Michael's Pasta with Melon and Tomatoes

from Chef Michael Collins and In Our Grandmothers' Kitchens

Ingredients:

1 local cantaloupe, peeled and seeded butter and olive oil as needed for sautéing the juice of 1/2 lemon sea salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste 1 pint heavy cream approximately 4 cups marinara sauce, pureed grated Parmigiano Reggiano and fresh basil for garnish, plus freshly ground pepper

Instructions:

Cut the melon into 1-inch chunks. Sauté it very briefly in butter and olive oil. Add the lemon juice, the salt, the pepper, and the cream. Stir in marinara sauce until the whole concoction is a pretty pink, more or less the color of the melon. (You'll probably want about 3 cups here.)

Cook for a few minutes to reduce the sauce slightly. Serve over the pasta of your choice. Garnish with cheese and basil, and grind pepper over all. Have the extra marinara sauce warm at the table in case it's wanted. Serves 4 to 6.