



Flash in the Pan: Life and Death of an American Restaurant

David Blum

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“Finally back in print, *Flash in the Pan* is the original—and still the best—reportage on the life and death of an American restaurant, a ground level view of every phase of its life. From the early, hope filled planning stages to the last, humiliating moments, it's a tragi-comic epic of hubris and human folly. Painfully hilarious and even more painfully true. This is a welcome reissue of a restaurant classic that should be read by every culinary and food service student in America and sit comfortably next to Orwell's *Down and Out* on every shelf.”

—Anthony Bourdain, author of *Kitchen Confidential*

In 1990, journalist David Blum got backstage access to the life and death of The Falls, a downtown Manhattan restaurant that captured the 1980s in all its extravagant excess. Its owners—a tanned, Brahmin barkeep and a handsome Irish firefighter from Queens—partnered with movie star pal Matt Dillon to cater to New York's most glamorous models, actors, and writers. *Flash in the Pan* captured in hilarious detail the quick decline and disastrous fall of The Falls, and has become a classic cautionary tale for anyone who might harbor the fantasy of opening a restaurant.

David Blum is the editor of Kindle Singles, the storefront for high quality longform writing on Kindle. He was previously the editor in chief of *The Village Voice* and has written for *New York* magazine, *Esquire*, *Vanity Fair*, *The New Yorker*, and *The New York Times Magazine*. *Flash in the Pan*, first published in 1992, was his first book.

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