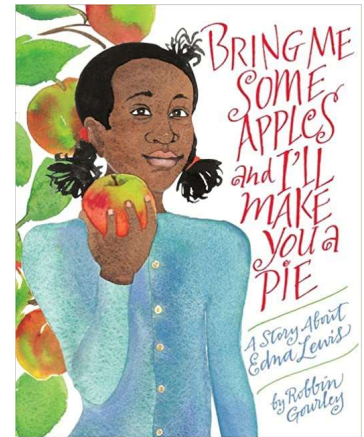


## More about Edna...

Edna Lewis was a renowned chef, culinary ambassador, and the godmother of Southern cooking (according to many)—and she created an unforgettable presence in the food industry.

### She took her first job as head chef in 1948.

Lewis became the head chef at Café Nicholson, located on East 57th Street in Manhattan. Lewis created a menu filled with simple Southern delicacies, and her cooking drew in a number of celebrated faces: Paul Robeson, William Faulkner, Tennessee Williams, Gore Vidal, Gloria Vanderbilt, Truman Capote, Richard Avedon, and many more. The restaurant was a huge success, and Lewis served as chef until her departure in 1954.



### Lewis has won a plethora of awards.

Throughout her years in the food industry, Lewis racked up a number of awards and accolades. Most notably, Lewis is recognized as being the inaugural recipient of the James Beard Living Legend Award (1995). She was also named Who's Who in American Cooking by *Cook's Magazine* (1986), named a Grand Dame by the international organization of female culinary professionals known as Les Dames d'Escoffier (1999), received the inaugural Lifetime Achievement Award from Southern Foodways Alliance (SFA) (1999), was inducted into the James Beard Cookbook Hall of Fame (2003), and so much more. Lewis passed away at the age of 89 in her home in Decatur, GA, on February 13, 2006. Posthumously, Lewis was also honored with the creation of a United States postal stamp in her image.

