Lime Chiffon Cake

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Ingredients:

- 1 1/3 cup cake flour
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 7 large eggs, 5 separated, 2 left whole
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 1/2 vegetable oil
- 1/3 cup fresh lime juice
- 1/3 cup water
- 2 teaspoons lime zest
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 1/3 teaspoon cream of tartar
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 4 Tablespoons (more or less) lime juice

Directions:

- 1. Preheat oven to 325 degrees F. Have a 9-inch ungreased tube pan with a removable bottom ready. (My tube pan doesn't have a removable bottom so I lightly greased JUST the bottom of the pan)
- 2. Whisk together the flour, baking soda and salt in a medium bowl. Set aside
- 3. Beat the eggs yolks and whole eggs in a large mixing bowl until lightened in color, about 3 minutes.
- 4. With the mixer running, add 1 cup sugar in a slow, steady stream and continue to beat until the mixture is light and increased in volume, about 5 minutes longer.
- 5. With the mixer still running, slowly pour in the oil and continue to beat for 1 minute longer.
- 6. Combine the lime juice and water in a measuring cup. With the mixer on low speed, add the flour mixture 1/3 at a time, alternating with the juice and water mixture 1/2 at a time, beginning and ending with the flour mixture. Scrape down sides of bowl once or twice as necessary.
- 7. Stir in the lime zest and vanilla.
- 8. With clean beaters and a clean metal mixing bowl, whip the egg whites on medium speed until frothy.
- 9. Add the cream of tartar and continue to beat until the egg whites begin to

- turn white.
- 10. With the mixer still on medium speed, pour in the remaining 1/2 cup sugar in a slow, steady stream and whip until the whites hold stiff peaks.
- 11. Fold 1/4 of the egg yolk mixture into the whites to soften. Then fold the egg white mixture into the batter, gently but thoroughly. (I folded 1/4 of the whites to the batter to lighten, then folded in the rest of the whites to the mixture).
- 12. Pour the batter into the tube pan and smooth the top with a rubber spatula. Bake the cake until it is golden brown and the top springs back when you touch it, 55 minutes to 1 hour.
- 13. Remove the pan from the oven. Immediately invert the pan and allow it to cool. If your pan has 'feet' invert it onto a heatproof surface. If your pan does not have 'feet' invert the pan onto 4 upside down heatproof glasses on the counter. This allows air to circulate around the cake while it cools. Let the cake cool in the pan completely, about 2 hours.
- 14. To remove the cake from the pan, run a knife around the edges and middle of pan, being careful to leave the golden crust intact.
- 15. Invert the pan onto a serving platter. If your pan has a removable bottom, use the knife to release the cake from the bottom of the pan.
- 16. Make the glaze (optional): stir the powdered sugar and lime juice until desired consistency. Pour it over the top and sides of the cake. (I used about a cup of powdered sugar and the juice from 2 1/2 limes. If too runny, add more powdered sugar. If too thick, add more juice.)
- 17. Slice, serve and enjoy!!