

Denise Swanson: *Chili Chili Bang Bang*



Happy fall! After a long hot summer here in rural Illinois, I'm looking forward to some cooler weather. Although, I love a lot of the foods associated with autumn—pumpkin and apple and cinnamon—one of my favorites is a good chili.

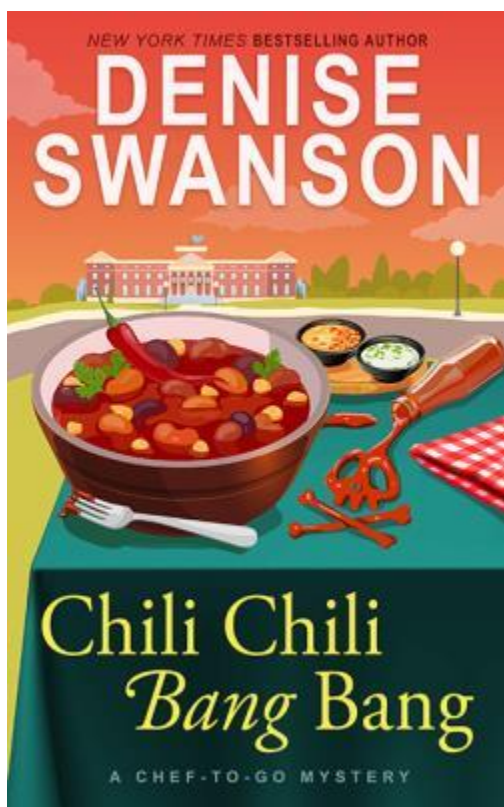
In my new Chef-to-Go book, *Chili Chili Bang Bang*, Dani is involved in a Chili Challenge. She won't share her recipe, but this is my favorite chili recipe.

Ingredients:

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1 cup chopped red bell pepper
- 1 tablespoon chopped garlic
- 1 lb. ground turkey
- 2 10 oz. cans diced tomato and chopped green chilies
- ½ cup white wine
- 2 teaspoons freshly ground black pepper
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon dried ground sage
- 1 teaspoon crushed red pepper
- 6 cups unsalted chicken stock
- 3 (15-ounce) cans unsalted cannellini beans, rinsed, drained, and divided
- 2 (15-ounce) cans unsalted kidney beans, rinsed, drained, and divided
- 2 cups chopped kale
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh oregano

Directions:

Heat a large Dutch oven over medium-high heat. Add oil to pan; swirl to coat. Add onion and next 3 ingredients (through ground turkey); sauté 4 minutes. Add tomato and next 5 ingredients (through red pepper). Bring to a boil; cook until liquid is reduced by half (about 1 minute). Stir in stock. Combine 2 cans cannellini beans and 1 can kidney beans in a medium bowl; mash with a potato masher. Add bean mixture and remaining beans to pan. Bring to a simmer; cook 5 minutes. Add kale; cover and simmer 2-3 hours. Sprinkle with oregano.



Available September 13, 2023!

***Chili Chili Bang Bang* is the fourth book in Denise's Chef-to-Go mystery series.**

Dani Sloan will have to solve the Chili Challenge murder before she or one of her fellow competitors' chances of surviving the contest aren't worth a hill of beans. Once again, it looks like Dani's best-laid plans have been blown up...

Things in Normalton, IL, are getting hot, hot, hot. When the small Midwest college town is chosen to host the Route 66 Rally's Chili Challenge, not everyone's excited by the prospect. Campus activists are upset about the environmental impact, the economic inequity, and the consumption of meat.

And when the contestants' ingredients and equipment are peppered with sabotage, it becomes clear that there's someone who's willing to take a life to get their point across, and Dani must not only cook a killer batch of chili, she also has to follow a trail of clues to save the contest, her fellow competitors...

And herself.

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