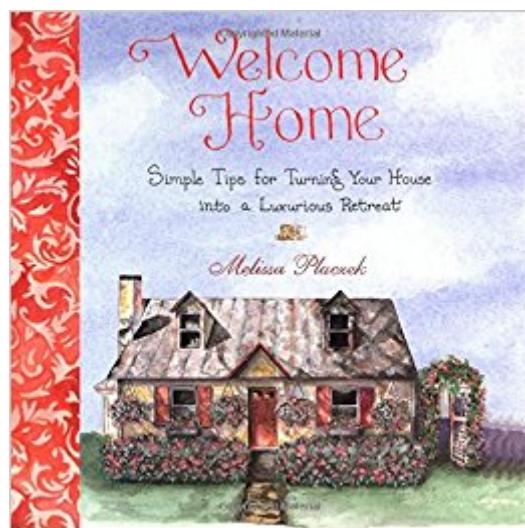


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# Welcome Home: Simple Tips For Turning Your House Into A Luxurious Retreat



## **Synopsis**

This beautiful, original book by Melissa Placzek is a wealth of recipes and ideas for pampering, complete with 96 original watercolors and ideas for turning your home into a welcoming retreat. Half of the book contains ideas for creating a comfortable spa-like setting in your own home while the other half of the book consists of home spa recipes. You can create luscious body butter in your celestial fantasy bathroom, make beach babe suntan oil while practicing the art of keeping a backyard journal, or enjoy your homemade tranquil teacup candle in your secret garden bedroom.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

There are no granite countertops in Placzek's homey decorating book. Nor are there photographs of brushed-steel fixtures or \$10,000 bathrooms. Instead, the author of 2001's *Chin Deep in Bubbles* adopts a sweet, cheery D.I.Y. attitude that should appeal to readers already fond of chenille and cozy living. Her book is essentially divided two parts. The first offers suggestions for homey crafts and room decor (make a teacup candle, sew dryer sachets filled with lavender, hang bridal netting over a bed, keep a kitchen journal, etc.); the second contains recipes for homemade spa treatments and "spa cuisine" like Apple Coffee Cake. The effects are more B&B than Canyon Ranch: decorating ideas lean towards themes ("Secret Garden Bedroom," "Celestial Fantasy Bathroom") and many of the quotations date back the 19th century. However, this old-fashioned streak is part of the book's charm. Placzek has carefully hand-lettered and

illustrated every page of this volume, with the result that the whole project glows with a kind of tender affection noticeably missing from glossier books. Early on, an epigraph by Charles Swain declares that "Home's not merely four square walls / Tho with pictures hung and guilded; / Home is where affection calls, / Filled with shrines the heart hath builded." Placzek has clearly adopted this sentiment as her motto, and readers who agree with her should find plenty to enjoy in this lovingly crafted book. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Melissa Placzek is the author of Chin Deep in Bubbles: Little Luxuries for

Both this book and Chin Deep in Bubbles are very well worn in my bookshelf. I return to them season after season for the recipes, decor ideas, and simply the feeling of returning to a friend! The warmth of her personality is very palpable on every page! Some may say that her style is a copy of other more well known illustrators, but that simply isn't so. True fans of both authors can see the differences, as well as appreciate the many other artists with a similar style! What a labor of love it is to hand write and illustrate an entire book! Bravo to Melissa Placzek for sharing her beautiful life with us!

Chin Deep in Bubbles (also by Melissa Placzek) is one of my favorite books so that one gets a 5 and this one gets a 4. Both books are really great, but Chin Deep in Bubbles is more summery and this one is more fall-ish. Welcome Home contains many ideas and recipes to make your home and life more pleasant. There are recipes for food, drinks, skin care for adults as well as children and cleaning/scenting potions for your home. The book also contains directions for making many things like a zen garden and an aromatherapy neck roll...also decorating ideas and dvd/book lists. These books contain so much that I really feel like I got my money's worth. I have seen comparisons to Roxie Kelley/Shelly Reeves Smith books and what I can say about that is that I own and like both, but MP's books are just more earthy and dreamy.

This is a beautifully illustrated and handwritten book. Since I love Susan Branch, I knew I would love this book too. Can't have enough books like this. Wish more people would write them....they're very enjoyable.

Very pretty book. Some of the recipes are wonderful.

Each page is a work of art from the hand lettered text to the border designs. This would make a lovely gift for a harried sister or girlfriend. It's chock full of spa recipes (cinnamon mist to spray your rooms or aromatherapy neck roll) and decorating tips to turn your rooms into sanctuaries. Maybe make up a batch of maple sugar hair treatment to give your sister along with the book. Some of the ideas or recipes may sound a little silly, such as combining 3 boxes of strawberry jello with 3 cups of champagne for a slippery foot bath. Check the "See Inside the Book" pages to see the pretty artwork.

satisfied customer

I love the way Melissa writes and illustrates in her book. Gives me fun and new ways to make my home more cozy and welcoming to others.

Many great ideas in this little gem. Very pretty illustrations! Makes you want to live in the house on the cover! Another score for Melissa! :0)

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