Chocolate Cake with Raspberry Sauce

This simple cake uses one of my favorite flavor combinations: chocolate and raspberries. It's even better served with homemade Crème Fraîche (page 390) or lightly sweetened Thick Yogurt Cream (page 407).

FOR THE CAKE:

- 1 cup whole wheat pastry flour
- 1 cup unbleached all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon fine sea salt
- 1¹/₂ cups pure maple syrup
- 1 cup water
- 1/2 cup pure olive oil or melted unsalted butter
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon cider vinegar
 - or rice vinegar

FOR THE SAUCE:

- 2 cups raspberries (fresh or frozen)
- 2 tablespoons pure maple syrup
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1. Preheat the oven to 350°F. Lightly oil and flour a 9-inch springform cake pan.
- 2. In a medium bowl, sift together the flours, cocoa, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon, and salt. Whisk to combine.
- 3. In a separate bowl, combine the maple syrup, water, oil, vanilla, and vinegar. Whisk to combine.
- 4. Using a rubber spatula, stir together the wet and dry ingredients, taking care not to over-

- 5. Scrape the batter into the cake pan and bake for 25 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted near the center comes out clean.
- 6. Transfer the cake pan to a rack and cool for 30 minutes before releasing the springform.
- 7. Meanwhile, make the sauce. In a blender or food processor, purée the raspberries. Strain to remove the seeds. Stir in the maple syrup and vanilla.
- 8. To serve, cut the cake into wedges and pour the sauce over them, or serve on the side.

YIELD: 8 SERVINGS