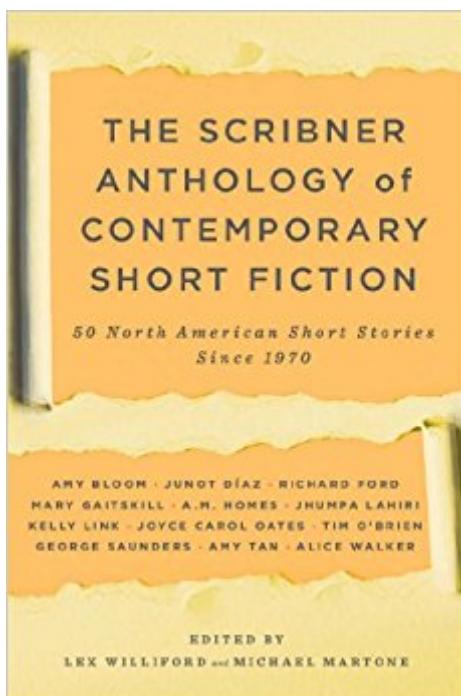


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# The Scribner Anthology Of Contemporary Short Fiction: 50 North American Stories Since 1970 (Touchstone Books (Paperback))



## **Synopsis**

Fifty remarkable short stories from a range of contemporary fiction authors including Junot Diaz, Amy Tan, Jamaica Kincaid, Jhumpa Lahiri, and more, selected from a survey of more than five hundred English professors, short story writers, and novelists. Contributors include Russell Banks, Donald Barthelme, Rick Bass, Richard Bausch, Charles Baxter, Amy Bloom, T.C. Boyle, Kevin Brockmeier, Robert Olen Butler, Sandra Cisneros, Peter Ho Davies, Janet Desaulniers, Junot Diaz, Anthony Doerr, Stuart Dybek, Deborah Eisenberg, Richard Ford, Mary Gaitskill, Dagoberto Gilb, Ron Hansen, A.M. Homes, Mary Hood, Denis Johnson, Edward P. Jones, Thom Jones, Jamaica Kincaid, Jhumpa Lahiri, David Leavitt, Kelly Link, Reginald McKnight, David Means, Susan Minot, Rick Moody, Bharati Mukherjee, Antoina Nelson, Joyce Carol Oates, Tim O'Brien, Daniel Orozco, Julie Orringer, ZZ Packer, Annie Proulx, Stacey Richter, George Saunders, Joan Silber, Leslie Marmon Silko, Susan Sontag, Amy Tan, Melanie Rae Thon, Alice Walker, and Steve Yarbrough.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Over the years I've read a boatload of short stories. I can't say my judgement is always right the first time. Some stories entertain me wonderfully only to leave me dissatisfied in the aftermath. Other stories mystify or disappoint me when I first read them only to leave me thinking I've discovered one of the greatest short stories ever at some later sitting. I've read the "Best American

"Short Stories" over the years and for at least half of them it's a question of whether I can push myself through to the end. None of the stories in this collection is that way. They grip me from the first and leave me thinking about them long after I've finished. Some I've read when they were first released, others in collections and many I was unfamiliar with. Some of these stories have led me to seek out the author unfamiliar to me and seek out more of his work. I recommend this collection highly.

I needed to read this for a class I was taking in college. However, apart from the class, the stories were all dark, slow, and depressing. While, I can look past that I wish the character development was more complex and there would have been lots of different moods of short stories not just dark ones. I did like that it including lots of genres of short stories since that's pretty uncommon to find in one book. But, since I read a lot, I was hoping that this book would contain more short stories than ones I have read in the past, but it contained many of the same ones I had already read before. I ended up buying a different short story anthology and loving that one much better.

This book was required for an upper level honors class that I took in high school. I actually found that this book held my interest and contained a great deal of varying stories that really grabbed my attention. Since it is an anthology, it exposed me to a lot of literature during a single term. This book seemed to make it extremely easy to build a course around it as we read around one to three short fiction stories at a time per assignment. I would definitely recommend this book to both students and professors. The best part is that it came at a very reasonable cost.

Very diverse group of stories which makes for some very interesting reads. Not all of the stories were to my taste, but I could definitely appreciate the literary devices employed within each. This was a textbook for an English class so that is what I am basing my review off of, not as a casual reader. Though I did enjoy this collection of stories.

This is a wonderful collection of short fiction! Simply wonderful! A few of the pieces in the previous edition were replaced in this edition to its detriment but still very much worth the price and worth reading. Every story is a gem!

There are two so-called "editions" of this anthology, one from 1999 and the other from 2007. But to call them different editions, and not simply different volumes, does a great disservice to anyone

ordering this book for classroom use. Only ten or so of the stories are the same; many authors from 1999 are left out of the new edition and, inexplicably, some authors in the 1999 edition have new stories in 2007. Have things really changed so much that Sandra Cisneros is now better represented by "Never Marry a Mexican" than by "Woman Hollering Creek"--both of which, after all, appeared in her 1991 collection *Woman Hollering Creek and Other Stories*. Junot Diaz and Annie Proulx's selections have also changed. And Amy Hempel no longer makes the cut? I actually think both anthologies are quite good--I could teach from either of them, or both. But make sure you know what you're ordering. The title and packaging by Sribner's is asking for nothing but confusion.

The Scribner Anthology has been utilized in my creative fiction writing lab at my university. So far, 90% of the stories I have read have been wonderful. The book contains many different styles of writing and types of stories. From vulgar, to sentimental, to disastrous, there is a story in here for everyone. I definitely recommend it.

I teach intro to lit at college level, and really like the selection. It's not the same old same old as "educational" publishers seem to have in all their moldy, overpriced anthologies. Also, have checked out some of the "Best Short Story of [insert year]" anthologies--these always seemed hit or miss, some good stories, but a lot of experimental stuff. Reasonable price for the number of stories and the diverse genres/perspectives included.

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