Seared Scallops & Warm Spinach Salad

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Ingredients:

• 9 ounces of baby spinach (about 8 cups lightly packed)

- 3/4 cup sliced almonds, toasted
- 5 Theolive oil
- · 2 Tbs salted butter
- 1 pound of medium size sea scallops
- 4 ounces roasted red peppers cut into thin strips (about 1/2 cup)
- · 2 medium shallots, sliced thin
- 1/8 tsp ground black pepper
- Salt and Pepper to taste
- 11/2 Tbs sherry vinegar

Preparation:

- 1. Place the spinach in a large mixing bowl, add the almonds and set aside.
- 2. Pat scallops dry and leave between paper towels while prepping pan. Before placing in pan salt and pepper to taste.
- 3. Pre-heat cast iron or heavy bottom skillet for several minutes and raise the temperature to medium high heat. Add 2 tablespoons olive oil and butter, allow to melt. Swirl pan to evenly coat.
- 4. Add the seafood, flat side down and cook about 2 1/2 to 3 minutes)
- 5. Use tongs and turn them over.
- 6. Cook until medium-rare (about 45 sec to 1 minute longer).
- 7. Transfer the scallops to a plate, season with salt to taste and set aside.
- 8. Lower heat to medium, add the remaining 3 tablespoons of olive oil into the skillet.
- 9. Add red peppers, shallots, 1/4 teaspoon of salt and pepper.
- 10. Cook until the shallots soften slightly (about 2 minutes).
- 11. Remove the skillet from the heat and swirl in the vinegar.
- 12. Pour the warm dressing over the spinach and toss to wilt.
- 13. Divide the spinach salad among 4 plates and serve with scallops.