My Autumn Minestrone with Farro, Chicken, Post-Pizza Party Leftovers* and Lynn's Homegrown Kale

Big soup pot (prefer Le Creuset Bouillabaisse)

1/4 cup olive oil carrot leek onion* chopped or thinly sliced garlic*

potato
prosciutto, thin slices cut into pieces*
cremini mushrooms*
zucchini*
kale, boiled until tender, cut into 1/2" ribbons
roasted red pepper, peeled and cut into pieces

1 cup of farro 1 cup coarsely chopped cooked chicken

1 qt. chicken stock 1 qt. juice from canned Italian tomatoes*

Salt and freshly-ground black pepper 2 tsp. Maras pepper flakes



- 1. Cook the farro in salted boiling water for about 20 minutes. While it's cooking:
- 2. Cut carrot, leek. celery, onions, mushrooms, potato and zucchini into medium dice.
- 3. Heat olive oil in soup pot. Add carrots, leek, celery, onions and garlic. Saute until tender and lightly browned.
- 4. Add potato and saute until barely cooked through. Add roasted red pepper.
- 5. Add prosciutto and mushrooms and cook until mushrooms are tender and browned.
- 6. Add kale and stir, cooking a few more minutes. Add salt and pepper to taste.
- 7. Drain and add the cooked farro.
- 8. Add Maras pepper flakes
- 9. Add the chicken stock and tomato juice and bring to a boil. Reduce to a simmer, and cook for about 20 minutes or more. Check the zucchini and tomato pieces to ensure they are cooked but not mushy.
- 10. Adjust the seasoning, and add olive oil garnish if necessary. You may also added grated parmesan or pecorino, if you wish.
- 11. Serve with a fruity Italian red wine, such as a Lacryma Christi Rosso from Mastroberardino in Campania, or a Montepulciano d'Abruzzo.

^{*} These items are typical leftovers from our pizza parties