

camp. Here's a recipe to help you and an adult re-create Kate Barlow's prize-winning spiced peaches.

## **Kissin' Kate Barlow's Spiced Peaches**

### *Ingredients*

1 can (29 ounces) peach halves, drained (save the syrup in a separate bowl)

$\frac{2}{3}$  cup apple cider vinegar

1 cup light brown sugar, packed

$\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoon salt

8 whole cloves

1 cinnamon stick

$\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoon ground nutmeg

### *Directions*

In a saucepan, combine  $\frac{2}{3}$  cup of the peach syrup with all the other ingredients except the peaches. Simmer uncovered for 10 minutes.

Pour over peaches. Cool, then cover and chill for at least 24 hours (or 110 years!).

Bring to room temperature and eat. Any leftover peaches will keep in the refrigerator for a week.

Serves 6.

• **Buried treasure:** You can bury something fun or interesting for someone in the future to discover, such as an old toy, an earring, a plastic bag full of pennies, or anything else you think might be fun for some future archaeologist to dig up. If you

decide to bury an object that will decay, be sure to seal it in a watertight can or glass jar. You could also make a time capsule: Pack an empty coffee can or a pickle jar with some photographs, a newspaper, a tape or CD, a page from your journal, or anything else that helps capture the feeling of a particular point in history. Then, seal up your time capsule and bury it in the backyard, or just put it way back in a closet and promise yourself you won't open it for at least five years.

- **Wild women of the Wild West:** Kissin' Kate Barlow is a fictional character, but real female outlaws helped make the Old West an even wilder place. Visit your local library or go online to learn about the notorious Belle Starr, known as "the Bandit Queen"; Cattle Kate; the beautiful Etta Place, who teamed up with Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid; and other famous women outlaws.

- **Unearth your own family history:** Do you know where your great-grandparents were born, what kind of work they did, or how they died? Go through old photo albums and scrapbooks, read old letters and journals, interview the oldest people in your family, and find out as much as you can about your own roots. Write down any family stories, songs, or traditions you learn about in a special notebook, and create a record of your family's history to pass down to your descendants.

## Related Reading



### **Other books by Louis Sachar**

*The Boy Who Lost His Face* (1989)

*Dogs Don't Tell Jokes* (1991)

*Johnny's in the Basement* (1981)

*Sixth Grade Secrets* (1987)

*Someday, Angeline* (1983)

*Stanley Yelnats's Survival Guide to Camp Green Lake* (2003)

*There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom* (1987)

### **Series by Louis Sachar**

The Marvin Redpost series (includes *Marvin Redpost: Kidnapped at Birth?*, *Marvin Redpost: Is He a Girl?*, and other titles)

The Wayside School series (*Sideways Stories from Wayside School*, *Wayside School Is Falling Down*, and other titles)

### **Books about friendship under difficult circumstances**

*Belle Prater's Boy* by Ruth White

*The Pinballs* by Betsy Byars

### **Books about homeless and/or abandoned children**

*Heaven Eyes* by David Almond

*Jip: His Story* by Katherine Paterson

*Maniac Magee* by Jerry Spinelli

*Monkey Island* by Paula Fox

### **Books about survival**

*Among the Hidden* by Margaret Peterson Haddix

*The Goats* by Brock Cole

*Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen

*My Side of the Mountain* by Jean Craighead George

*The Sign of the Beaver* by Elizabeth George Speare

*The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle* by Avi

*What Jamie Saw* by Carolyn Coman

### **Books that mix magic and realism**

*Skellig* by David Almond

*Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbitt

### **Folktales and tall tales**

*American Tall Tales* by Mary Pope Osborne

*Cut from the Same Cloth: American Women of Myth, Legend and Tall Tale* by Robert D. San Souci

*John Henry* by Julius Lester

*The People Could Fly: American Black Folktales* by Virginia Hamilton

### **Other books set in Texas**

*Dancing in Cadillac Light* by Kimberly Willis Holt

*When Zachary Beaver Came to Town* by Kimberly Willis Holt

## Bibliography



### **Books**

Sachar, Louis. *Holes*. New York: Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 1998.

### **Interviews**

Phone interview with Louis Sachar, September 9, 2002.

### **Newspapers and magazines**

*Austin Chronicle*, "Louis Sachar: Top of His Class," by Barbara Strickland, February 26, 1999, pp. 34–36.

*New York Times Book Review*, "He Didn't Do It," by Betsy Hearne, November 15, 1998, p. 52.

*Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, "Holes Has Seattle Middle-Schoolers All on the Same Page," by Rebekah Denn, March 7, 2002, pp. D1, D3.

### **Web sites**

Alexlibris: [alexlibris.com/rev\\_holes.asp](http://alexlibris.com/rev_holes.asp)

*Austin Chronicle*: [austinchronicle.com](http://austinchronicle.com)

The Book Report Network:

[www.kidsreads.com/authors/au-sachar-louis.asp](http://www.kidsreads.com/authors/au-sachar-louis.asp)

Children's Book Council:

[www.cbcbooks.org/html/louissachar.html](http://www.cbcbooks.org/html/louissachar.html)

Educational Paperback Association:

[www.edupaperback.org/authorbios/Sachar\\_Louis.html](http://www.edupaperback.org/authorbios/Sachar_Louis.html)

Public Broadcasting System: [www.pbs.org/newshour](http://www.pbs.org/newshour)

Reading Matters: [readingmatters.co.uk/books/holes.html](http://readingmatters.co.uk/books/holes.html)