

HOMEGURLS

A Modern Girl's Guide to Playing House

JANUARY 15, 2008

Judging a Book by its Cover

The panic struck the morning after my first college party, when I came back to the dorm with an mysterious bright green stain on my favorite T. “What do I do? Where’s Mom now that I need her?,” I thought. Lucky for me, someone wrote a book for such an occasion.

— Cassi

Title: “Where’s Mom Now That I Need Her? Surviving Away From Home”

Cover art: Fitting. The title bursts from smoke spewing from a frying pan that reminds me of the last time I tried to make fried rice, and the cute '80s Midwestern- looking family on the back of the stain-resistant cover gives the manual some homespun cred.

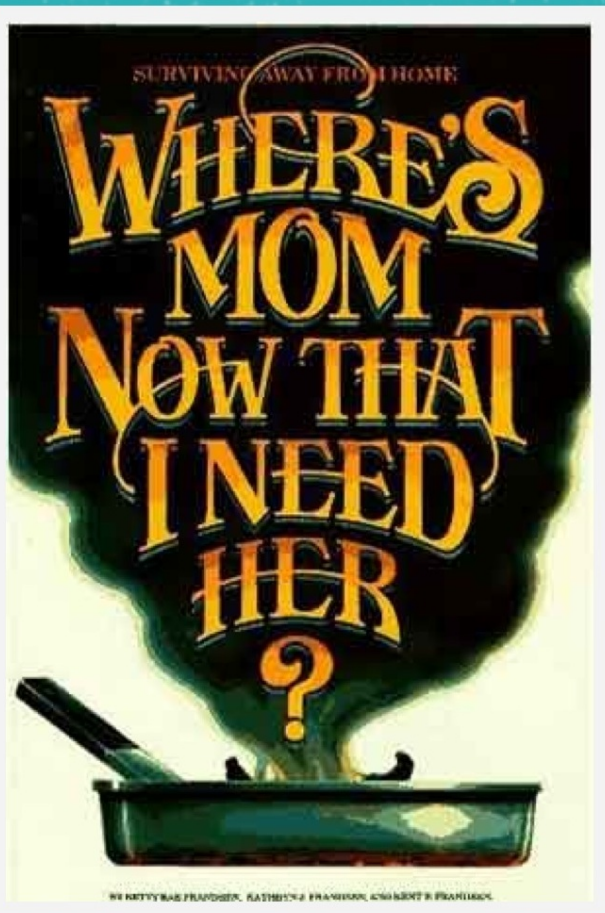
Author: The Frandsen Family, including Betty Rae (Mom), Kent P. (son) and Kathryn J. (daughter-in-law)

Length: 1 1/2 inches or so. (Its pages with endless fill-in-the-blank charts come in a three-ring binder so you can add or subtract as needed.)

The lowdown: “You’ve seen plenty of traditional cookbooks before ... most of which are too difficult or too time consuming to tackle.” This book prides itself on being a quick reference guide for easy cooking, an extensive stain-removal guide, and a list of home remedies that would satisfy any hypochondriac. This book offers genuine lessons that our dear mothers forgot. (OK, so maybe *I* wasn’t paying attention.)

Worth a read? It’s a good reference to have on hand, especially if you are still troubled by stains from Trashcan Punch.

JANUARY 14, 2008



JANUARY 11, 2008

Sending out an SOS

Those of us who cook with the fire detector know that steel wool soap pads are essential for scraping burnt food off of metal pans.

But those soap-impregnated pads can be a godsend when it's your turn to Clorox the bathroom. With one swipe you can wipe away funky gunk in the shower. At about 30 cents a pop, they are a cheap and helpful product to keep up a sparkling pad. —*Cassi*

