Exceeds any Thing of the Kind Yet Published

by Hannah Glasse

Hannah Glasse (1708-1770) was born the illegitimate daughter of Isaac Allgood, a landowner in Northumberland, England. Allgood raised Glasse with the rest of his family, giving her a chance to enjoy the lavish lifestyle and food of country landowners. Hannah married soldier John Glasse when she was 16, and the Glasses served in an earl's household in Essex for several years before moving to London.

Hannah's husband was a free spender and Hannah began work on The Art of Cookery, Made Plain and Easy in 1746 to help her finances. To distinguish her cookbook from previous publications, her recipes contained easy-to-read-and-follow instructions, and methods to weigh and measure ingredients that did not require readers to purchase expensive equipment. Her recipes could be created in a basic middle-class kitchen; most other cookbooks available at the time were written for professional chefs and contained elaborate dishes designed for a mansion's or restaurant's cooking facilities.

The Art of Cookery's first edition was published in 1747. It was a great success, going through 20 editions in the 18th century and published continuously through 1843. Glasse's book was highly influential throughout its published life, and some modern British food writers call Glasse "the first domestic goddess" and "the mother of the modern dinner party.

The Art of Cookery brought Glasse financial security for a while, but it would not last. On May 27, 1754, she was declared bankrupt, and on October 29 of that year, Glasse had to sell her copyright in the book to bookseller Andrew Miller and his partners. Glasse was discharged from bankruptcy on January 11, 1755, but she fell into further financial trouble and on June 22, 1757, she was sent to debtor's prison, then released later that year.

Glasse wrote two subsequent books, The Servants Directory in 1757 and The Compleat Confectioner in 1760, but neither work was as successful as her first. Hannah Glasse died September 1, 1770, at age 62.

Evidence for Inclusion in Wythe's Library

From the Preface: If the art of Cookery in all its branches were not undergoing a process of evolution, and if its canons could be once and for ever fixed, as are those of certain scientific operations and mathematical procedures, the present work would have no raison d'etre; inasmuch as there already exist several excellent culinary text-books in the English language. But everything is so unstable in these times of progress at any cost, and social customs and methods of life alter so rapidly, that a few years now suffice to change completely the face of usages which at their inception ba The Art of Cookery was the dominant reference for home cooks in much of the English-speaking world in the second half of the 18th century and the early 19th century, and it is still used as a reference for food research and historical reconstruction. The book was updated significantly both during her life and after her death. All information for The Art of Cookery made Plain and Easy's wiki comes from the below links. Any source is valid, including Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn. Pictures, videos, biodata, and files relating to The Art of Cookery made Plain and Easy are also acceptable encyclopedic sources. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Art_of_Cookery_made_Plain_and_Easy.