

**Pancakes** show up in “Peace Like a River” several times. After the opening goose hunting outing, the family heads into August and Birdie’s house for pancakes before heading back to bed. During the revivalist service at the Methodist church (the fateful night that Swede is abducted), Reuben and Bethany sneak out to the church kitchen and make pancakes. And the prospect of pancakes is discussed in the airstream trailer...until Swede empties the syrup bottle into Andreeson’s gas tank.

### **Fluffy Family-Pleasing Pancakes**

Makes 6 to 8 servings, about 14 (4- to 5-inch) pancakes

4 egg yolks  
¼ cup granulated sugar  
2 cups plain yogurt  
4 tablespoons melted butter  
1 ½ cups flour  
2 teaspoons baking powder  
1 teaspoon baking soda  
1 teaspoon salt  
3 egg whites

In bowl, combine egg yolks, sugar, yogurt and butter; blend until smooth.

In separate bowl, combine flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt.

In another bowl, beat egg whites with electric mixer until stiff.

Heat a pancake griddle.

Add dry ingredients to yogurt mixture, mixing just to incorporate. Gently fold in egg whites, adding one-fourth first to lighten the batter, then folding in the rest.

Check griddle; it is ready when drops of water splashed on the surface “dance.” Add butter or oil to hot griddle to coat the surface. (This may not be necessary if griddle is nonstick.)

Drop batter by heaping tablespoon onto griddle, spreading slightly with a spatula. (Batter will be thick.)

Turn once, letting pancakes turn golden brown on each side. Remove to a warm platter.

Serve with lots of real maple syrup!

