

Stories

of

Jah Lemon

part twenty one

A Red Cultivar Morning

Celebrating Red Grapefruit in Texas

Natty Mark Samuels

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Dedication

to

Mik Boom

Owner of The Haunted Bar Lounge, Leamington Spa

for his endorsement of the Rootsman Products

and to

Colene Williams

for the blessings of support

Doctor Citrus

Down in the Valley,
You will meet the good doctor,
Dr.Olufemi Alabi.

Down in the Valley,
Fighting the psyllid,
Expert in plant pathology

Down in the Valley,
Trees being destroyed,
For they are no longer healthy.

Down in the Valley,
Combating citrus greening,
Supporting the citrus industry.

Down in the Valley,
He advises the citizens,
As well as the nurseries.

Down in the Valley,
The crucial objective,
Of saving the citrus trees.

Mantra of Red Grapefruit

In Nineteen Ninety Three,
It became officially,
State Fruit of the Lone Star State.

Citrus and the Child

And while her mother is on the phone, the girl, buzzing with the anticipation of conclusion, commences. She shells the pistachios, measures out the vanilla, coconut flakes, flour and butter, collects the eggs and the zest and juice of a red grapefruit: and she is ready to go.

But she's been told not to play with fire, especially round the stove, so she'll have to wait for her mother to finish her conversation, to continue the making, of the Pistachio Coconut Grapefruit Bars.

Ruby and Rio

And Golden said to Sunshine, "You and I are still the leaders in this country, when it comes to the White and Pink, but we come after Lone Star, when talking of the Red."

And Sunshine said to Golden, "Yes, there is no denying that. First it gave us Ruby Red, now there is one called Rio, after the valley where it is grown."

Texas Citrus Guacamole

From the Aztecs to the Texans,
They've all followed suit.
Once used as aphrodisiac;
Now the addition of garlic,
As well as the red grapefruit.

The Grapefruit Visions

Was it you who brought it to Southern Texas?
Was it you Spanish missionary?
The fruit inspired visions,
Of the dreamer called John H. Sharry.

The Grapefruit Beatitudes

Blessed are the South Texans, for a climate that is sub-tropical.

Blessed are the South Texans, for having the Rio Grande Valley.

Blessed are the South Texans, for John H. Sharry lived amongst them.

Blessed are the South Texans, for giving us the Ruby Red.

Blessed are the South Texans, for all the red and pink cultivars.

Blessed are the South Texans, counteracting the citrus greening.

Blessed are the South Texans, for the evolving gifts of red grapefruit.

Blessed are the South Texans, for their expertise with *citrus paradisi*.

A Red Cultivar Morning

Did you ever wake up and after showering, douse yourself with grapefruit oil, made from a red cultivar? And after dressing, did your teeth and taste buds, enjoy their interaction with that cultivar, over the breakfast table? And with it inside and outside of you, did you step out of the door, ready for the day?

Grapefruit Glory

With the white,
You may feel to sprinkle sugar,
Or maybe drizzle some honey.
But with the red varieties,
Eat it as it is,
And relish its natural glory.

Grande and Grapefruit

Take a walk with me,
Through the counties of Hidalgo, Cameron and Willacy,
Where we shall meet Ruby Sweet and Rio Star.
Sample them by the river,
In the valley of the Rio Grande.

Grapefruit and the Cousins

In your conversation of fruit,
Your citrus reasoning,
That grapefruit tete a tete.
There'll be input from the juice
Of grapefruit, lemon and oranges,
To make a Citrus Vinaigrette.

Grapefruit and the Icons

Now Jah Lemon has another reason to celebrate the second month of the year. Annually, he has honoured two icons, Bob Marley and Una Marson, both born on the same day in that month. But through his research into Texan red grapefruits, he has found that in America, February is the National Month of Grapefruit.

Many Blessings of Red Grapefruit

Jah Lemon imagines a group of diners being asked what they would use red grapefruit for...

- 1st Voice:** A jam of Macadamia Nut Honey.
- 2nd Voice:** I would make the salad called Tabouli.
- 3rd Voice:** I'd use it as a toast topper.
- 4th Voice:** I'd probably go for a citrus salsa.
- 5th Voice:** I would choose yogurt pancakes.
- 6th Voice:** Maybe a pie with coconut flakes.
- 7th Voice:** A salad of pomegranate and pistachios.
- 8th Voice:** Or one with avocado and cilantro.

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