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The Lord Of The Rings & The 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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Average Customer Review: 3.6 out of 5 stars 64 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #433,871 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #7 in [Books > Books on CD > Authors, A-Z > \(T \) > Tolkien, J.R.R.](#) #67 in [Books > Books on CD > Literature & Fiction > Classics](#) #82 in [Books > Books on CD > Radio Shows](#)

Customer Reviews

“ . . . spirited productions . . . stirring music . . . ”
The Washington Post (The Washington Post)
“This collection . . . is a masterpiece.”
The Courier (The Courier)

J.R.R. TOLKIEN has legions of devoted fans and is widely regarded as the father of fantasy literature. The Lord of the Rings trilogy and The Hobbit—both 20th century classics and perennial bestsellers—continue to provide the primary inspiration for today’s fantasy authors.

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.

Glad to have Tolkien on CD so I can enjoy the book on my travels.

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 family.

Strange narration. Thought it would be the actual book being read aloud however it is like a play. That is my fault for not reading it carefully but I didn't enjoy it.

It's the actual book, which is good. Since it's a recorded radio drama, it has background voices and sounds that add to the story. The only thing is that Thorin sounds like a cowboy and Elrond sounds like a wheezing old man.

This set is very quick to involve the listener in the story and I enjoyed hearing different actors portray the characters. However, some of the voice actors are pretty cheesy and a lot of the Lord of the Rings story isn't as book accurate as I would have expected. All in all, I really enjoyed this version of The Hobbit and was still somewhat entertained by The Lord of the Rings, both stories were more intense and involving than I expected audiobooks could be.

It is an abridged series that completely sucks. If you want to listen to the real, unabridged book, don't buy this. If you are interested in a compacted, short version of these stories, get this. Have fun listening to something close to the movie script!

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.

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