

cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness

****Cocktail Hour Under the Tree of Forgetfulness: An Enchanting Escape****

cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness evokes an image that is both mystical and inviting—an enchanting moment where time seems to stand still, worries melt away, and the world’s noise fades into a gentle hum. It’s the kind of experience that blends the allure of nature with the sophistication of curated drinks, creating a unique setting for relaxation, socializing, and perhaps a touch of whimsical escapism. Whether you’re picturing a quaint garden gathering or a dreamy outdoor soiree, this concept invites you to explore a cocktail hour unlike any other—one steeped in atmosphere, storytelling, and sensory delight.

The Allure of Cocktail Hour Under the Tree of Forgetfulness

The phrase “tree of forgetfulness” itself conjures mythical imagery—perhaps a nod to ancient legends where such a tree might offer respite from memory, stress, or the burdens of daily life. Pairing this with the ritual of cocktail hour introduces a theme of letting go. It’s about stepping away from routine and entering a space where you can unwind, connect, and enjoy the moment fully.

Cocktail hour, traditionally a prelude to dinner or an early evening gathering, becomes something more poetic in this setting. Surrounded by nature’s calm, guests are encouraged to shed their worries and immerse themselves in conversation, laughter, and the simple pleasure of a well-made drink. The tree, symbolic of shelter and tranquility, provides the perfect backdrop—its shade cooling the air and its presence grounding the experience.

Setting the Scene: How to Create Your Own Tree of Forgetfulness Cocktail Hour

If you’re inspired to recreate this magical atmosphere, here are some practical and creative tips to bring the concept to life.

Choosing the Right Location

The first step is to find a fitting tree—a large, welcoming specimen with plenty of shade and character. Oak, willow, or maple trees with sprawling branches work wonderfully. If you don’t have access to a suitable tree, consider a pergola draped with vines or even an indoor space decorated with lush greenery to mimic the effect.

Lighting and Ambiance

Lighting plays a crucial role in establishing mood. As the sun sets, string lights, lanterns, or fairy lights woven through branches create a soft, inviting glow. Candles in hurricane jars or citronella torches can add warmth and keep pesky insects at bay. Incorporating natural elements like moss-covered stones or wood slabs as serving platters enhances the earthy vibe.

Comfortable Seating

Comfortable seating encourages guests to linger and relax. Use a mix of cushioned chairs, rustic benches, or plush floor pillows arranged in intimate clusters. Adding cozy throws or blankets can help extend the enjoyment into cooler evenings.

Crafting the Perfect Cocktail Menu for the Tree of Forgetfulness

No cocktail hour is complete without thoughtfully crafted drinks that complement the setting. The cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness calls for beverages that feel both refreshing and a little otherworldly.

Herb-Infused and Floral Cocktails

Using fresh herbs and edible flowers not only adds visual appeal but also ties the cocktails to the natural surroundings. Think lavender-infused gin fizz, rosemary and lemon spritzers, or elderflower and cucumber coolers. These drinks evoke a garden-fresh taste and a light, uplifting spirit.

Signature Drinks Inspired by Forgetfulness

To lean into the theme, create signature cocktails with names and ingredients that hint at memory, dreams, or escape. For example:

- **The Oblivion:** A smoky mezcal-based cocktail with hints of black cherry and bitters.
- **Dreamcatcher:** A sparkling rosé with hibiscus syrup and a sprig of mint.
- **Lost in Time:** Bourbon, maple syrup, and a dash of aromatic bitters served over a large ice cube.

These creative concoctions invite guests to savor each sip and moment.

Non-Alcoholic Options

Not everyone drinks alcohol, so offering mocktails with fresh fruit juices, herbal infusions, and sparkling water is essential. A cucumber-mint cooler or a hibiscus and ginger spritz can be just as refreshing and thematic.

Food Pairings to Complement the Experience

Small bites and appetizers that echo the natural, relaxed vibe enhance the cocktail hour

further. Opt for light, flavorful options like:

- Fresh goat cheese crostini topped with fig jam and thyme.
- Smoked salmon on cucumber rounds with dill cream.
- Mini tartlets filled with wild mushrooms and herbs.
- Seasonal fruit platters with honey drizzle.

These choices keep the palate engaged without overwhelming the senses, allowing the cocktails to shine.

