## Spare Ribs With Fermented Black Beans - Bonnie Zimmerman

One rack of spare ribs
3 crushed garlic cloves
3 tablespoons vegetable oil
1 cup dried shitake mushrooms
(soaked in water)
1/4 cup soy sauce
1 teaspoon sugar

1/4 cup fermented black beans
1/2 cup cold water
1 teaspoon corn starch (dissolved in 1 tablespoon of cold water or chicken stock)

Separate the ribs (ideally chop them cross-wise into 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch lengths) Sauté the ribs in the oil until they are lightly browned on both sides. Add garlic, soy sauce, sugar, black beans, and water. Stir to coat the spareribs.

Bring the mixture to a boil. Cover and simmer for at least 1 hour. Remove the spareribs from the pan; skim off as much fat from the sauce as you can.

Give the corn starch mixture a quick stir to recombine.

Add corn starch mixture to the pan and stir until it thickens.

Pour mixture over the ribs and serve at once.

NOTE: You can add vegetables like snow peas, onions, etc., during the last minute cooking of the ribs.