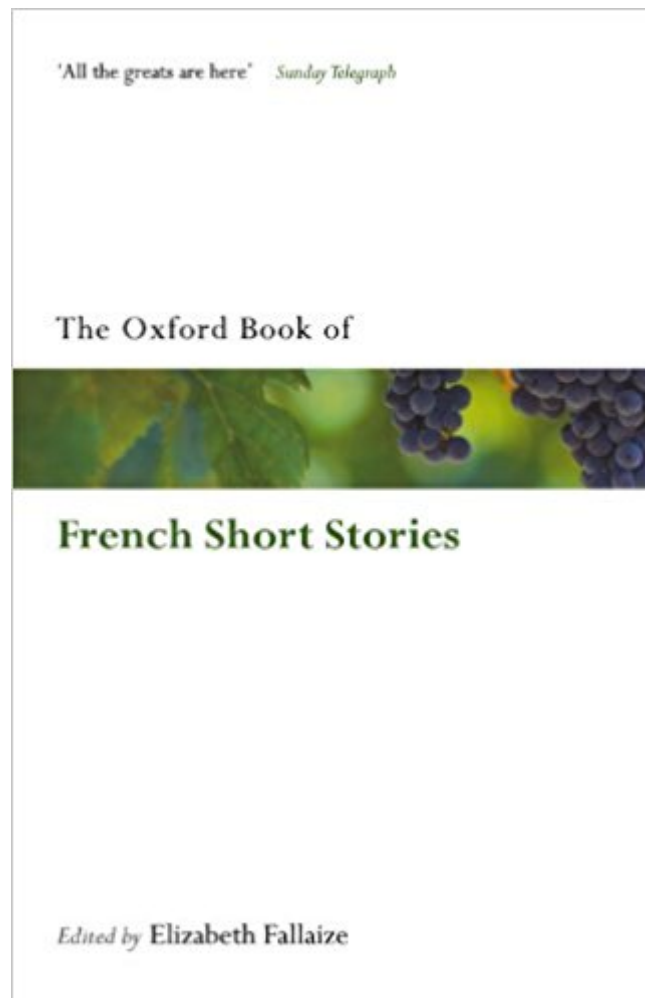




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The Oxford Book Of French Short Stories (Oxford Books Of Prose & Verse)



Synopsis

This collection of French short stories in translation expands our idea of French writing by including new stories by women writers and by authors of Francophone origin. Spanning the centuries from the late eighteenth to the late twentieth, the collection opens with a rumbustious tale from the Marquis de Sade, takes in the masters of the nineteenth century, from Stendhal and Balzac to Maupassant, and reaches to Quebec, Africa, and the French Caribbean in the twentieth century. Women writers include relatively well known figures such as Renee Vivien, Colette, and Beauvoir, and newer writers such as Assia Djebar, Christiane Baroche, and Annie Saumont. The French short story is a rich and diverse medium, but all the stories selected share a common characteristic: they make exciting reading.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a good, handy volume for those wanting to sample French writing without making a long-term commitment to a novel. The collection features good translations of several classics - including my favorite, Flaubert's "A Simple Heart", a sad yet sympathetic depiction of a wasted life - and features many modern authors unfamiliar to American readers. Although some of Prof. Fallaize's choices seem questionable - starting off with Sade seems a bit "au courant" to me and Simenon's story, "The Man On the Street", seems a bit out of place here - especially with no Hugo or Dumas! If you're going to have Simenon, why not these early popular writers? There are plenty of

highlights. Maupassant's "The Necklace", is, of course, a staple and the short story by Daudet about the Franco-Prussian War is devastating. Stendhal's "Vanina Vanini" encapsulates the revolutionary romanticism in the post-Napoleonic period while Saumont's recent story about the "Greatest Story Never Written" depicts how modern life, and especially the domestic demands that modern women continue to face, end up stifling creativity. There are others, of course, but I'd rather leave you to discover them for yourself.

Nicely chosen collection of some of the better known stories of the best French authors. Stories have been translated by British translators, however, so for an American reader you'll have the occasional glitch with British spelling or inclusion of an unfamiliar term.

fine product

This may be an entertaining and provocative selection of short stories. It was my first book purchase for a newly acquired Kindle. It may be my last. The transcription was corrupted by three or four typos on each page. Some were serious enough to make comprehension of the writer's intent a challenge. When I complained to , they suggested that there was a feature on Kindle whereby I could report typos. In other words, they were passing off the responsibility of proof-reading to their customers to be done for free. (One star indicates that I "hate" this product. I am not big into hating things. There is too much hate in this world already. I don't "hate" this product. I do believe that and Kindle have failed to provide any value for the money I have paid them.)

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