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Quitters, Inc.



Synopsis

Read by Eric Roberts. Dick Morrison's life has become a nightmare of addictions, filling his days with overeating, overworking, and smoking way too much. When an old friend tells him about a surefire way to quit, he's more than willing to give it a shot. But what Dick doesn't know is that Quitters, Inc. demands a high price from anyone who strays from their rigid rules: like a few volts of electricity for their nearest and dearest ... or maybe a missing thumb? Forced to choose between his desperate need for cigarettes and the dire consequences of giving in to his addiction, Dick must decide just how important another drag really is.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This story has stayed with me ever since I first was exposed to it at the movies in 1985. It is one of three short stories within 'Stephen King's Cat's Eye', with James Woods playing 'Dick' in the Quitters, Inc segment. As this particular story had such an effect on me, it was a challenge to not imagine James Woods while listening to Eric Roberts. Fortunately, Eric Roberts did a great job, and allowed me to be absorbed by this wonderfully twisted story again!

Ever tried to quit smoking? Did you fall off the wagon or gain weight when you did? Well Stephen King has found an almost sure fired way to quit. All you have to do is go to Quitters, Inc. In this story, Dick is a heavy smoker. He comes across an old friend who was a smoker as well. As they are chatting, Dick finds out that his friend has quit smoking, lost weight and feels better than ever by going to this place called Quitters, Inc. After much contiplating, Dick finally decides to go. To his

surprise though, he is in for more than he bargained for. He finds out that he has to quit smoking cold turkey and if he doesn't the consequences could be horrific. It's not like they are going to hurt him but they will torture his wife and then his son instead. Not only does he have to quit smoking but he has to keep his weight down and keep in good shape. Are they just bluffing? Can he make it or will his family endure the pain for his habit?

This is an audio tape of one of Stephen King's great short stories. I first saw it on the TV series "The Twilight Zone." Talk about being careful about what you wish for. Well, this is the story for you. It is about a person with an addiction who is promised a sure fire method of curing it. I don't want to give away the plot. But if you have not already read the story or seen it, you should get the audio version. It makes a short trip to or from work fun. The time will fly by. You will just love it.

Short, but effective. In his usual way, he uses suspense and "fright" to bring home an important part about how our negative behavior adversely affects those we love and yet we continue because of the strength of our weakness. Very interesting read.

Read by Eric Roberts Duration: 45 minutes. It is true that with all of Stephen King's lengthy tales, my favorites are usually the shorter ones and Quitters, Inc. is probably Stephen King's shortest story. It was originally part of his book of short stories Night Shift and was one of three stories in the 1985 movie Cat's Eye. The premise of the story is really cleverly simple. What if you went to a non-smoking clinic that was run by the mafia? Dick Morrison meets an old friend who has kicked the smoking habit who tells him that if he visits Quitters, Inc. they will get him off cigarettes and change his life for the better. Morrison laughs off the suggestion but eventually does go for an initial consultation out of curiosity about their methods. I cannot divulge any more about this very short story without introducing spoilers except to say that their methods are anything but AMA approved, but they do work. The story is read by Academy award nominated actor Eric Roberts. Roberts gives an understated performance, like a man telling a story at the end of a bar after a long night. But, it works perfectly with the characterization of the mobster counselor at Quitters, Inc.

I love Eric Roberts and Stephen King...the story was very good. However, there was only 1 CD which was disappointing. The only way I could discern how many CD's were included was to squint and read the number on the outside of the CD case, which I did after the fact. Mea culpa, but I think the description should state the number of CD's included for \$9.95.

A GREAT LITTLE STORY. I SAT IN THE CAR IN THE DRIVEWAY FOR 20 MINS TO HEAR THE ENDING, I DIDN'T WANT TO WAIT.

Quitters, Inc. was the first audio book I'd listened to by Stephen King. Eric Roberts does an excellent job of narrating the story. I liked the flow of the story and the ambiguity at the first of the novel...it reminded me of the movie, "The Game" with Michael Douglas. The plot however, I found predictable. From the moment the main character sat down to talk to Mr. Donatti, and asked if he loved his wife, I knew the rest of the story. I wish there had been more character development but I suppose that isn't possible in such a short story. Nicely written but I would have enjoyed more suspense. I did expect Mr. Morrison to slip up a bit more. The short story that stuck with me for over 20 years was "Survivor Type" by Stephen King. It had gore and a comedic darkness.

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