The Psychological Magic Behind the Tree of Forgetfulness

Beyond the aesthetics and flavors, there's an intriguing psychological layer to this concept. Trees have long been symbols of stability, growth, and connection in many cultures. Being under a tree can invoke feelings of peace and rootedness. When paired with a cocktail hour—a social ritual centered on relaxation and enjoyment—the setting becomes a sanctuary from the hectic pace of modern life.

The idea of “forgetfulness” here isn't about losing oneself entirely but rather about releasing stress, habitual worries, and distractions. It's a gentle invitation to be present, to savor the now, and to reconnect with friends or oneself in an atmosphere free from judgment and pressure.

Tips for Hosting Your Own Enchanting Cocktail Hour Under the Tree of Forgetfulness

If you're planning to host an event inspired by this theme, consider these pointers to make it truly memorable:

1. ****Personalize the Experience:**** Invite guests to share a favorite memory or a story as part of the gathering, creating a collective narrative that deepens connection.
2. ****Incorporate Live Music:**** Soft acoustic tunes or a harpist can enhance the ambiance without overpowering conversation.
3. ****Encourage Mindfulness:**** Offer a brief guided breathing or meditation session beneath the tree before the drinks flow to set a tone of calm.
4. ****Mind the Weather:**** Have a backup plan for inclement weather, such as a nearby covered area or elegant umbrellas.
5. ****Sustainability Matters:**** Use eco-friendly glassware, biodegradable straws, and locally sourced ingredients to honor the natural setting.

The Enduring Appeal of Outdoor Cocktail Gatherings

Cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness taps into a broader trend of immersive outdoor

experiences that blend elegance with nature. Amidst the hustle of digital distractions and urban living, people yearn for moments that feel authentic and restorative. Gathering outdoors, surrounded by greenery and fresh air, naturally encourages relaxation and genuine interaction.

At the same time, cocktails add an element of celebration and refinement, transforming a simple meet-up into an occasion. Combining these elements creates a setting where memories are made—not forgotten—and where guests feel both enchanted and at ease.

Whether you're looking for a fresh way to entertain friends, a romantic setting for two, or simply a personal ritual to unwind, the concept of cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness offers a beautiful template. It reminds us that sometimes, the best remedy is stepping outside, raising a glass, and losing ourselves just enough to find joy in the moment.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the concept behind 'Cocktail Hour Under the Tree of Forgetfulness'?

It is a themed social event or experience where guests enjoy cocktails in a setting inspired by the mythical Tree of Forgetfulness, symbolizing relaxation and letting go of worries.

Where can one experience a 'Cocktail Hour Under the Tree of Forgetfulness'?

Such events are often hosted at upscale bars, garden lounges, or pop-up venues that create an ambiance of mystery and tranquility, sometimes inspired by literature or mythology.

What kind of cocktails are typically served during a 'Cocktail Hour Under the Tree of Forgetfulness'?

Cocktails served are usually creatively crafted with ingredients known for calming effects, such as lavender, chamomile, or elderflower, aiming to enhance the theme of forgetfulness and relaxation.

Is 'Cocktail Hour Under the Tree of Forgetfulness' inspired by any literary or mythological references?

Yes, it draws inspiration from myths and stories where a 'Tree of Forgetfulness' causes those who partake to forget their troubles, such as the Lethe tree in Greek mythology.

How can one create a 'Cocktail Hour Under the Tree of

Forgetfulness' at home?

By setting a cozy, nature-inspired atmosphere with soft lighting, herbal cocktails, and calming music, guests can recreate the experience of relaxing and forgetting daily stresses.

Are there any health benefits associated with cocktails served during 'Cocktail Hour Under the Tree of Forgetfulness'?

While alcoholic drinks should be consumed in moderation, cocktails infused with herbs like lavender or chamomile may offer mild calming effects that promote relaxation.

What makes 'Cocktail Hour Under the Tree of Forgetfulness' a trending theme?

The theme resonates with people seeking mindful relaxation and escapism, blending mythology with modern social drinking culture to offer a unique experience.

Can 'Cocktail Hour Under the Tree of Forgetfulness' be combined with other activities?

Yes, it can be paired with activities like storytelling, live acoustic music, or mindfulness sessions to deepen the immersive and relaxing ambiance.

