Sesame Ginger Noodle Salad with Pan-Grilled Flank Steak

Who doesn't love a 2 for 1 combo? That's what this recipe is all about. You start by whisking up a super simple and delishhh sesame ginger sauce, which serves as both the marinade for your steak AND the sauce to dress a super yummy noodle salad that's chock full of veggies, herbs, and salty roasted peanuts. Like I said, 2 for 1!

Serves 6

INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 cup honey
- 1/2 cup soy sauce (or sub with gluten free <u>liquid aminos</u>)
- 3 tablespoons sesame oil
- 1 tablespoon fresh ginger, minced (or use ½ teaspoon ground ginger)
- 1.5-2lb flank steak
- 14 oz package <u>udon noodles</u>, cooked until tender (or sub with soba noodles or whole wheat spaghetti)
- Kosher salt and freshly ground pepper, to taste
- 2-3 carrots, thinly sliced (about 1 cup)
- 1 hothouse cucumber, halved lengthwise and thinly sliced (about 1 cup)
- 1 bunch scallions, green parts thinly sliced (about 1 cup)
- 1 cup dry roasted peanuts
- ½ cup chopped fresh cilantro
- 2 tablespoons toasted sesame seeds

PREPARATION

- 1. Make the sesame ginger sauce by whisking together the honey, soy sauce, sesame oil, and ginger in a medium bowl until emulsified.
- 2. Put the flank steak in a freezer-size ziplock bag and add ½ cup of the sesame ginger sauce. Close the bag tightly and make sure the steak is well covered in the sauce, then place in your fridge for at least 2 hours or overnight. Set the remainder of the sauce aside, as you will use it to dress the noodle salad.
- 3. To make the noodle salad, add the cooked noodles to a large bowl and combine with the carrots, cucumber, scallions, peanuts, cilantro, and toasted sesame seeds.
- 4. Add most of the remaining sesame ginger sauce over the noodles and toss well to combine (I like to reserve a bit of the sauce to drizzle over everything before serving).
- 5. To cook the flank steak, heat a grill pan (or an outdoor grill) over high heat on your stovetop.
- 6. Remove the flank steak from the ziplock bag and pat away excess sauce with a paper towel. Lightly season the steak with a bit of kosher salt and pepper.
- 7. Place the steak on your pre-heated grill pan and cook for 5 minutes on each side, or until the steak reaches your desired level of doneness.
- 8. Once the steak is cooked, remove from the pan, tent with foil, and allow to rest for 5 minutes. Slice the steak thinly and against the grain and serve with the noodle salad.