차림

CHARIM

A Tea Diary

Keep a little of each cup.

Thirty undated entries.

No fixed schedule.

A cup is finished.
Something remains.

Jeong Yak-yong wrote about the spring, stone hearth and landscape around Dasan Chodang. His tea life found a place in writing.

The 1818 Dasin-gye provisions connected tea with letters in verse. Tea could travel with words, carrying a relationship beyond a shared place.

A fragrance you recognize.
A view from the window.
Someone who comes to mind.

You do not need to write a poem.
A few words can hold a moment.

Historical source notes on page 94.

Tea and place

Daam Sicheop / Dasan Chodang

The National Institute of Korean History discusses Jeong Yak-yong’s tea poetry and the landscape around Dasan Chodang.

This diary leaves room for the place, sounds and people around a cup. That is a contemporary design connection.

HISTORICAL MATERIAL / MODERN INTERPRETATION

National Institute of Korean History

Tea and the senses

Dasinjeon

Dasinjeon separately addresses fragrance, color and taste. Choui Uisun transcribed this tea text from an earlier Chinese source.

Those subjects inspire the observation prompts. Using them with barley, fruit or ginger drinks is Charim’s modern extension.

HISTORICAL MATERIAL / MODERN INTERPRETATION

Encyclopedia of Korean Culture

Tea and relationships

Dasin-gye / 1818

The Dasin-gye provisions describe sending tea with verse letters. The National Folk Museum documents surviving copies of the provisions.

This connection inspired space for remembering people and two message leaves to share with a future cup.

HISTORICAL MATERIAL / MODERN INTERPRETATION

NIKH / National Folk Museum of Korea

About this diary

A contemporary diary inspired by Korean tea poems, correspondence and tea literature.

Its prompts, layout and thirty-entry format are new designs. This is not a reproduction of a historical diary.

The historical notes use institutional descriptions and excerpts, rather than a complete comparison of original manuscripts.

The sequence is optional. There is no streak, deadline or requirement to finish in a month.

Before you begin

This diary belongs to

Find a moment that suits you.
Prepare a tea you want to drink.

While it steeps or cools, look around.
After a sip, write something you noticed.

A word is enough.
A drawing is welcome.
Blank spaces are welcome, too.

Return whenever you have another cup
you would like to remember.

An illustrated tea atlas



Leaves, grains, fruit. A small collection of Korean cups to get to know - and room to discover your own.

Four tea portraits / Illustrated preparation / Your own notes

Find your next cup

01 **Nokcha**

Green leaf tea / grassy, fresh

02 **Balhyocha**

Oxidized leaf tea / rounded, amber

03 **Boricha**

Roasted barley infusion / toasty

04 **Yujacha**

Citron preserve drink / fragrant, tangy

This is a tasting companion, not a list of teas supplied in the Charim set. Flavor words are invitations to notice, not fixed tasting guarantees.

Nokcha

녹차



WHAT IT IS

Korean green tea is a leaf tea. Heat treatment limits oxidation; the finished taste varies with the grower, harvest and processing.

WORDS TO TRY

Fresh grass, tender greens, a gentle nutty note. What does your own cup suggest?

Prepare & notice



01 / PREPARE

Start with the producer's directions. Green tea can respond well to cooler water and shorter infusions.

02 / NOTICE

One published sensory study compared about 3 minutes at 60 C with 1 minute at 80 C. These are study conditions, not a rule for every tea.

SOURCE / READ MORE

Ewha Womans University / Lee et al., 2008

Balhyocha

발효차



WHAT IT IS

Korean makers also produce oxidized teas alongside green tea. Balhyocha is a broad trade term: processing and oxidation can differ by maker.

WORDS TO TRY

Dried fruit, wood, honey-like aroma. These are possible tasting words, not ingredients.

Prepare & notice



01 / PREPARE

Read the label for the specific tea. Measure the leaves and water, steep for the maker's time, then strain into a cup.

02 / NOTICE

Do not assume one temperature suits every balhyocha. Record the exact product and method so you can repeat a cup you enjoy.

SOURCE / READ MORE

Digital Hadong Culture Encyclopedia / Goryeo Dawon

Boricha

보리차



WHAT IT IS

A grain infusion made with roasted barley. It belongs to a different ingredient family from Camellia sinensis leaf tea.

WORDS TO TRY

Toasted grain, warm bread, a gentle roasted finish. Notice how warm and cooled cups differ.

