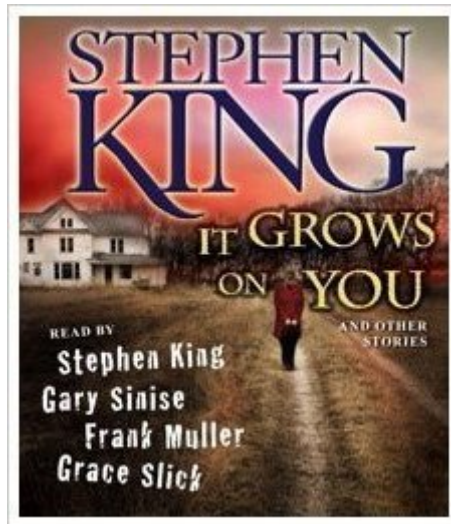


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It Grows On You: And Other Stories



Synopsis

For the first time on CD! Vintage Stephen King at a great low price! Stephen King's unparalleled imagination is in full force in this collection of four unabridged short stories originally found in the classic, *Nightmares & Dreamscapes*. An all-star cast of readers bring to life these timeless stories from the darkest places. An infamous house in Castle Rock takes on a life of its own in *It Grows on You*. In *The Fifth Quarter*, a crook seeks to avenge his friend's death and to piece together a map to stolen treasure that his buddy died trying to claim. A nightly free rock-and-roll concert carries a hidden price in *You Know They Got a Hell of a Band*. And a tabloid reporter's pursuit of a brutal killer could turn deadly in *The Night Flier*. Stephen King, Gary Sinise, Grace Slick and Frank Muller lend their voices to this haunting collection of classic stories that no Stephen King fan should be without.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (21 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

IT GROWS ON YOU contains audio versions of four Stephen King stories. The readings are pretty solid all around. The stories vary somewhat in quality. First up is the title story. "It Grows On You" is vintage King, set in Maine and mostly involving a bunch of old guys with thick accents sitting around and remember past events involving an unusual haunted house. It would seem the house literally has a life of its own, and its owners keep adding strange and unneeded expansions to the property (and going insane). For me, the story was more atmosphere than content. There is little payoff to it, and the ending is needlessly squalid. (SPOILER: do we NEED to finish up with hearing about an old man having a wet dream and then dying in his sleep?) King is the narrator here, and

he does his usual serviceable job of reading his own work. He isn't the greatest reader in history, but he certainly gets the pacing and inflections that he intended. Occasionally, the dialogue rings a little false...I always wonder if when King reads his work out loud for these audiobooks if he wishes he could go back and tweak a little. 2nd is "The Fifth Quarter," a non-horror story. It's written in the "hard-boiled" style of someone like John D. MacDonald, and tells a story of revenge and reminds us that there's "no honor among thieves." It is very well read by Gary Sinise, and moves briskly. It's not a great story, particularly if you're looking for King-style horror...but it's vivid & evocative of the era King is clearly trying to hearken to. Over the years, King has proven a master of fashioning stories in other styles: EYE OF THE DRAGON ready like C.S. Lewis without religion, "The Breathing Method" like Conan Doyle, etc.

Stephen King is one of the most prolific, successful and influential writers in history... and that means I shouldn't have to bother explaining who he is or why you should pick up one of his books. This collection of audio CDs brings together four of his stories from the 1992 "Nightmares & Dreamscapes" read by a myriad of people, including actors, authors and even King his own self. There were six of these collections released, of which I think this one is the best. Here is the breakdown for "It Grows On You and Other Stories": Disc 1: "It Grows on You" read by Stephen King -- The other himself opens this collection with his reading of what he calls the last Castle Rock story. At first, I found King's voice off-putting and devoid of any dramatic flair; however, much like the tale he reads, it grows on you. King's voice perfectly personifies the Maine locals and gives the atmospheric story a strong, detached air of menace. 4 stars! Disc 1: "The Fifth Quarter" read by Gary Sinise -- Having Sinise read a hard-boiled tale of revenge and crime was another excellent choice, and the fact that he has ties to King's work from previous endeavors is just icing on the cake. The story, unfortunately, isn't as good as Sinise's contribution could've been. What starts off as an epic revenge story is eventually resolved in a rather perfunctory showdown befitting a b-grade western, though King does a solid job ratcheting up suspense. 3 stars Disc 2 & 3: "You Know They've Got A Hell Of A Band" read by Grace Slick -- And here's the surprise of the set, voice actor wise: Grace Slick does an immaculate job presently King's tongue in cheek story of Rock n' Roll Heaven, Oregon and the poor schmucks that stumble through there on vacation.

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