Salt and Serenity

Havarti and Strawberry-Rhubarb Grilled Cheese

Makes 2 sandwiches

- 3 cups strawberries, hulled and quartered
- 3-4 stalks rhubarb, sliced into $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick pieces (or 3 cups frozen rhubarb)
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 3 ounces Havarti cheese, thinly sliced or grated on the large holes of a box grater
- 4 slices of bread, sliced about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick. (Rye, Sourdough or any good quality bread)
- 2 Tablespoons unsalted butter, melted
- 1. Preheat oven to 350°F. In a medium sized bowl, mix together strawberries, rhubarb and sugar. Spread out on a parchment lined baking sheet and bake for about 30 minutes, until fruit is tender and falling apart. Transfer strawberry rhubarb mixture to a strainer, set over a bowl and allow it to drain for about 10 minutes. Discard juices. Coarsely mash the fruit and set aside.
- 2. Heat a 12-inch skillet over medium-low heat. Lay 2 slices of bread on the counter. Top each slice with ¼ of the cheese mixture, spreading it out to cover entire slice of bread. Top each with 2 tablespoons of strawberry-rhubarb compote. Spread it out. Top with remaining cheese and remaining 2 slices of bread. Gently press down on sandwiches. Brush the top of each sandwich with ¼ of the melted butter.
- 3. Brush remaining side of each sandwich with remaining butter. Turn down heat to low. Cook sandwiches until they are deeply golden brown and crisp. Be patient. It will take 5 to 10 minutes per side. Do not be tempted to crank up the heat. You will just burn the bread and fail to melt the cheese.
- 4. Slice in half with a serrated knife and serve.