Additional Resources

Cocktail Hour Under the Tree of Forgetfulness: An Enigmatic Experience Explored

cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness evokes an intriguing image—one that blends the mystique of an otherworldly setting with the conviviality of a social ritual. This phrase, while poetic, has recently gained traction in both literary circles and experiential event planning, symbolizing more than just a gathering; it represents a moment of suspended reality, where time seems to blur and memories slip away like whispers in the wind. This article delves deep into the concept of a cocktail hour set beneath a metaphorical or literal "tree of forgetfulness," exploring its cultural origins, psychological implications, and emerging trends in social events that capitalize on this evocative theme.

The Origins and Symbolism of the Tree of Forgetfulness

The "tree of forgetfulness" traces its roots to ancient mythology and literature, notably within Greek mythology where the River Lethe, often referred to as the river of forgetfulness, was said to cause souls to forget their past lives before reincarnation. The tree, in this context, symbolizes a locus where memories dissolve, inviting participants into

a realm of oblivion or new beginnings.

In contemporary culture, this symbol has been adapted to represent moments of release and renewal—times when individuals are encouraged to let go of burdens, regrets, or the weight of the past. Hosting a cocktail hour under such a symbolic tree adds layers of meaning to the social event, transforming it from a simple gathering into a metaphorical journey that encourages mindfulness and emotional relief.

Modern Interpretations in Event Planning

In recent years, event planners and experiential marketers have embraced the concept of "cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness" as a unique theme for upscale gatherings, corporate retreats, and private celebrations. The appeal lies in crafting an atmosphere that is both immersive and reflective, blending design elements with sensory experiences that contribute to the symbolic act of forgetting or unwinding.

Atmosphere and Ambiance

Creating the right environment is crucial. Often, this involves selecting an outdoor venue dominated by a large, ancient tree or installing a striking artificial structure that mimics the grandeur and mystery of such a mythical tree. Lighting plays a significant role—soft, ethereal illumination through fairy lights or lanterns can simulate a dreamlike state. Ambient sounds, such as gentle rustling leaves or curated playlists featuring mellow, hypnotic music, enhance the sensation of stepping away from everyday reality.

Moreover, scent is strategically incorporated. Aromas like lavender, sandalwood, or jasmine are known for their calming effects and can subtly augment the theme of forgetfulness by promoting relaxation and a sense of mental clarity. This multisensory approach seeks to immerse guests fully, encouraging them to engage with the theme on a personal level.

Cocktail Menus Inspired by Forgetfulness

The beverage selection at a cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness often mirrors the event's conceptual framework. Mixologists craft signature cocktails that evoke the idea of memory and oblivion through both nomenclature and ingredients.

For example, drinks may be named after mythological references such as "Lethe's Whisper" or "Oblivion's Embrace," incorporating ingredients that promote relaxation or mild euphoria, like lavender-infused gin, chamomile syrup, or adaptogenic herbs. The use of such botanicals not only enhances flavor profiles but also aligns with the theme by encouraging a state of calm and detachment.

Additionally, some menus integrate interactive elements, such as "forget-me-not" garnishes or cocktails that change color upon mixing, symbolizing the transformative process of forgetting and renewal. This innovative approach adds an experiential layer to

the cocktail hour, making it memorable and thematically consistent.

Psychological and Social Dimensions

Beyond aesthetics and flavor, the idea of a cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness taps into deeper psychological and social dynamics. Social drinking itself is often associated with relaxation, bonding, and the temporary loosening of social inhibitions. When combined with a theme centered around forgetfulness, the event encourages participants to metaphorically shed inhibitions and past worries, fostering a unique collective experience.

The Role of Memory and Forgetting in Social Settings

Memory is a fundamental component of identity and social interaction. Hosting an event themed around forgetting challenges conventional social norms, inviting guests to focus on the present moment rather than their past. This can serve therapeutic functions—helping individuals momentarily escape stressors or unresolved conflicts.

However, it is important to consider the balance between escapism and mindfulness. While the symbolic “forgetfulness” can promote relaxation, it should ideally be paired with intentionality to avoid fostering neglect or emotional suppression. Thoughtful event design and facilitation can help maintain this equilibrium, ensuring the experience remains positive and enriching.

Pros and Cons of Themed Cocktail Events Centered on Forgetfulness

- **Pros:** Offers an immersive and memorable experience, encourages relaxation and social bonding, stimulates creativity in menu and design, and provides a novel concept that can differentiate events.
- **Cons:** Risk of misinterpretation or trivialization of deep psychological themes, potential discomfort for guests sensitive to themes of memory loss, and logistical challenges in creating a convincingly immersive environment.

