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Cooking In Other Women's Kitchens: Domestic Workers In The South, 1865-1960 (The John Hope Franklin Series In African American History And Culture)



Synopsis

As African American women left the plantation economy behind, many entered domestic service in southern cities and towns. Cooking was one of the primary jobs they performed, feeding generations of white families and, in the process, profoundly shaping southern foodways and culture. Rebecca Sharpless argues that, in the face of discrimination, long workdays, and low wages, African American cooks worked to assert measures of control over their own lives. As employment opportunities expanded in the twentieth century, most African American women chose to leave cooking for more lucrative and less oppressive manufacturing, clerical, or professional positions. Through letters, autobiography, and oral history, Sharpless evokes African American women's voices from slavery to the open economy, examining their lives at work and at home.

Book Information

Series: The John Hope Franklin Series in African American History and Culture

Hardcover: 304 pages

Publisher: The University of North Carolina Press; 1 edition (October 11, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0807834327

ISBN-13: 978-0807834329

Product Dimensions: 9.5 x 6.4 x 0.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.3 pounds

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Customer Reviews

"Cooking in Other Women's Kitchens: Domestic Workers in the South, 1865-1960 is a must read. It shows the determination of working Black women who regarded their profession with dignity and fought for better wages before it became a universal women's movement.

I love this book! The cover is so powerful and beautiful. As a researcher, I am truly enjoying this book, and the historical knowledge. Cooking in Other's Women's Kitchens...is well written, and a tribute to the history of domestic workers.

This is an excellent book! It has incredible information on African American history in America. I would recommend the read to every citizen and even encourage it as required reading in public schools as part of their curriculum. The "American History" that is taught in this country is biased.

This well researched book is very interesting and an important part of our history. It is written in a clear, straight forward way which makes reading it easier. Lanella Gray

I didn't read yet this book yet. However, I'm very curious about. I read an article written by this author and published at OP-ED NYT page. I'm looking forward to having enough time to read it. Thanks.

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