

Jennette McCurdy

with Debra

chapter four

A Day with Jennette and Debra McCurdy

As you know from my forward, it has taken me years to complete my book. Jennette was the first child celebrity that I cooked with. I was connected through Paula Kaplan, VP of Talent for Nickelodeon. Her right hand Justin Antony introduced me to Jennette's publicist who presented my project to her. I received an e-mail that Jennette was thrilled to be involved with the project. She loved to cook and did this a lot at home. Jennette then was still on the TV show *iCarly* playing Sam. My kids loved *iCarly* and Sam was their favorite. The tongue and cheek aspect of her character made the show a hit. Jennette arrived with her mother. I knew that she loved pasta. Given that she also had some Italian in her, I wanted to share one of my favorite recipes: Ravioli with Spinach and Ricotta Filling and Artichoke Sauce. It is a unique recipe, just like Jennette. Jennette brought her lovely and very petite mother Debra to the photo shoot. It was so special to see how close they were. Given that I have three daughters, I know how special a bond can be between a mother and daughter. Debra also had three sons. No wonder Jennette made such a perfect Sam! She was 17 then and would be turning 18 in a couple of months. She was beautiful and very sweet. I remember it was so hard to adjust when speaking with her. I kept expecting some dry sense of humor to come out but she was simply lovely. As we were rolling out the dough, placing it onto the ravioli platters, we began filling them with both spinach and ricotta cheese. Debra came and joined in on the fun! It was cool to be able to share this with not only Jennette but also her mother. We were having a blast. Jennette began taking the ravioli and putting them against her ears as if they were earrings. Hey, that is not a bad idea! She then began speaking about her brothers, talking about how much fun they had together and how she learned to be tough just to keep up with them. Jennette knew that I had three daughters and was super sweet. She