Case Studies: Successful Implementations

Several high-profile events have successfully implemented the cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness theme to critical acclaim. For instance, a luxury hotel in Tuscany hosted a garden soirée beneath an ancient olive tree, where the décor and cocktails evoked the theme’s spirit. Attendees reported heightened senses of relaxation and meaningful

conversations, enhanced by the event's carefully curated sensory details.

Similarly, a contemporary art museum in New York incorporated the theme into an exhibition opening, using the cocktail hour to complement the show's exploration of memory and identity. The event's success was attributed to the seamless integration of thematic elements with the venue's atmosphere and the thoughtful curation of the menu and entertainment.

Comparisons with Other Themed Cocktail Hours

Compared to more conventional cocktail themes—such as tropical, vintage, or seasonal—the tree of forgetfulness theme offers a more introspective and conceptual experience. While tropical themes emphasize escapism through vibrant colors and fruity drinks, the forgetfulness theme leans into subtlety and symbolism, appealing to audiences seeking depth and novelty.

This theme also differs from celebratory or festive motifs by embracing a contemplative tone. It encourages participants to slow down and reflect rather than simply socialize or party, aligning more with wellness and mindfulness trends that have gained popularity in recent years.

Emerging Trends and Future Directions

Looking forward, the cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness is poised to evolve with advancements in technology and experiential design. Virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) could be integrated to create even more immersive environments—allowing guests to "step into" mythological settings or abstract representations of memory and forgetting.

Additionally, the rise of wellness culture may inspire more alcohol-free or low-ABV cocktail options that still fit the theme, using ingredients known for their calming or cognitive benefits. This shift aligns with broader industry trends favoring health-conscious approaches without compromising on creativity or engagement.

Event designers might also explore collaborative rituals during the cocktail hour, such as writing down and symbolically releasing worries or memories, further deepening the theme's psychological resonance.

In summary, the cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness transcends mere event planning; it becomes a platform for experiential storytelling, sensory exploration, and social connection rooted in ancient symbolism and modern mindfulness. As this concept continues to gain popularity, it invites both hosts and guests to reconsider the role of memory, presence, and release in social gatherings.

Cocktail Hour Under The Tree Of Forgetfulness

cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness: Cocktail Hour Under the Tree of Forgetfulness Alexandra Fuller, 2011-09-15 *Cocktail Hour Under the Tree of Forgetfulness* tells the story of the author's mother, Nicola Fuller. Nicola Fuller and her husband were a glamorous and optimistic couple and East Africa lay before them with the promise of all its perfect light, even as the British Empire in which they both believed waned. They had everything, including two golden children – a girl and a boy. However, life became increasingly difficult and they moved to Rhodesia to work as farm managers. The previous farm manager had committed suicide. His ghost appeared at the foot of their bed and seemed to be trying to warn them of something. Shortly after this, one of their golden children died. Africa was no longer the playground of Nicola's childhood. They returned to England where the author was born before they returned to Rhodesia and to the civil war. The last part of the book sees the Fullers in their old age on a banana and fish farm in the Zambezi Valley. They had built their ramshackle dining room under the Tree of Forgetfulness. In local custom, this tree is the meeting place for villagers determined to resolve disputes. It is in the spirit of this Forgetfulness that Nicola finally forgot – but did not forgive – all her enemies including her daughter and the Apostle, a squatter who has taken up in her bananas with his seven wives and forty-nine children. Funny, tragic, terrifying, exotic and utterly unself-conscious, this is a story of survival and madness, love and war, passion and compassion.

cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness: *Cocktail Hour Under the Tree of Forgetfulness* , 2011 In this sequel to *Don't Let's Go to the Dogs Tonight*, the author returns to Africa and the story of her unforgettable family. In this book she braids a multilayered narrative around the perfectly lit, Happy Valley era Africa of her mother's childhood; the boiled cabbage grimness of her father's English childhood; and the darker, civil war torn Africa of her own childhood. At its heart, this is the story of Fuller's mother, Nicola. Born on the Scottish Isle of Skye and raised in Kenya, Nicola holds dear the kinds of values most likely to get you hurt or killed in Africa: loyalty to blood, passion for land, and a holy belief in the restorative power of all animals. The author interviewed her mother at length and has captured her inimitable voice with remarkable precision. We see Nicola and Tim Fuller in their lavender colored honeymoon period, when east Africa lies before them with all the promise of its liquid equatorial light, even as the British empire in which they both believe wanes. But in short order, an accumulation of mishaps and tragedies bump up against history until the couple finds themselves in a world they hardly recognize. We follow the Fullers as they hopscotch the continent, running from war and unspeakable heartbreak, from Kenya to Rhodesia to Zambia, even returning to England briefly. But just when it seems that Nicola has been broken entirely by Africa, it is the African earth itself that revives her. A story of survival and madness, love and war, loyalty and forgiveness, this book is an intimate exploration of the author's family. In the end we find Nicola and Tim at a coffee table under their Tree of Forgetfulness on the banana and fish farm where they plan to spend their final days. In local custom, the Tree of Forgetfulness is where villagers meet to resolve disputes and it is here that the Fullers at last find an African kind of peace. -- From publisher.

cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness: EXP Cocktail Hour Under the Tree of Forgetfulness Alexandra Fuller, 2012-04-24

cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness: *Laughing Now* Irene Staunton, 2007-05-15 Weaver Press's previous collections of short stories, *Writing Now* and *Writing Still*, were highly praised for the quality of their prose and the imagination of their writers. They confirmed, for one reviewer, 'the paradoxical truth that troubled societies somehow produce some of the most interesting writing available. *Laughing Now* goes further, and demonstrates the enduring capacity of Zimbabweans to find humour in even the most difficult of circumstances. The stories embrace funerals, dancing competitions, family tensions, rampant inflation and endless queues for scarce goods. They take a wry look at pompous politicians, foreign filmmakers and the aspirations of the

so-called 'new' farmers. Those by Gappah, Chingono and Eppel won the first three prizes in the recent Mukuru.com short story competition. Zimbabwean fiction in English has become world-renowned in recent decades, but its concerns - war, trauma and the trials of independence - have chronicled the pain of those periods. *Laughing Now* suggests that we are finding new ways to reflect our reality; that however many zeros we add to the rate of inflation, and however hungry we may become, humour is as good a response as any.

cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness: Home and Nation in Anglophone Autobiographies of Africa Lena Englund, 2023-10-21 This book looks at contemporary autobiographical works by writers with African backgrounds in relation to the idea of 'place'. It examines eight authors' works - Helen Cooper's *The House at Sugar Beach*, Sisonke Msimang's *Always Another Country*, Leila Ahmed's *A Border Passage*, Noo Saro-Wiwa's *Looking for Transwonderland*, Douglas Rogers's *The Last Resort*, Elamin Abdelmahmoud's *Son of Elsewhere*, Clemantine Wamariya and Elizabeth Weil's *The Girl Who Smiled Beads* and Aminatta Forna's autobiographical writing - to argue that place is particularly central to personal narrative in texts whose authors have migrated multiple times. Spanning Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Egypt, Rwanda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe, this book interrogates the label 'African' writing which has been criticized for ignoring local contexts. It demonstrates how in their works these writers seek to reconnect with a bygone 'Africa', often after complex experiences of political upheavals and personal loss. The chapters also provide in-depth analyses of key concepts related to place and autobiography: place and privilege, place and trauma, and the relationship between place and nation.

cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness: Highlanders James MacKillop, 2024-01-04 Rebellion was recurrent in the Highlands because the Gaels (Scoti) were an often-oppressed indigenous minority in the nation, Scotland, to which they gave their name. They spoke a language, Gaelic, few outsiders would learn, and had their own family and social system, the clans. Warfare was bloody, culminating in the catastrophe of Culloden Moor during the doomed quest to restore the Stuart kingship to all of Britain. Economic hardship, including the near-genocidal Clearances, in which tenant farmers were replaced with sheep, drove the Gaels from the glens and islands, so that most today live in the diaspora, including millions in North America. Although the Gaels lack a single genetic identity, they clearly draw from distinct roots in the Irish, Norse and Picts. Despite their hardship, the Gaels are also presented in romantic portrayals by the artistic elite of other nations. This book offers ways in which the reader might find roots and ancestry in unfamiliar terrain. Chapters discuss the landscape and language of the Highlanders, the rise of clans, feuds and invasions, and eventual emigration.

cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness: Perspective Robert J. Wicks, 2014-04 Draws on classic wisdom, research in cognitive behavioral therapy, and positive psychology and offers advice for overcoming doubt and resistance to openness.

cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness: Night Call Robert J. Wicks, 2018 Told through anecdotes, clinical observations, and pearls of wisdom, and drawing from broad literature in psychology, philosophy, religion, and spirituality, Wicks weaves together stories of pain, hope, healing, and strength to guide readers through the night. This text is the culmination of decades of experience of someone who trains the healers, and helps the helpers. Consequently, it affords readers the opportunity to learn the strategies that professional helpers, first responders, ministers, emergency workers, and soldiers have learned to use in dealing with loss, pain, trauma, and grief.

cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness: Play Among Books Miro Roman, Alice_ch3n81, 2021-12-06 How does coding change the way we think about architecture? This question opens up an important research perspective. In this book, Miro Roman and his AI Alice_ch3n81 develop a playful scenario in which they propose coding as the new literacy of information. They convey knowledge in the form of a project model that links the fields of architecture and information through two interwoven narrative strands in an "infinite flow" of real books. Focusing on the intersection of information technology and architectural formulation, the authors create an evolving

intellectual reflection on digital architecture and computer science.

cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness: *Scatterlings- a Tapestry of Afri-Expat Tales*
Eve Hemming, 2013-06-26 Moving country remains the hugest thing we've ever experienced/ accomplished/ drowned in. It's an act of seemingly utter insanity, which negates all one's most primal connections to the cosmos. I find myself quoting Keats more often, Happiness is sharpened by its antithetical elements. Experiencing a new chapter of life is life-altering and isn't given enough credence. Each day we are grateful to taste a figuratively different menu, yet simultaneously we miss the staple diet stemming from our roots. I recall emailing a psychologist colleague of mine a few months after my arrival here, Am I experiencing a schism of the self? I asked. She replied, No, just re-inventing the self. I kept that pinned on my notice board at work for the first year to reflect on.

Scatterlings Synopsis The book kicks off with the author's innocent and carefree childhood growing up on a farm in South Africa, my awakening (conscientising into an awareness that all is not right, being born into an apartheid era), life in SA and the epiphany to immigrate to NZ. The chapter Bouncing off Planet Africa' encompasses the grieving and healing process of migration. This section should be extremely beneficial to all migrants as part of the adaptation and acculturation process. The Scatterling tapestry chapters follow with migrants' stories of their passion, pain, love - and hate - of Africa. For this section a remarkable cross section of stories; people of various cultural backgrounds and groups from Southern Africa including: cross cultural marriages; gay marriages; the lobola story between a Zulu woman and an American man; people who were marginalised and affected by apartheid, or survived the war in Zimbabwe, etc., plus Afri-expat tales from places such as Peru, USA, Canada, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kenya, Zimbabwe, UK, Oz and NZ have been gathered and incorporated. There is a section with contributions, including a Somali Refugee, a rootless African American (due to slavery) and people of colour uprooted in South Africa due to the apartheid areas act. Expats talk about hurdles and obstacles regarding migration, and about the wonderful sense of freedom from the shackles of apartheid and from fear, violence and criminality. They also offer some tips and advice to wannabes, while others hanker for home so much and return to face the challenges of a violent land. The contributors echo the same parallel threads, yet different and unique, each through their own personal lens. A short chapter offers children the opportunity to share their stories in Out the Mouths of Babies, which is both insightful and humorous. An historical/political time line follows from Khoi Khoi to current with articles and information, demographics and some statistics covering the establishment of humanity in the ancient continent; the conflicts, the horrors of apartheid and current exasperation due to ongoing heinous crime, stress, corruption and structural disintegration, juxtaposed against optimism and hope. Articles (all with the authors' blessings) are included by well known South African writers, politicians, projectionists and figure heads, the likes of Helen Zille, Clem Sunter, Max du Preez and several young emerging African columnists the likes of Mabaso, Mtimkulu and Shuudi.) There is a section on migrants' poetry, followed by Southern African recipes and food tales as immigrants identify with food as part of the cultural adaptation and period of grieving. A short existential epilogue concludes the book.

cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness: *The White Spaces of Kenyan Settler Writing*
Terrence L. Craig, 2017-03-27 The White Spaces of Kenyan Settler Writing provides an overview of Kenyan literature by white writers in the half-century before Independence in 1964. Such literature has been over-shadowed by that of black writers to the point of critical ostracism. It deserves attention for its own sake, as the expression of a community that hoped for permanence but suffered both disappointment and dispossession. It deserves attention for its articulation of an increasingly desperate colonial and Imperial situation at a time when both were being attacked and abandoned in Africa, as in other colonies elsewhere, and when a counter-discourse was being constructed by writers in Britain as well as in Africa. Kenya was likely the best-known twentieth-century colony, for it attracted publicity for its iconic safaris and its Happy Valley scandals. Yet behind such scenes were settlers who had taken over lands from the native peoples and who were trying to make a future for themselves, based on the labour, willing or forced, of those

people. This situation can be seen as a microcosm of one colonial exercise, and can illuminate the historical tensions of such times. The bibliography is an attempt to collect the literary resources of white Kenya in this historically significant period.

cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness: *Dreaming of Lions* Elizabeth Marshall Thomas, 2016-02-23 Elizabeth Marshall Thomas has spent a lifetime observing other creatures and other cultures, from her own backyard to the African savannah. Her books have transported millions of readers into the hidden lives of animals—from dogs and cats to deer and lions. She's chronicled the daily lives of African tribes, and even imagined the lives of prehistoric humans. She illuminates unknown worlds like no other. Now, she opens the doors to her own. *Dreaming of Lions* traces Thomas's life from her earliest days, including when, as a young woman in the 1950s, she and her family packed up and left for the Kalahari Desert to study the Ju/Wa Bushmen. The world's understanding of African tribal cultures has never been the same since. Nor has Thomas, as the experience taught her not only how to observe, but also how to navigate in male-dominated fields like anthropology and animal science and do what she cared about most: spending time with animals and people in wild places, and relishing the people and animals around her at home. Readers join Thomas as she returns to Africa, after college and marriage, with her two young children, ending up in the turmoil leading to Idi Amin's bloody coup. She invites us into her family life, her writing, and her fascination with animals—from elephants in Namibia, to dogs in her kitchen, or cougars outside her New England farmhouse. She also recounts her personal struggles, writing about her own life with the same kind of fierce honesty that she applies to the world around her, and delivering a memoir that not only shares tremendous insights, but also provides tremendous inspiration. *Dreaming of Lions*, originally published in hardcover as *A Million Years With You*, is slightly updated and includes a powerful new afterword by the author.

cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness: *Remnants of an Empire* Shurmer-Smith, Pamela, 2015-02-07 When Zambia became Independent in 1964, the white colonial population did not suddenly evaporate. Some had supported Independence, others had virulently opposed it, but all had to reappraise their nationality, residence and careers. A few became Zambian citizens and many more chose to stay while without committing themselves. But most of the colonial population eventually trickled out of the country to start again elsewhere. Pamela Charmer-Smith has traced survivors of this population to discover how new lives were constructed and new perspectives generated. Her account draws on the power of postcolonial memory to understand the many ways that copper miners, district officers, school-children and housewives became the empires relics. Her work is not that of a dispassionate outsider but of one who grew up in Northern Rhodesia, knew its colonial population and has considerable affection for Zambia.

cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness: *The Simple Care of a Hopeful Heart* Robert J. Wicks, 2021-11-05 With a healthy perspective we can become resilient in ways that not only help us bounce back from stress and tough times, but we can actually deepen in ways which would not have been possible had they not occurred in the first place. *The Simple Care of a Hopeful Heart* offers a series of brief, accessible lessons in self-care and self-understanding to enhance such possibilities.

cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness: *The Tao of Ordinariness* Robert J. Wicks, 2019 *The Tao of Ordinariness* is an invitation to come home to your authentic self in a world now clearly mesmerized by spin, narcissism, fantasy, and exhibitionism. The book offers an alternative to pressures to measure your self-worth by numbers of likes and followers- i.e., living with a constant fear of missing out and seeking external validation for who you think you should be-instead of being comfortable with who you truly are.

cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness: *The Simple Care of a Hopeful Heart* Robert J. Wicks, 2022 With a healthy perspective we can become resilient in ways that not only help us bounce back from stress and tough times, but we can actually deepen in ways which would not have been possible had they not occurred in the first place. *The Simple Care of a Hopeful Heart* offers a series of brief, accessible lessons in self-care and self-understanding to enhance such possibilities.

cocktail hour under the tree of forgetfulness: Heartstorming Wicks, Robert J., 2020

Heartstorming encourages us to be more mindful of how the spiritual impregnates all of life's joys, sorrows, and even unexciting times if we have the eyes to see.

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