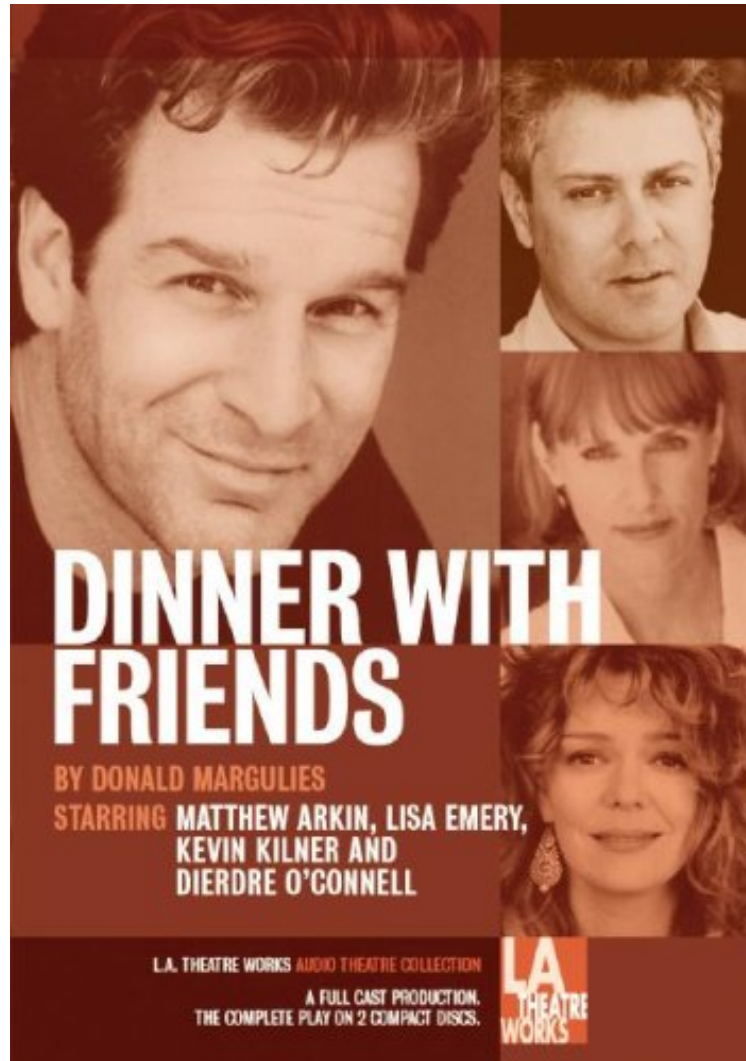


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## Dinner with Friends (Library Edition Audio CDs)

*Donald Margulies*

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#5320313 in Books 2004-09-01PDF of discs: 2Formats: Audiobook, CD, UnabridgedOriginal language:EnglishPDF # 2 7.50 x 5.50 x 1.00l, Running time: 6000 secondsBinding: Audio CD | File size: 20.Mb

**Donald Margulies : Dinner with Friends (Library Edition Audio CDs)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Dinner with Friends (Library Edition Audio CDs):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. "The thing is, you never know what couples are like when they're alone; you never do." Gabe, page 30.By Frank L. Greenagel IIThis play is about two couples in their 40s: Gabe Karen and Tom Beth. It won the 2000 Pulitzer Prize for Drama because it dealt with the dissolution of a marriage and how it effects both those getting the divorce and their closest friends.Tom has grown tired of just sharing the responsibilities of living with Beth: paying the mortgage, maintaining the house, driving the kids around, figuring out what to eat. He

