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Country Style Ribs With a Side of Asian

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Community Cookbook

Country Style Ribs with a Side of Asian

This dish is a recipe that has been in my family ever since I could remember. My mother introduced it to my household over 30 years ago. She originally tried her friend's ribs that she made with mashed potatoes and she loved them. However, in our household we eat a lot of rice with our meals, and my mother wanted to try something different with them. My mother tweaked the recipe and added more soy sauce, ketchup, and dry mustard for a different kind of flavor. The main tweak that she performed was the exclusion of potatoes, and the genius inclusion of steamed rice. The meal was an absolute hit, and I have yet to meet a person that hasn't enjoyed their savory simplicity, and that's saying something coming from a large family of picky eating children.

With a large family of 7 children, and both of my parents working full-time jobs, meal preparation would sometimes get tricky. However, I can rarely remember eating out, and most of our meals were together as a family. With that in mind, this recipe was perfect for us. My mother would simply put the ingredients together, throw it in the oven, and in no time we would have my absolute favorite food on this planet. The only downside to this meal is that for feeding larger families, the ribs can get a little on the expensive side.

This dish has been my meal of choice ever since I can recall. Every birthday I ever had that my mom would ask me what I wanted to eat for that Sunday's dinner, I would request her ribs and rice. Unfortunately for my desires, this, more costly dish, became a specified meal for only certain occasions, and some Sunday dinners. Perhaps if the dish was made on a regular basis I wouldn't be able to fully appreciate its deliciousness. Although, the rarity and the fact that

this meal is used for those family get-togethers, holidays, or birthdays, makes it even more special.

When my family gathers, it is the best moments in my life. There is always someone either laughing, crying, or doing something a little wild. When these moments happen in life, I remember the jokes, the games played, but mostly the food eaten. These ribs became so special to me, not only because they are so delicious, but also because they are a sign that family is together. It makes it difficult for me to know if I love the ribs more, or my family more sometimes.