENTS

- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
  2 pounds chicken wings
  5 garlic cloves, minced
  ½ medium onion, medium diced
  ¼ cup soy sauce, plus more if needed
  2 tablespoons brown sugar
- 3 tablespoons white vinegar, plus more if needed4 dried bay leaves2 eggs4 cups uncooked jasmine rice

- 1. Preheat the oven to 375°F.
- **2.** In a large saucepan or wok, heat the vegetable oil over high heat. Add the chicken wings and fry until browned, about 10 minutes.
- **3.** Add the garlic, onion, soy sauce, and brown sugar and stir well to coat the wings. Cover and cook for 10 minutes on medium heat.
- **4.** Add the vinegar and bay leaves. Cover and cook for 5 minutes more on medium heat.
- **5.** Transfer the contents of the saucepan to a large pan and bake uncovered for 25 minutes.
- **6.** Meanwhile, cook the rice according to the package instructions. Hard-boil the eggs. Let cool, then peel and slice in half.
- 7. Serve the chicken wing *adobo* with the rice, drizzle sauce from the pan over the rice. Add soy sauce and/or vinegar as needed. Garnish with the slices of hard-boiled egg. Dig in and enjoy!

## Pancit

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#### SERVES 4-6

#### INGREDIENTS

½ half head green cabbage, medium diced
¼ cup soy sauce
1 teaspoon ground black pepper
4 scallions, thinly sliced, for garnish
2 lemon wedges, for serving

- 1. Take the noodles out of the package, place in hot (not boiling) water until softened, about 5 to 10 minutes. Drain in colander, set aside.
- 2. In a large saucepan or wok, heat the vegetable oil over medium heat. Add the meat and cook until browned, about 7 minutes. Add the garlic, onion, carrots, celery, and cabbage and cook, stirring often, until softened, about 5 minutes.
- **3.** Add the softened noodles, soy sauce, and pepper. Stir to combine, remove from the heat, and serve.
- **4.** Garnish with the scallions and serve with the lemon wedges alongside.

## Shrimp Sinigang

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#### SERVES 2-4

#### INGREDIENTS

6 taro roots, peeled and medium diced

1⁄4 cup string beans, kangkong (water spinach), or medium-sliced bok choy

1 (1.4-ounce) packet tamarind soup mix (such as Knorr brand) 1/2 cup onion, medium diced 1 pound shrimp, peeled and deveined Cooked jasmine rice, for serving

- In a medium-size pot, bring 8.5 cups water to a simmer over medium heat. Each of the following ingredients requires a different time to cook, so note the progression: Add the taro and cook for 8 minutes. Add the string beans, stir to combine, and continue cooking for 2 minutes. Add the onion and tamarind mix, stir to combine, and continue cooking for 15 minutes. Add the shrimp, stir to combine, and cook for 5 minutes. Remove from the heat.
- 2. Serve the soup in a bowl with a side of rice.

## Halo Halo

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"Halo halo" means "mix mix" in Tagalog, and that tells you a lot about this tasty dessert—the only real rule is that you mix whatever sweets you like together in a glass along with some shaved ice, and voila! You've got your halo halo.

The following recipe is my own favorite blend of sweets. You can buy them all pre-prepared at your local Asian grocery store, which is what I do.

#### **SERVES 1**

#### **INGREDIENTS**

1 tablespoon sweetened chopped banana	1 tablespoon sweetened coconut strips
1 tablespoon sweetened chopped jackfruit	Shaved ice
	2 tablespoons leche flan, scooped
1 tablespoon sweetened sweet potato	from the container
½ tablespoon of sweetened garbanzo	1 scoop ube ice cream
beans	¼ cup of sweetened condensed milk
½ tablespoon sweetened red beans	

#### INSTRUCTIONS

Place the sweetened fruits and beans at the bottom of a tall glass. Fill the glass with shaved ice, then add the leche flan and scoop the ube ice cream on top. Pour the condensed milk over the *halo halo* and enjoy!