

## Green Goddess

Here's a drink Horace, the gourmet peculiar, might serve.

2 oz green tea  
2 oz arugula simple syrup  
1 oz lemon juice  
½ oz cucumber juice  
½ to 1 oz jalapeño juice,  
or to taste  
3 folded cucumber slices,  
skewered, for garnish  
Mint, for garnish

**ARUGULA SIMPLE SYRUP**  
1 cup arugula  
2 cups simple syrup

**CUCUMBER JUICE**  
½ cucumber, peeled, trimmed,  
seeded, chunked

1 oz water

**JALAPEÑO JUICE**  
1 large jalapeño pepper,  
stemmed, seeded, chunked  
1 oz water

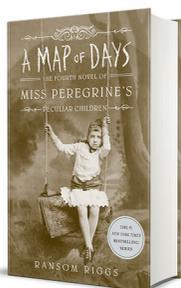
Prepare the arugula simple syrup: Blend arugula and simple syrup in a blender. Strain through a sieve.

Prepare cucumber juice: Purée cucumber with water in a blender. Strain through a sieve.

Prepare jalapeño juice: Purée jalapeño with water in a blender. Strain.

Pour the tea, arugula simple syrup, lemon juice, cucumber juice and jalapeño juice into a cocktail shaker. Shake, then pour into a glass filled with ice. Garnish with cucumber slices and mint. Makes 1 serving.

Adapted from a recipe in the Los Angeles Times by Christiaan Rollich, head barman, A.O.C. and Luques.



# Hungry, quirky kids

Ransom Riggs returns with more adventures of Jacob Portman and the peculiar children

by JUDY GELMAN AND VICKI LEVY KRUPP

*Costco's suggested Book Club read provides insight into a selected novel, as well as an appropriate recipe (or two) to accompany your own book club's discussion.*

**T**he fourth title in Ransom Riggs' *Miss Peregrine's Peculiar Children* young adult series, *A Map of Days*, is set in protagonist Jacob's home in modern-day Florida.

With their unusual powers—flame-throwing from fingertips, levitation and more—the peculiars struggle to blend into American life, but their “normalling” lessons are interrupted when they discover an underground bunker that belonged to Jacob's grandfather, Abe. As Jacob uncovers details of Abe's life as a peculiar operative, he gradually understands the dangerous legacy he has inherited.

This is the peculiars' first trip to North America, a place entirely foreign to them. “You must familiarize yourselves with [America's] idioms and customs and ultimately be able to pass as normal,” instructs Miss Peregrine, the peculiars' protector and guide. Their education



Ransom Riggs

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begins as soon as they arrive and Jacob orders pizza. “The best food in the world! ... I'll be having this every night,” declares Claire, one of the peculiar children.

According to Riggs, food plays an important role in creating authentic settings for his time-traveling characters. He says he uses food in his novels to help bolster the sensory experience of a new time and place, since it is so essential to his own experience of place.

When the peculiars are in Victorian England, they are often found “feasting on plum pudding and roasted goose. When they're in modern-day America, they're eating takeout, pizza, burgers, candy and road food,” he explains. ■

Judy Gelman and Vicki Levy Krupp are behind the cookbook and website *The Book Club Cookbook* ([bookclubcookbook.com](http://bookclubcookbook.com)).

### COSTCO CONNECTION

*A Map of Days* (Item #1278638; 10/2) is available in most warehouses.

## Club kids

Here are some tips for hosting a successful book club for young readers.

- Ask open-ended questions so all members

can share their opinions. Who was your (least) favorite character? Which peculiar child would you like to be and why?

- Have each member read a quote in the voice

of a character, and the others have to guess the character.

- Discussing the time period or setting can broaden the discussion.

—JG and VLK