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Lord/Hobbit



Synopsis

Packaged in a beautifully designed slip-case gift box, The set gathers for the first time both The Hobbit and The Lord of the Rings in audio format. These are the original American dramatizations as broadcast on public radio. The packaging features original art from John Howe, renowned Tolkien illustrator and conceptual artist for the Peter Jackson film trilogy.

Book Information

Audio CD

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Shipping Weight: 2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (54 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #672,897 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #8 inÂ Books > Books on CD >

Authors, A-Z > (T) > Tolkien, J.R.R. #132 inÂ Books > Books on CD > Radio Shows #155

inÂ Books > Books on CD > Literature & Fiction > Classics

Customer Reviews

The CD set pictured is the NPR / Mind's Eye 1979 American audio dramatization -- I grew up listening to it on car trips, and even after (many) viewings of the recent films, to me, the 1979 recording is the classic version. My older son is now falling in love with it as well. For those not familiar, this recording is abridged, but includes the scenes with Tom Bombadil and Old Man Willow and the barrows (left out of other versions), and alternates between narration and dramatization by actors. I haven't listened to the cassettes in a long time, so I can't speak to the sound quality on those, but I have no complaints about the sound on the CDs. They are just fine in our car. We enjoy the sound effects and music (short segments of some beautiful classical pieces that I'll always associate with LOTR), but the acting is what brought me back to the recording. Gandalf, Aragorn, and Gollum are particularly strong performances, and really the entire cast does an excellent job of pulling listeners into the story (even now, and especially impressive today, I think). We even tried to research the actors to find out about their other work/recordings (found very little info, someone should update wikipedia & other listings for the recording!). We haven't tried to get this recording in digital form, but that will be next. We had the old wooden box cassette set growing up, and I was

excited to find the new CD release. I hope it continues to be available for future generations.

This is an adaptation of the books for radio and so is very highly abridged. What is there is okay, you get the gist of the stories, but it is a very lightweight version. Also, some of the character voices don't fit very well. If you are a hardcore fan, you may be disappointed...I was.

the narrator is good and this is a good product for the money; my only complaint is that it is not a reading of the complete book, but more of a rewritten version with excerpts from the books. nevertheless, it is very enjoyable.

We tried to listen to this on our recent road trip. The audio recording was so low we couldn't hear the words over the road noise, even with the audio maxed out. We have several books on CD and have never had this problem before.

This classic series is definitely a family favorite in mine. In today's chaotic times, its always nice to steal quiet moments to curl up with a favorite book. But for times when that isnt possible... audio books are a blessing. Tolkien is genius. That is a given. I have this set in my car's player. Wonderful.

Not what I initially expected. More of a war of the world's kind of vibe. Still amazing, the actors were great, the pacing didn't feel rushed, and without seeing the movies I now know what the heck everyone is talking about when it comes to the series. Very happy I got this, and have been sharing with my famiky.

This set is excellent for those who find themselves busy with other tasks requiring there hands and yet wish to read these masterworks of Fantasy. The books are done in the style of a play with a full cast but do not expect the cast from the Blockbuster movies, but even as such it is well cast.Remember however this is a recording of the books and not the movies. There are significant differences between them. This is a must have for any busy fan of Tolkien's work.

What can I say? After over 65 years, the Lord of the Rings trilogy is still the ultimate fantasy epic. I won't go on and on gushing in praise. I will just note one of the brilliant literary devices that Tolkien uses that sets this book apart from so much other fantasy work. Tolkien weaves a complex narrative

with many characters and plot twists, but also manages to set up brilliant parallels between them. For example we see two leaders (Theoden and Denethor) who face strikingly similar challenges, but Tolkien shows them responding differently. The former leads his men against evil, while the latter is cold and desponds. This use of paralleling gives the book so many layers and adds lasting value. Indeed, it's no wonder people can read this book many times over and not get bored. While the Peter Jackson movies are great, it doesn't - and can't - capture all of the nuance in the book. If you haven't read it yet, you're in for a treat.

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