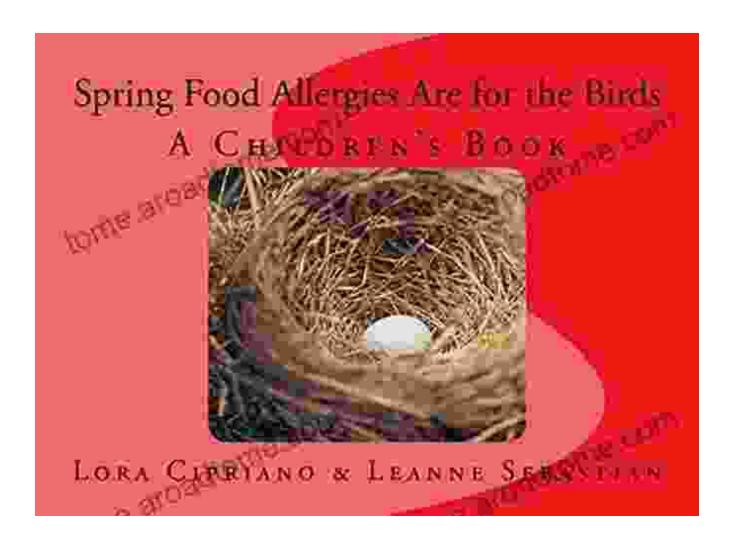
Spring Food Allergies Are For The Birds: A Bird's-Eye View of Spring Allergies



Spring is a beautiful time of year, but it can also be a challenging time for people with food allergies. The warmer weather brings with it a new crop of pollens and other allergens that can trigger allergic reactions.



Spring Food Allergies Are for the Birds by Lora Cipriano

★ ★ ★ ★ 4 out of 5
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Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

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One of the most common food allergies in spring is to tree nuts. Tree nuts include almonds, walnuts, pecans, and cashews. These nuts can be found in a variety of foods, including candy, baked goods, and trail mix.

Another common spring food allergy is to peanuts. Peanuts are not actually nuts, but they are legumes. They are often found in candy, peanut butter, and other snacks.

If you have a food allergy, it is important to be aware of the foods that you are eating. You should also avoid contact with the pollen of trees and other plants that can trigger your allergies.

Here are some tips for avoiding spring food allergies:

* Read food labels carefully. Look for foods that contain your allergens. * Avoid eating foods that are made with tree nuts or peanuts. * Wash your hands thoroughly after handling nuts or peanut products. * Avoid contact with the pollen of trees and other plants that can trigger your allergies. * If you have a severe food allergy, you should carry an epinephrine auto-injector (EpiPen) with you at all times.

Spring food allergies can be a nuisance, but they can also be dangerous. If you have a food allergy, it is important to take steps to avoid exposure to your allergens.

What are the symptoms of food allergies?

The symptoms of food allergies can vary depending on the person and the severity of the allergy. Some common symptoms include:

* Hives * Itching * Swelling * Difficulty breathing * Nausea * Vomiting * Diarrhea * Anaphylaxis

Anaphylaxis is a severe allergic reaction that can be life-threatening. Symptoms of anaphylaxis include:

* Difficulty breathing * Swelling of the throat * Hoarseness * Dizziness * Lightheadedness * Loss of consciousness

If you experience any of these symptoms, you should seek medical attention immediately.

How are food allergies diagnosed?

Food allergies are diagnosed through a combination of skin tests and blood tests. A skin test involves placing a small amount of the suspected allergen on the skin and then pricking the skin. If the person is allergic to the allergen, a small bump will form at the site of the prick.

A blood test can also be used to diagnose food allergies. A blood test measures the level of antibodies in the blood that are specific to the

allergen. If the person is allergic to the allergen, the blood test will show a high level of antibodies.

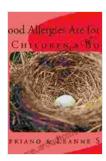
How are food allergies treated?

There is no cure for food allergies. The only way to prevent an allergic reaction is to avoid exposure to the allergen.

If you have a food allergy, you should carry an epinephrine auto-injector (EpiPen) with you at all times. An EpiPen is a device that delivers a dose of epinephrine, which can help to relieve the symptoms of anaphylaxis.

In addition to avoiding exposure to your allergens, there are a few things you can do to reduce the severity of your allergic reactions. These include:

* Eating a healthy diet * Getting regular exercise * Getting enough sleep * Managing stress



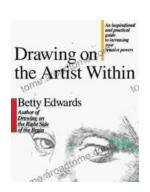
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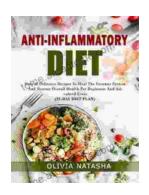
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