expresses a loneliness from her lack of touching him. Beth claims she is taken totally by surprise and is devastated when he leaves her. Gabe and Karen hear Beth's side first. Karen is furious with Tom. Gabe and Tom go way back, so Gabe talks to Tom alone in a few subsequent scenes. Tom's complaints resonant with Gabe a little, and Karen is fearful about what Beth's situation says about herself. Gabe and Karen are never in crisis, but their examination is interesting. There is a flashback to 12 years earlier when Beth and Tom met, and it is a nice history after the first act. The dialogue is good. The play could cut a few lines, but overall, it handles the subject well. If you are interested in reading other plays about divorce, I suggest *Annapurna* and *The Retreat From Moscow*. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Every Karen Needs A Beth By John F. Rooney "Dinner with Friends" by Donald Margulies is a play with some very telling lines, with four yuppie friends (two couples) having seismic marital stress at homes in Connecticut and Martha's Vineyard. They are not a very likeable bunch. They're self-absorbed and frivolous people. The two men Tom and Gabe have known each other for twenty-four years since their college days. Gabe and his wife Karen, annoying and cloying foodies, are the ones who introduced Tom and Beth. When the play starts Tom and Beth have been married for twelve years, have two children, but they are splitting up. If forced to list the characters in levels of obnoxiousness, Tom would have to come at the top of the list followed by Beth, then Karen, and ending up the pack would be Gabe. They all seem like very vain, snobbish brittle people. Gabe is a rather passive person, and his wife Karen is more of an activist, almost a control-freak as some character in the play describes her. The break-up of Beth and Tom's marriage sends shock waves under Gabe and Karen's, in a way threatening its survival. Beth is called high-strung. When she finds a new friend that she wants to marry in place of Tom, she says to Karen, "you need me to be a mess; you're invested in it. Every Karen needs a Beth." A great line. Beth goes on to say, "We can't all be like you, Karen. God knows I've tried. No matter how much I stir, my soup still sticks to the pot." I must admit that I never saw the play performed, and good actors can change your perceptions of the characters and the play enormously. Some character who come off poorly in the reading can win you over in the performance. It's a well-constructed, well-written play, but when you don't care that much for the people in it, you can't get emotionally involved. The character of tightly-bound Tom is the catalyst for the play's action, and his treatment of wife Beth seems brutal and abusive. Wild card Tom says, "rage can be an amazing aphrodisiac." The play starts off in a predictable arc because you can guess that Beth's distraction is due to trouble in her marriage, but it becomes more original and inventive as it evolves. There are some echoes of Albee in all this. Margulies wrote the more recent four-character play "Time Stands Still" which I reviewed for . It also has two couples who are on different tracks in life. I think "Time" is a better play. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. love it By mallory loved this book! needed it for theatre class! read the whole thing in one day.

Winner of the 2000 Pulitzer Prize for drama, *Dinner With Friends* examines the lives of two couples and the repercussions of divorce on their friendships. With wit, compassion and consummate skill, playwright Donald Margulies weighs the cost of breaking up and of staying together. A L.A. Theatre Works full-cast performance featuring: Matthew Arkin, Lisa Emery, Kevin Kilner and Deirdre O'Connell.

From the Inside Flap Winner of the 2000 Pulitzer Prize for drama, *Dinner with Friends* examines the lives of two couples and the repercussions of divorce on their friendships. With wit, compassion and consummate skill, playwright Donald Margulies weighs the cost of breaking up and of staying together. An L.A. Theatre Works full-cast performance featuring Matthew Arkin, Lisa Emery, Kevin Kilner and Deirdre O'Connell. About the Author Donald Margulies received the 2000 Pulitzer Prize for Drama for *DINNER WITH FRIENDS*. His many plays include *COLLECTED STORIES*; *SIGHT UNSEEN*; *THE MODEL APRTMENT* and more. His adaptation of Sholem Aschs Yiddish classic, *GOD OF VEGEANCE*, had its world premiere at A Contemporary Theatre in Seattle. His plays have been performed at major theatre across the United States and around the world. Mr. Margulies is an alumnus of New Dramatists and seves on the council of The Dramatists Guild of America. He has developed screenplays for HBO, NBC, Paramount, Propaganda, Touchstone, Warner Bros., TriStar and Universal. He lives with his wife and son in New Haven, Connecticut, where he teaches playwriting at Yale University.