Kale and Quinoa Pilaf

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1 cup quinoa

1 bunch kale, washed and chopped into 1" lengths

1 lemon, zested and juiced

2 scallions, minced (optional)

1 Tbsp toasted walnut oil or olive oil

3 Tbsp toasted pine nuts

 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup crumbled goat cheese or feta cheese

salt and pepper

- Bring 2 cups of salted water to a boil in a pot. Add the quinoa, cover, and lower the heat until it is just enough to maintain a simmer.
- Let simmer for 10 minutes, then top with the kale and re-cover. Simmer another 5 minutes, then turn off the heat and allow to steam for 5 more minutes.
- While the quinoa is cooking, take a large serving bowl and combine half of the lemon juice (reserving the other half), all of the lemon zest, scallions, walnut or olive oil, pine nuts, and cheese.
- Check the quinoa and kale when the cooking time has completed -- the water should have absorbed, and the quinoa will be tender but firm, and the kale tender and bright green. If the quinoa still has a hard white center, you can steam a bit longer (adding more water if needed). When the quinoa and kale are done, fluff the pilaf, and tip it into the waiting bowl with the remaining ingredients. Toss to combine, seasoning with salt and pepper, and the remaining lemon juice if needed.



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