This dissertation examines Carla Emery's The Encyclopedia of Country Living and her contribution to the modern homesteading movement. Emery (1939-2005) advocated the use of traditional methods and antique cookbooks for food self-sufficiency. She first self-published and distributed the book in "issues" (1971), which were eventually combined and sold as a single book, originally named The Old Fashioned Recipe Book (1974). A reading community developed around The Encyclopedia and readers participated in its development by submitting recipes and homesteading resources. Several editions have followed and the book remains in print, considered an authoritative reference for modern homesteading.

Modern homesteading is rooted in the traditions of homesteading and domestic advice. It represents a consciousness of human relationships with the land for food production and the role domestic advice in cooking and other aspects of home economics. Emery recommended a country living foodways and 19th century methods of food production for homesteading, attempting to de-industrialize the kitchen. Emery represents an important and persistent cultural interest in going back-to-the-land. Modern homesteading practices also provide possible responses to contemporary post-industrial concerns including consumer culture, food insecurity, and the environment.

Keywords
back-to-the-land, Carla Emery, food, homesteading, modern homesteading, self-sufficiency

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Comments
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Carlotta Louise Harshbarger Emery DeLong (January 19, 1939 – October 11, 2005) was an American writer and encyclopedist. Emery was born in Los Angeles where her parents had gone in search of employment after being displaced from their home in Washington state by a crop failure. Emery grew up as a rancher's daughter in Montana after her parents moved there during her infancy (her father, Carl Harshbarger, had worked as chauffeur for Dorothy Lamour in Los Angeles for about two years, and had saved Carla Emery, author of the Old Fashioned Recipe Book.

PHOTO: MOTHER EARTH NEWS STAFF. It may not be everyone's dream... but it's probably safe to say that a large number of MOTHER EARTH NEWS readers share more or less the same story of what an idealized version of the Good Life is all about. Let me ask you about those children, Carla, because I know that many of our readers are going to think you've got some nerve to tout self-sufficiency and the wise use of resources on one hand while, on the other, you have five children. Well, as an only child — and as the daughter of an only child-growing up isolated on a ranch, I'd have given the world for a sister. Carla (Carlotta Louise Harshbarger) Emery DeLong (January 19, 1939 – October 11, 2005). Born in Los Angeles where her parents had gone in search of employment after being displaced from their Washington State home by a crop failure, but grew up as a rancher's daughter in Montana after her parents moved there during her infancy. Carl Harshbarger, had worked as chauffeur for Dorothy Lamour in Los Angeles for about two years, and had saved enough funds to buy some land there). Proponent of organic farming, the "back-to-the-land movement", and author of the "Encycl