

Egyptian Arabic transcript:

المرأة: الوقت العجين إلي عجنه بالليل تخمر. الليل كله، سبناه الليل كله لما تخمر. نبتدي نقطع. بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم. نقتطع بالزيت عشان مينشفش. يتفلق، لما يتقطع من غير زيت يتفلق كده حبيبي شكله مش حلو ناشف. لما يتقطع بالزيت يبقى طري على طول، يبقى طري وحلو. نحطها في الثلاجة نسخن كل وقت، كل طقه. نسخن العيش يبقى طازة.

نجله: العيش بتخبزي كل يوم ولا كل خمس تيام؟
المرأة: كل خمس تيام يعني حتى ما نخلص يعني لو خلصت قبل الخمسة أخبز تاني برضوا. حتى لو خلصت كل يوم يعني لازم أخبز. منشتريش، لأ منشتريش، وليه نشترى عيش وأحنا عندنا الغلة والطحين والفرن و الخميرة الميه والأيدي العاملة.

English translation:

Lady Baker: Now, the dough we kneaded at night rose. The whole night ... we left it the whole night, until it became ready. We start cutting it. In the name of God, the Magnificent, the Merciful ... we cut it with oil so that it doesn't dry out. It will fall apart - - when cut without oil, it will fall apart like this, and it would be misshapen and dried out. When cut with oil, it stays soft always. It stays soft and nice, and nothing comes close to it.

We keep it in the fridge, and we warm it as needed. When you warm the bread, it comes back as fresh.

Naglaa: Do you bake the bread every day, or every five days?

Lady Baker: Every five days, I mean, based on when we run out. If I run out before five, I bake again. Even if I run out of bread every day, I have to bake. We don't buy, no we don't; we don't buy bread. Why do [would] we buy it, when we have the grains, and flour, and the oven, and the yeast, and the water, and the skill?

About CultureTalk: CultureTalk is produced by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and housed on the LangMedia Website. The project provides students of language and culture with samples of people talking about their lives in the languages they use every day. The participants in CultureTalk interviews and discussions are of many different ages and walks of life. They are free to express themselves as they wish. The ideas and opinions presented here are those of the participants. Inclusion in CultureTalk does not represent endorsement of these ideas or opinions by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages, Five Colleges, Incorporated, or any of its member institutions: Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

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