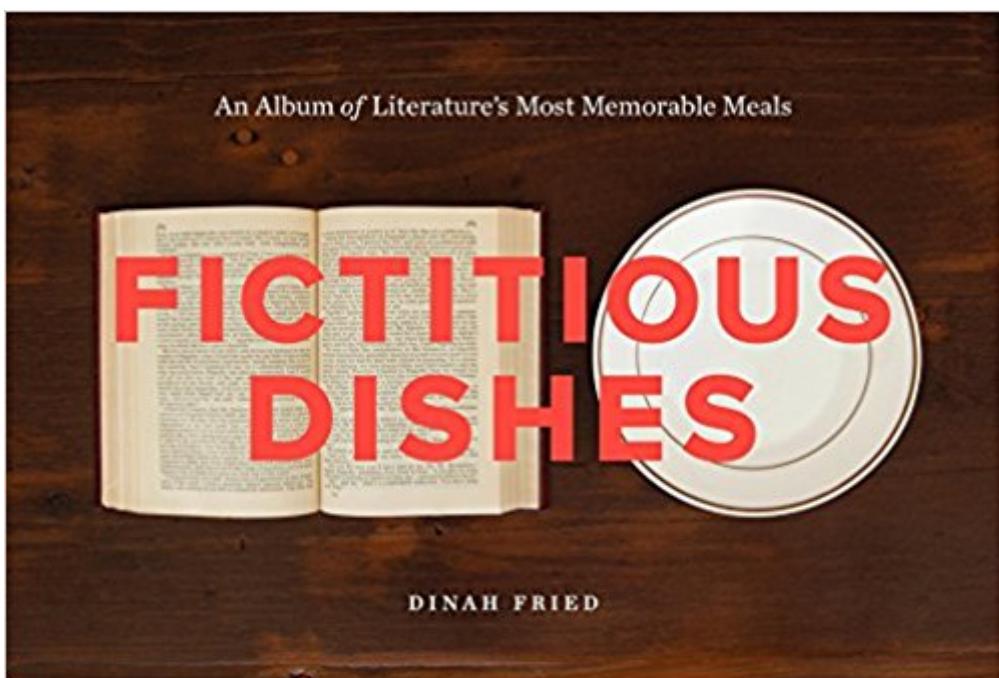


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Fictitious Dishes: An Album Of Literature's Most Memorable Meals



Synopsis

Fifty Iconic Culinary Scenes from Literary Classics Sure to Delight Readers, Foodies, and Photo-Junkies Alike

Fictitious Dishes serves up a delectable assortment of photographic interpretations of culinary moments from contemporary and classic literature. Showcasing famous meals such as the madcap tea party from Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, the watery gruel from Oliver Twist, the lavish chicken breakfast from To Kill a Mockingbird, the stomach-turning avocado-and-crabmeat salad from The Bell Jar, and the seductive cupcakes from The Corrections, this unique volume pairs each place setting with the text from the book that inspired its creation. Interesting food facts and entertaining anecdotes about the authors, their work, and their culinary predilections complete this charming book, which is sure to whet the appetites of lovers of great literature and delicious dishes.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Dinah Fried is a designer, art director, and writer. A graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design, her work has been recognized by and featured internationally in various media, such as Bon Appétit, The Guardian, the Huffington Post, New York magazine, The New Yorker, National Public Radio, and Andrew Sullivan's blog The Dish. Her design clients have included RISD, Chronicle Books, Persea Books, Etruscan Press, Oxford University Press, the School of Visual Arts, and ZONA, among others. Her work has won an award from Print, and Graphic Design USA named her a "person to watch" in 2012. She lives in San Francisco.

I wish offered the option of half stars as I would have given this a 3 1/2 star rating. I absolutely loved the concept of the book, the selection of stories, the fun tips/facts, and the excerpts, but admit I was a bit disappointed by the actual execution of the photos. For starters, I was definitely expecting this to be a full-size book for displaying on a coffee table or the like. It's actually small--about the size of a paperback novel. I could forgive that, but honestly, the photos also feel a bit dull--they lack the vibrancy and style I typically expect from modern day food photography. I'm a food blogger and writer, so I spend much of my days reading blogs and cookbooks; I felt like most of these photos didn't really measure up to the quality of work that is available out there. The styling and colors were a bit retro and simple, which worked for some pictures, but not others (especially the ones that were meant to show abundance or wealth). There was no excitement in the photos--fine for the bowl of gruel in Oliver Twist, but certainly not what I'd expect from some of the other books. Most bothersome was the way that the photos didn't always match the descriptions. The bright yellow American cheese in Holden Caulfield's Swiss cheese sandwich was an obvious discrepancy. I have no idea what the dish in the American Psycho picture was meant to be. It reminds me a little bit of that disappointment you get when a movie based on a book doesn't quite live up to the original words.

I was so excited by the promise the book held. But it left me wanting, wanting someone else to have written it someone more in love with the words that describe food and with food itself, someone who could do more than arrange many different plates in a similar fashion, one who understands the bland whiteness of Holden Caulfield's Swiss cheese sandwich, and who would understand that yellow cheese is just not right. Someone who knows a day be is not just a beef stew and that the elaborate intricate beauty of a full English tea is not a bunch of cakes crammed in a plate. Also The little footnotes were useless, a recipe would've been fantastic. Reading this was like ordering a dish that promises delight but leaves you feeling a bit queasy and still hungry.

I had been wanting this book forever so when I saw it was available on Kindle I was ecstatic. What disappointed me is the writer who wants the reader to believe she put so much detail into setting up these meals actually overlooked many details. For instance the meal for The Catcher In The Rye was supposed to be circa 1951 but it shows a container of blue packets of Equal and pink packets of Sweet'n Low neither of which were available in 1951.

I loved seeing the foods from various classics pictured. A neat thing to browse through. I wish recipes were included though.

I expected this to be a full-sized coffee table book. It is a wonderful book, but is it only slightly larger than my hand. I was sorely disappointed by this purchase.

I love the idea for this book, but there is just a photo and bit of info about each reference and dish. Perhaps I should have read the details more carefully, but I was expecting recipes with each dish. I planned to use the to make literary dishes for my book club. This is just an ok photo book. It's clear the author is passionate and that's a great, but I wish there was more to the book. If there's another edition, perhaps the author can post recipes on a website.

An amazing concept for a book with an unbelievably visually and intellectually satisfying execution. Some of my absolute favorites are in here!

I bought this for a gift for a cook. Didn't give it to her because it is more for a reader. (Unless the cook is fond of recipes featuring four graham crackers and a mug of milk - total.) The fault is in my expectations. I thought the book would be much larger. It is downright tiny. (Read the dimensions, Doofus.) I also expected recipes from real meals of literature. None. Clearly the author had fun gathering the props for overhead shots of place settings and food -- of sorts. (See graham crackers.) These were for a design-school project and have that clever-undergraduate look. Nicely arranged but not particularly creative. No real surprises or aha moments. The title is the best feature of the book. Enjoy it in passing. But pass.

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