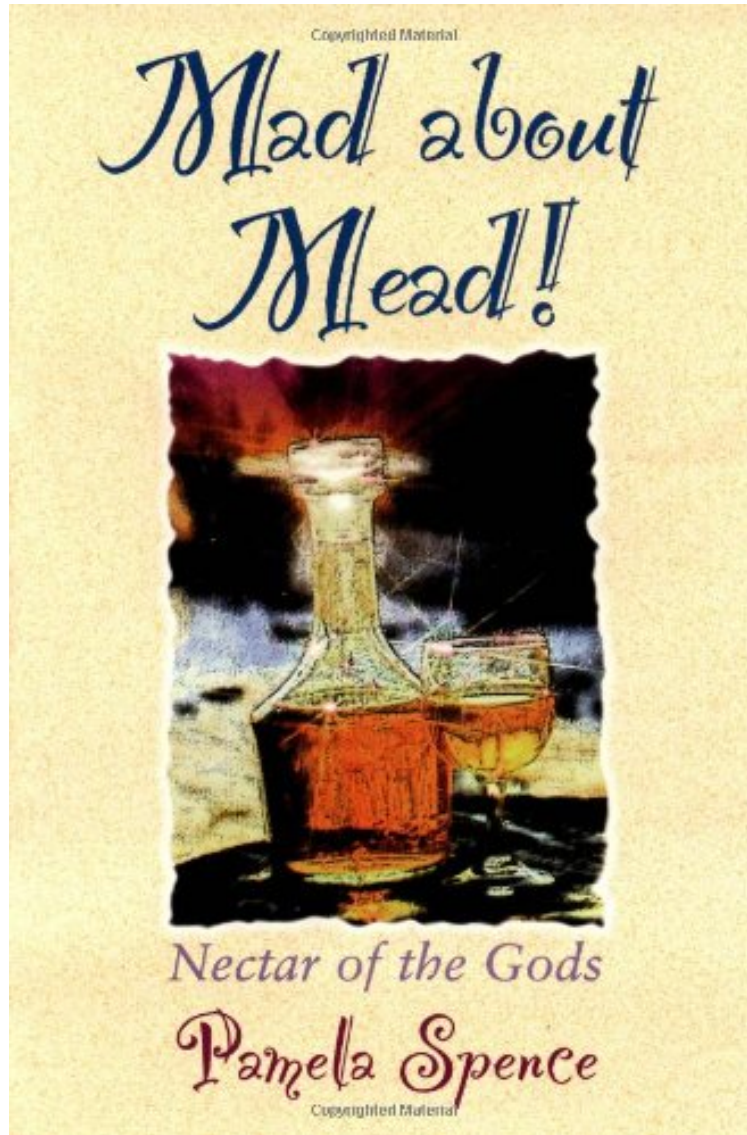


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## Mad About Mead: Nectar of the Gods

*Pamela Spence*

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**Pamela Spence : Mad About Mead: Nectar of the Gods** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mad About Mead: Nectar of the Gods:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. There are better mead making books out thereBy Prime Pastured PeepsIf you like more of a loosey-goosey or historical way to make mead, try this book. If you want some odd historical ritual descriptions where mead was used, this is your book. If you want to advance your recipes to the next level, look elsewhere- I would suggest Ken Schramm's "The Compleat Meadmaker" (ISBN: 978-0937381809) and

Steven Piatz's "The Complete Guide to Making Mead" (ISBN: 978-0760345641). These books were written much more professionally (which granted could be the difference in publication date and targeted audience, as it seems that "Mad About Mead" was marketed to the "spiritual" and "witchcrafty" types (just check out the last few pages of the book if you aren't sure what I mean by this). Don't get me wrong, you can get some decent meadmaking information out of this book, but I found the writing and editing of this book grated on my nerves. 19 of 21 people found the following review helpful. Great book for Pagans By James 'n Houston This book has been described as a "Frothy Pagan Rant" and that's really about on the mark but if you're into that sort of thing it's probably right up your alley. The author is a pagan and a bee keeper so she knows the practical business of making mead right out of the comb. She's also a bit easier to understand than other authors. She includes sample rituals as well as many recipes (including one for pumpkin) and goes a bit into the legal aspects of home brewing. A good book for pagans that want a well-rounded education when it comes to mead. Non-pagans might find it a bit over the top though. Hell, I'm a druid and I think she needs to take a chill pill too. 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Fun AND educational... in one book? By S. Catalano YES!! This book is well worth any price. It is an easy read, with entertaining images and catch phrases. Of the 5 mead books we bought, this one is by far our favorite. Though we have yet to taste the bounties from the knowledge we gained from this book, we were able to breeze through the purchasing our mead kit and the first batch with ease!

Savor the flavor of the nectar of the gods as you learn the history, lore, and techniques for brewing a variety of honey wines in Mad about Mead by Pamela Spence. You may have heard about mead, but have you ever tasted its many varieties? If you hold a goblet of mead under your nose and breathe in its honeyed fragrance, you will almost hear the bees and smell the flowers that gave birth to this divine drink. Mad about Mead begins by sharing the lore of this wine. You'll discover its ancient history and how it has been used in a wide variety of rituals around the world, including puberty rituals, marriage rites, and baptism practices. If you like mead, just reading about its history isn't enough. You need to know how to make mead yourself. That's where Mad about Mead excels. If you want to make mead, this book is a must. It features:

- Complete home-brewing directions
- Recipes for different meads for every season
- What equipment you'll need and how to use it
- Step-by-step illustrations and easy instructions to make delicious, traditional meads
- Resources to find the supplies you'll need
- Expert tips from the founder of the American Mead Association

Even if you've never brewed wine before, you can make delicious mead on your first try. After you drink one mead, you'll want to try the other flavors (more than a dozen) from the recipes included in this book. If you like mead or are ready to be enchanted by its divine flavor, you can learn to make your own delectable batches of this fermented honey elixir by reading Mad about Mead.

About the Author Pamela Spence holds a degree in English with a minor in philosophy from the Pontifical College Josephinum, Columbus, Ohio. Course work in commercial beekeeping at Ohio State University, however led to a chronic bout with "bee fever," an obsessive passion about honeybees for which there is no known or desired cure. In 1986, she founded the American Mead Association (AMA) to stimulate interest in an alternative market for honey. The association, through its publications, the Meadmaker's Journal and Mead Letters, served as a clearinghouse of information for amateur and commercial meadmakers worldwide. Spence has contributed articles on beekeeping and meadmaking to the Llewellyn Organic Gardening Almanac and various beekeeping and wine trade publications. During her tenure as AMA director, she conducted numerous workshops, lectures, tastings, and mead judgments. In addition to her mead activities, she is also a poet and storyteller, and currently lives on the banks of a creek in Central Ohio with her husband and their family of children, dogs, and bees.