



Flash Fiction: 72 Very Short Stories

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"These stories are not merely flashes in the pan; there's pay dirt here!"
?DeWitt Henry, editor of *Ploughshares*

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

In this collection of 72 previously published stories--none longer than 750 words--Raymond Carver, Luisa Valenzuela, Margaret Atwood and John Updike mingle with talented lesser knowns to form a marvelously varied bouquet. Bruce Holland Rogers describes a man who pours his unrequited love into a poem comparing his beloved's thunderously exhilarating effect on him to "the Burlington Northern southbound out of Fort Collins." In Julia Alvarez's tale, set during the Cuban missile crisis, a young immigrant girl panics when she spots deadly fallout--until she learns it is snow, each flake unique, like a person. A man looking at an old photo of his parents sees not the second of promise captured on paper but the tragic consequences 20 years in the future, in Paul Lisicky's work. And Allan Gurganus's narrator shows that "despite persistent rumors to the contrary, my grandfather did not die driving a Toyota across his pond" in an attempt to prove the excellence of this car, for which he had conceived a bizarre passion. Savor this collection one minute at a time. James Thomas and Denise Thomas edit The Best of the West series; Hazuka is fiction editor of Quarterly West .

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Review

"In just a little more time than it will take you to read this paragraph you can sample any one of the seventy-two very short stories in this anthology of brilliant miniatures. Some of the selections have already become so-called 'modern classics,' while many others deserve to become much more widely known. You can space out your reading of these epiphanic delicacies over a week or even months. Dear Browser, I have to confess, I gobbled them up in a day!" (Alan Cheuse, National Public Radio)

"*Flash Fiction* is fun. I loved the variety and surprise of these stories. They should spark great dinner conversation, class discussion, and perhaps inspire some marathon writers to sprint and see what happens." (Jerome Stern, author of *Making Shapely Fiction*)

"*Flash Fiction* is purely and simply a delight. Lots of stars are mustered here, but best of all for my money are the newer names and voices that speak well to and for the future." (George Garrett, Henry Hoyns Professor of Creative Writing, University of Virginia)

About the Author

Tom Hazuka has co-edited *Flash Fiction* and *You Have Time for This*, and other anthologies. He teaches fiction writing at Central Connecticut State University.

James and Denise Thomas live in Ohio, where he teaches at Wright State University.

James Thomas has received two NEA grants and a Stegner Fellowship; he lives in Xenia, Ohio.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Homer Smith:

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Lucinda Brown:

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