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THE SECOND  
PENGUIN  
BOOK OF  
ENGLISH  
SHORT  
STORIES

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*Edited by*  
CHRISTOPHER  
DOLLEY



# *The Second Penguin Book of English Short Stories*

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CHRISTOPHER DOLLEY



FOREIGN LANGUAGES PRESS

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## EDITORIAL FOREWORD

It is now five years since the first *Penguin Book of English Short Stories* appeared and during that time companion volumes containing French, Italian and American stories have appeared. Their publication has demonstrated that, far from continuing its supposed decline, the short story is enjoying a revival all the more encouraging when viewed against the gloom surrounding the future of the literary novel.

The first *Penguin Book of English Short Stories* set out to survey the history of the genre in its present form and inevitably the need for compression made the choice difficult. I am grateful therefore that this volume allows me to widen the range of authors representative of the best of English short story writing and at the same time to bring the selection forward in time so that it includes more writers who are still at the height of their powers.

C. D.

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*Muriel Spark (1918- )*

YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN THE MESS

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*Kingsley Amis (1922- )*

INTERESTING THINGS

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