

Tiffany Saka

Carrie Emerson-Coyle

English 110C

Nov 29 2018

### Food Review: Handsome Biscuit

I woke up excited for class, we were finally going to Handsome Biscuit. I have been prolonging visiting it when I heard that we were doing a food review and I had very high expectations. So, on that Tuesday morning on November 8th, I walked down Monarch Way to Handsome Biscuit. It was a short less than ten-minute walk for me because I lived so close and I would often pass by Handsome Biscuit, 4200 Monarch Way, Norfolk, VA 23508, on my way to other restaurants along this path. The leaves had changed colors and had fallen to the ground. It was only almost 9:30ish and the streets were quiet. I texted my friend Jailyn to meet up and we walked the rest of the way there together wondering what was in store for us at Handsome Biscuit.

As we entered, the energy in the restaurant was lively. There were a couple of our classmates who were in line, but I didn't see our teacher till I walked further into the restaurant. I signed in and walked to the ever-growing line to decide what I was going to purchase. While in line, I would constantly glance at the blackboard menu. There were so many options to choose from, but I didn't want to choose something that I could get at any other restaurant like a Shorty. So, I glanced at the open kitchen as the man in the kitchen made other people's orders everything just looked so appetizing, I didn't want to buy something I didn't like. Then I asked different people line what they were going to get until I finally decided what I wanted. I decided to get the Hella Fitzgerald, blackberry soda, and a Hash Brown Krisp that I shared with Jailyn. I told the

cashier and she was kind and patient with me even when I stumbled on my order. Then I paid \$11.47 for my food and waited a couple minutes for my food to be delivered to me at my table.

The Hella Fitzgerald includes: chicken, bacon, shredded cheddar, and gravy. It looked like a food mountain the way everything was just piled on there, but it was organized to where none of the food fell off the biscuit. After I scraped off the gravy and shredded cheddar cheese at first glance the chicken had a light darkish brown color with around bolder like shape. The red-eye sausage gravy was a beige color with little black dots that looked like black pepper. The shredded cheddar cheese looked like any type of processed cheese that a person could get from Walmart with its golden but pasty looking texture. The bacon looked crispy with its dark brownish-reddish color with some of the ending strips being slightly burnt. The sweet potato biscuit had a powdery dry look to it and it had little cracks, so I thought it would be dry and I would need my drink to wash it out of my throat. Overall, it was pleasantly plated with the biscuit in the center and some of the shredded cheese and runny gravy sprinkled and dripped on the plate.

The blackberry cherry soda and Hash Brown Krisp were my side and drink. The soda was a burgundy color with carbonated bubbles showing through the clear plastic to go cup. The Hash Brown Krisp were beautifully plated with what looked like a half-cut Waffle House hash brown. It looked dark brown, golden, and slightly burnt all at the same time with a mushy looking pale white interior. Then finally it was topped with two nature green parsley leaves.

The Hella Fitzgerald overall smelled was absolutely mouthwatering. It was easy for me to cut it in half and eat it. When I took a bite, I immediately tasted the chicken, gravy, and sweet potato biscuit. The chicken was crunchy and moist it didn't taste tough like I thought it would because of the bolder-like shape. I disliked the lumpiness of the gravy, but the creamy meatiness of the gravy reminded me of Thanksgiving. The sweet potato biscuit was soft but hard at the end

with a subtle smell of sweet potato. The bacon tasted like flimsy jerky and the ends were slightly charred, I enjoyed it though because I like my bacon slightly overdone, so it can acquire the crunchy texture which it accomplished. The cheese was not an acute part of the biscuit, if there wasn't any cheese on it there would be no difference because of the overwhelming flavor of everything else. In total, I would give the Hella Fitzgerald a 9/10 and I would buy it again because it was enjoyable, but I would leave out the gravy.

My blackberry cherry soda was marvelous. I enjoyed the carbonated tangy flavor and aroma of the beverage. The Hash Brown Krisp although beautifully displayed and the first bite of it was good the repulsive aftertaste made me want to spit out the remnants in my mouth and gargle some mouthwash. I think because of the use of onions overpowered the hash brown and because the inside looked and tasted mushy, moist and undercooked that is why the onions were so pungent. I would never get the Hash Brown Krisp again, but the blackberry cherry is now my new favorite drink from there. I appreciated the fact that the service was fast and friendly and when I was eating, they came and check in on how I was liking my food. The photographs on the walls were attention-grabbing especially because they based the red-eye sausage gravy of that photograph. Their bathrooms were unexpectedly unique with one being a complete pink flowered room and the other jungle walled room with a disco ball.

In conclusion, overall, I would rate my experience at Handsome Biscuit a 9/10. The entire ambiance of the restaurant was pleasant. I would do another food review because I like trying new types of food and going to restaurants that I don't normally go too. I would defiantly come back with my mom here for a mother-daughter breakfast. I recommend Handsome Biscuit to small groups of people and couples who want to have a brunch type sit down.