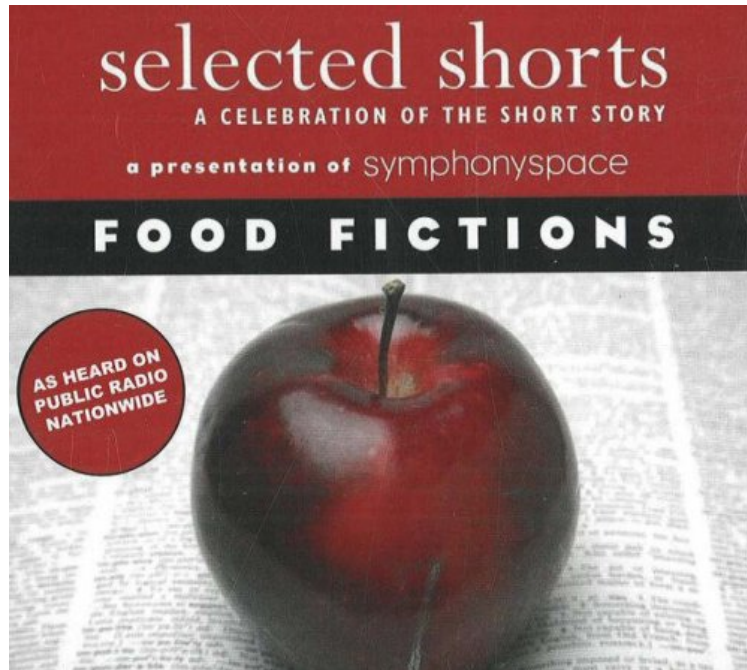




(Mobile library) Selected Shorts: Food Fictions (Selected Shorts: A Celebration of the Short Story)

## Selected Shorts: Food Fictions (Selected Shorts: A Celebration of the Short Story)

*Symphony Space*  
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#2522484 in Books 2007-04-01 Formats: Audiobook, CD Original language: English PDF # 3 5.00 x .77 x 5.50l, .40 Running time: 3600 seconds Binding: Audio CD | File size: 62.Mb

**Symphony Space : Selected Shorts: Food Fictions (Selected Shorts: A Celebration of the Short Story)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Selected Shorts: Food Fictions (Selected Shorts: A Celebration of the Short Story):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. If you LOVE stories.....these are a great buy!By mainemamaLove these selections. Perfectly presented.6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Mouth-WateringBy Neil S. PlakcyI loved the three CDs in this package-- well, I loved the first and third, and thought the second was just OK. The MFK Fisher story about an overzealous waitress at a small country restaurant in France was terrific, and the Damon Runyon story about an eating contest was also outstanding.Neil Plakcy, author of [[...]]2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. 3.5: mixed resultsBy T. BurketThe stories, at least some of them well known and/or published in elite outlets, are good enough, although not all of them appealed to my tastes. Chekhov's clocks in at under three minutes, so I'll disregard that one as not long enough to be developed into an interesting flow.Perhaps Roald Dahl's "Taste" was the most entertaining, with John Lithgow hamming it up in fine fashion. Unfortunately, I kind of guessed the punch line. "Sorry Fugu", about a desperate chef and the inescapable dominance of critics, was creative and very nicely done. I'll bet the author, T.C. Boyle, must have issues about critics in general, to bring such biting passion to the story.Of the remaining four, the first ("I Was Really Very Hungry", with a single diner and an energetic waitress) and the third ("Just a Little Bit More", about an old man for whom food was much of his life) didn't really engage my interests. However, I can easily see that different listeners might have a completely different perspective, given the variability among even this small collection. And at only three CDs, it's worth a try from the

library. The stories were narrated before an audience and thus the audio quality is not what you'd expect in a more formal studio production. I don't mean the occasional audience reaction, which is fine. It's more the somewhat tinny sound of listening in an auditorium.

Winner of AudioFile Magazine's Earphones Award for Exceptional Audio Performance Offering a mix of classic and contemporary fiction, this funny, sensual, delectable collection serves up literary morsels to please every food lover. Delicious tales about food and eating by authors such as M. F. K. Fisher, Anton Chekhov, and Damon Runyon, are read by distinguished actors such as Tony Roberts, Fionnula Flanagan, and Bradley Whitford. Many of the stories included in this three-CD collection were recorded at a Selected Shorts tour to the Getty Museum in Los Angeles in May of 2006.

From Publishers Weekly Starred . Seven food stories involving both gourmets or gourmands are found in this collection. In T.C. Boyle's "Sorry Fugu," performed by Tony Roberts, an Italian chef sets out to conquer the taste buds of a critic who never found anything to praise in her restaurant reviews. Roberts's chef has great range as he musters his staff with a booming voice and later coos seductively to the critic about the glories of pasta. The tables are turned on M.F.K. Fisher's culinary voyager in "I Was Really Very Hungry," when she falls into the hands of a server determined to have her diner try every delicacy ever produced by the chef, reverently called Matre Paul. Christina Pickles switches back and forth between the French waitress and the narrator adroitly. Two of the short stories involve food bets. In Roald Dahl's "Taste," two bon vivants place large bets on the identification of an unusual vintage. By the time John Lithgow has completed his description of the contest, the listener can taste and smell the wine. The best story in the collection is Damon Runyon's classic nugget, "A Piece of Pie," in which a Boston gambler pits a newcomer against New York's biggest glutton in an eating contest. John Shea's description of the food is a side-splitting feast. Though the stories are uneven, the performances would get five stars from any food critic, and the audio is worth its weight in pat. (Mar.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Best Audiobooks of 2007, AudioFile