

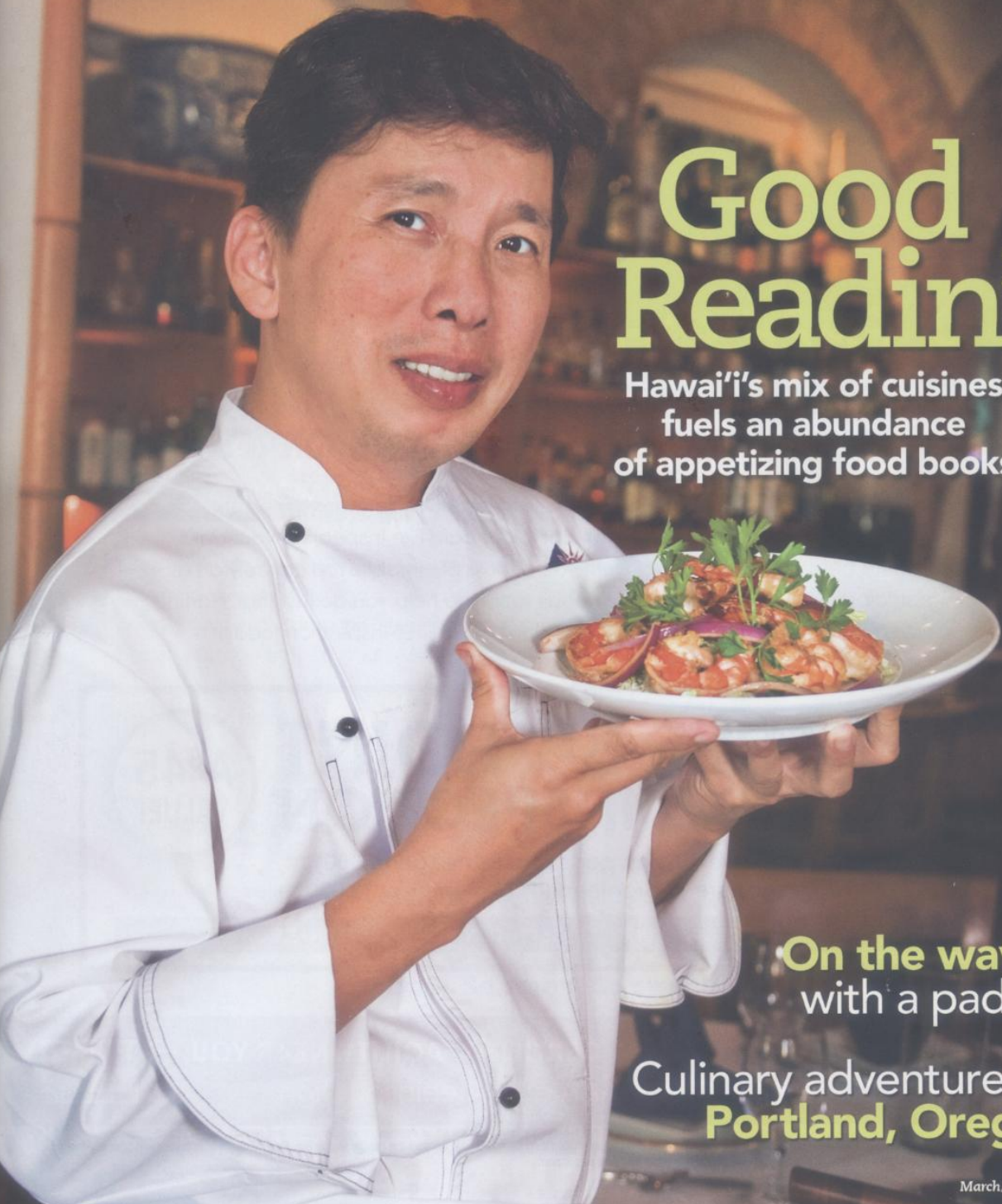


Hawai'i

THE MAGAZINE FOR AAA MEMBERS

Good Readin'

Hawai'i's mix of cuisines
fuels an abundance
of appetizing food books



On the waves
with a paddle

Culinary adventures in
Portland, Oregon

Market Days

OUR CELEBRITY:

Darien Hsu Gee, author

Now settled on Hawai'i Island, far from her former life as a San Francisco management consultant, best-selling women's fiction author Darien Hsu Gee (who writes as Mia King) simply takes life one day at a time. She and husband Darrin Gee, a golf instructor, run their own businesses, homeschool their three young children, and explore their new home's nooks and crannies every day. It's no surprise, then, that her novels, including her third and most recent, *Table Manners*, feature similarly creative and motivated women in their 40s who are ready to reinvent their lives, either by choice or because life has a way of making it happen. Hsu Gee hopes her next novel will not only entertain but also inspire readers to discover existing opportunities for positive change in their own lives.

HER FAVORITE LOCAL GETAWAY:

Hawaiian Homestead Farmers' Market, Waimea

"I love going to the Hawaiian Homestead Farmers' Market on Saturday mornings," says Hsu Gee of this popular community market just east of the historic ranching town of Waimea on Māmalahoa Highway. "I'm so busy during the week that this is where I connect with friends and neighbors and swap news and recipes. My kids get to run around and explore. The air is filled with aloha.

"Food is a central theme in my book, because it brings people together. Farmers markets are an excellent example of that. I can spend a morning there buying fresh vegetables, fruits, native plants, and flowers. The baskets and crates filled with produce are so colorful and vibrant. Sometimes we'll eat breakfast at one of the booths or just settle on the grass and savor whatever is in our basket. It's how Saturday mornings are meant to be spent."

—Christine Thomas

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