



Parker: Selected Stories

Dorothy Parker, Elaine Stritch (Read by)

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Parker's quips and light verse have become embedded in the American literary landscape. In these selected stories is the chance to draw on her insight into the social and emotional realities of life. 2 cassettes.

Parker: Selected Stories Details

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Author : Dorothy Parker , Elaine Stritch (Read by)

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From Reader Review Parker: Selected Stories for online ebook

Jamie says

I had to write a paper on Dorothy Parker in high school. I loved her poetry then, and I enjoyed these short stories just as much!

Jillian says

Love Dorothy Parker-books by her, books about her...

Jessie says

Struck by how sad the women are and how stuck in their sadness. Funny moments but left me feeling melancholy.

Chrissie says

These stories:

"Big Blond"
"Too Bad"
"The Song of the Shirt"
"Mr. Durant"
"From the Diary of a New York Lady"
"The Standard of Living"
"The Garter"

Gary Lee says

For such a proto-feminist icon, most of Parker's female characters come across as little more than harpies and hysterical goldiggers.

But, her stories were enjoyable; and Parker seems to have laid the groundwork for someone like Shirley Jackson (one of my favorite short story writers).

CBW Librarian says

Elaine Stritch kills it, especially in 'From the Diary of a New York Lady.'

Chad says

Brilliantly funny wither read by brilliantly funny lady!!

Carol ?? says

Read here [link](#)

The Waltz

Another awesome find, where Parker appears to be in my (younger) head. This reminds me so much of dances in my teens, held at a local hall.

Never seen anyone realise the inner voice and what young women present to the world - because we want(ed) to be thought "nice."

Genius writing.

Maggie says

... "as intimate as the rustle of sheets"

Hilarious. From her sketches alone:

"...if people don't like her frankness, they can lump it. She must either speak her mind or else she must not speak at all. There are many who feel that she makes an unfortunate choice."

"...be freed from from any effort at entertaining. It would really amaze Mrs. Frisbie to learn how many of her acquaintance are wholly in sympathy with the idea."

"If ever she were brought face to face with a germ she would promptly lose consciousness from sheer terror. So, one rather images, would teh germ."

"The fact remains she would make a splendid wife for some man."

"..if she had her way, she would be with the young people all the time. Quite a formidable barrier to her ever attaining her wish is the feeling of the young people in the matter."

"The unfortunate part of it is that one forgets all about him long before the next opportunity of seeking him out occurs."

"...Mrs Larkin admits that her friends would be wholly at a loss should she not see them...How true it is that a great sacrifice is grossly unappreciated in this world."

"...a treat to listen to Mrs. Comee's conversation. Mrs. Commee herself generously grants one every possible opportunity of enjoying the privledge."

Lidiab says

Every woman should read this sassy novel.

Kris V B says

A sad, wonderful, lost writer.

Claire O'Brien says

Maybe my expectations were too high, but I was a bit disappointed by this collection of Dorothy Parker stories. There was wit there and some moments of insight, but sometimes they were a bit too obvious and often very depressing.

Sue says

Parker: Selected Stories, read by Elaine Stritch, is one of the best audio books I have heard. Stritch does an absolutely masterful job of interpreting Parker's cast of characters.

I have the goal each year of including among my reading one or two authors or classics that I have never read – and am regretful of not having done so. That I had never read Dorothy Parker is downright embarrassing, and this audio book was a revelation. Author and reader are a perfect pair: Stritch's slightly gravelly voice is matched to a collection of Parker's melancholy New York types from the 1920s-1940s.

I had only known Dorothy Parker through some of her famous witty and caustic quotes, and I had expected something more light hearted. These are dark stories. Young women yearn for love, society women have brittle desires for elegance, men cannot move from office to domesticity. Most memorably, the heart-breaking "Big Blonde" loses everything because of alcohol. Yet there is a wistfulness and sympathy for each lost soul amid the darkness. Parker must have cared for her characters, especially the women, who are mostly at the mercy of husbands, lovers, and bosses.

There's an interesting side note. Parker left her estate to Martin Luther King, Jr., whose civil rights work Parker admired. At King's death, the estate was bequeathed to the NAACP. So that's where the royalties go. I read a bit about her life and her passions, and I think she'd be pleased.

Ryan Mishap says

A few gems lost in the muck of tale after tale of dysfunctional upper-class relationships.