Prepare & notice



01 / PREPARE

For roasted loose barley, simmer in water following the product instructions, then strain. A packaged tea bag may instead call for steeping.

02 / NOTICE

Use the package's grain-to-water ratio and timing. The Korean Traditional Knowledge Portal records a roasted-barley drink prepared by boiling.

SOURCE / READ MORE

Korean Traditional Knowledge Portal / Rural Development Administration

Yujacha

유자차



WHAT IT IS

A fragrant drink prepared by mixing yuja preserve with water. This is a fruit-based cup rather than a steeped leaf tea.

WORDS TO TRY

Citrus peel, bright acidity, sweetness. How does the balance change with a little more water?

Prepare & notice



01 / PREPARE

Spoon prepared yuja-cheong into a cup and stir in hot water. Adjust to the preserve's instructions and your taste. Let it cool comfortably before sipping.

02 / NOTICE

Maangchi's preparation uses sliced yuja and sugar, served with hot water. Keep the peel and pulp if you enjoy their texture.

SOURCE / READ MORE

Maangchi / Yujacha recipe

Choose & measure

차를 고르고



Choose your tea. Follow its label for the leaf or ingredient amount and the water volume. Write down both, so the next cup can begin here.

A modern everyday sequence, not a formal ceremonial protocol.

Water & time

천천히 우리고



For leaf tea, use the water temperature and time recommended by its maker. For grain or fruit drinks, use the method on the ingredient pages.

A modern everyday sequence, not a formal ceremonial protocol.

Pour & pause

향을 만나고

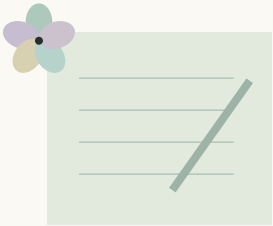


Strain leaf tea into a cup. Notice its color and fragrance. Allow hot tea to cool until it is comfortable to sip.

A modern everyday sequence, not a formal ceremonial protocol.

Sip & remember

한 모금을 기록해요



Take a small sip. Notice the first flavor and what remains. A few words or a sketch are enough; adjust only one thing for the next cup.

A modern everyday sequence, not a formal ceremonial protocol.

A vocabulary of a cup

FRAGRANCE

Fresh grass / toasted grain / citrus peel / floral / woody

COLOR

Pale jade / straw / gold / amber / a color of your own

TASTE & TEXTURE

Sweet / tart / bitter / savory / rounded / drying

These are prompts rather than an answer key. Different teas, water and brewing methods can give different impressions.

The colors I remember



Sketch a cup. Name its color. Add the tea and preparation underneath. Your palette does not have to match the one above.

The Cup



Date

Time

Tea / ingredients

Where it came from

How I prepared it

FRAGRANCE

What did I notice before the first sip?

COLOR

A word, a sketch or a small description.

TASTE

What came first? What lingered?

NEXT TIME

Something I would keep or change.

The Moment

WHERE AM I?

WHAT CAN I SEE OR HEAR?

WHO AM I WITH?

Or who comes to mind?

SOMETHING I WANT TO KEEP

From today.

GIVE THIS CUP A TITLE

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From today.

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Looking back

Which cup would I like to make again?

What flavors have I enjoyed most?

When does tea fit most comfortably into my day?

A little more room

Has a particular place become my tea place?

Someone I would like to share the next cup with:

The Cup



Date

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Tea / ingredients

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Has a particular place become my tea place?

Someone I would like to share the next cup with:

The Cup



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Which cup would I like to make again?

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When does tea fit most comfortably into my day?

A little more room

Has a particular place become my tea place?

Someone I would like to share the next cup with:

A cup I would share with you.

To

Today I drank

It made me think of

If we had a cup together,
I would tell you:

From

Date

A little more to say.

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Sources & credits

National Institute of Korean History

Tea poetry, place and the 1818 Dasin-gye provisions.

Open institutional source

Encyclopedia of Korean Culture

Dasinjeon: fragrance, color, taste and tea practice.

Open institutional source

National Folk Museum of Korea

Dasin-gye exhibition and surviving copies.

Open institutional source

Illustrated tea sources appear with their portraits on pages 11-17. Original vector artwork by millionroutines. A6, 96 pages, 30 undated entries. Sewn binding, paper stock and perforated message leaves are proposed production features, not verified by this PDF.

The next cup.

Return whenever there is another moment you would like to keep.