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# The Lord Of The Rings (BBC Dramatization)



## Synopsis

DramatizationThirteen CDs, 13 hoursIn ancient times the Rings of Power were crafted by the Elven-smiths, and Sauron, The Dark Lord, forged the One Ring, filling it with his own power so that he could rule all others. But the One Ring was taken from him, and though he sought it throughout Middle-earth, it remained lost to him. After many ages it fell, by chance, into the hands of the hobbit, Bilbo Baggins.From his fastness in the Dark Tower of Mordor, Sauron's power spread far and wide. He gathered all the Great Rings to him, but ever he searched far and wide for the One Ring that would complete his dominion.On his eleventy-first birthday Bilbo disappeared, bequeathing to his young cousin Frodo the Ruling Ring and a perilous quest -- to journey across Middle-earth, deep into the shadow of the Dark Lord, and destroy the Ring by casting it into the Cracks of Doom.The Lord of the Rings tells of the great quest undertaken by Frodo and the Fellowship of the Ring: Gandalf the Wizard, the hobbits Merry, Pippin, and Sam, Gimli the Dwarf, Legolas the Elf, Boromir of Gondor, and a tall, mysterious stranger called Strider.

## Book Information

Series: J.R.R. Tolkien

Audio CD

Publisher: Random House Audio (December 1, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0553456539

ISBN-13: 978-0553456530

Product Dimensions: 5.9 x 2.4 x 6 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 154 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #486,144 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #9 inÂ Books > Books on CD > Authors, A-Z > ( T ) > Tolkien, J.R.R. #36 inÂ Books > Books on CD > Religion & Spirituality > Fiction #36 inÂ Books > Books on CD > Literature & Fiction > Religious

## Customer Reviews

Grade 4-9-This trilogy of Tolkien's Middle Earth is presented in dramatization from the BBC, with original music and sound effects. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

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he could rule all others. But the One Ring was taken from him, and though he sought it throughout Middle-earth, it remained lost to him. After many ages it fell, by chance, into the hands of the hobbit, Bilbo Baggins. From his fastness in the Dark Tower of Mordor, Sauron's power spread far and wide. He gathered all the Great Rings to him, but ever he searched far and wide for the One Ring that would complete his dominion. On his eleventy-first birthday Bilbo disappeared, bequeathing to his young cousin Frodo the Ruling Ring and a perilous quest -- to journey across Middle-earth, deep into the shadow of the Dark Lord, and destroy the Ring by casting it into the Cracks of Doom. The Lord of the Rings tells of the great quest undertaken by Frodo and the Fellowship of the Ring: Gandalf the Wizard, the hobbits Merry, Pippin, and Sam, Gimli the Dwarf, Legolas the Elf, Boromir of Gondor, and a tall, mysterious stranger called Strider.

This is the best of all the dramatization of the Lord of the Rings. I first heard this on NPR playhouse on National Public Radio. It is very well done with good sound effects, quality acting and great music. There are two formats of this dramatization. This version is divided by the original NPR/BBC episodes. The second version is divided by Books (aka) The Fellowship of the Ring, The Two Towers and The Return of the King. Buy the pictured version which is presented in the original 13 episodes. It has the original suspense of the radio broadcast with surround sound. The other version seems to drag on and on. Even though it is abridged it keeps to the character of Tolkien's original books. Ian Holm who plays Bilbo in the Film Version of LOTR was cast first as a hobbit in this dramatization as Frodo. This is a must own for fans of The Lord of the Rings

What a wonderful adaptation of the Professor's translation of the Red Book! I did not care for Arwen's voice, but otherwise the entire cast is wonderful, just as they were in the films, but I think this is even better than those magnificent productions, truer to life. Ian Holm is superior as Frodo, going from innocent, carefree lad excited about seeing Gandalf's fireworks to one completely broken and in despair. You get the feeling this is what it was really like for him, the pain, the suffering, the fears and the tears, the horrific cost to his heart and soul to be Ring-bearer and carry his cross to Mount Doom. Reading that the Nazgul were pressuring him to put on the Ring is one thing. To actually hear them saying "Put on the Ring, put on the Ring," and hear Frodo struggle against it and not always win is quite another. To read that he lashed out at Sam in the tower while under the influence of the Ring is nothing compared to hearing that meltdown and his retelling in tears of how the orcs had abused him and how he wished the Ring had never come to him. That he suffered during his anniversary illnesses is brought out heartbreakingly well. He's got an incredible voice and

range of feelings in this broadcast. Aragorn/Strider has a very calm, soothing voice that is needed for four frightened hobbits to hear and it's clear he cares deeply for them. Smeagol/Gollum is one completely cracked hobbit and that is played very well. The music, though limited, is very good, especially the lovely "Bilbo's Last Song" at the end. I could go on and on. I've listened to it repeatedly. So should you!

This is a BBC radio production that goes back about 20 years and is now presented on 13 CDs. It is a very good production of LOTR, and reminded me of what a good radio production is -- good actors, combined with dialog, sound effects, and accompanying music that let you follow the story and visualize it in your mind. Although it is 13 hours long, it mostly goes by quickly. The books are of course very long and detailed, and the BBC adaptation is quite compact and faithful to the book -- very little of the action is left out. One nice feature of the recording is the use of a narrator who both moves the action along and also provides many of Tolkein's fantastic word pictures of the world of LOTR. The acting is very good in the series -- I particularly liked Ian Holm as Frodo and Robert Stephens as Aragon. The sound effects are mostly very good -- lots of hoofbeats for the black riders, swords clanging, water running, etc. Most of the time, it is very clear who is speaking, though occasionally voices get lost in the melee. There are some songs and poems included in the set -- some people may find these tiresome, in that they do sometimes slow down the action. Each CD is about an hour long, and the set is nicely packed as 3-4 CDs into folders that fit into a book. Each folder provides background on Tolkein and the LOTR and includes a short summary of the plot for the each disk within the folder. The disks all have 5 or 6 bands, so it is possible to pick up the story again if you take the disk out of your CD player (e.g., your teenagers want to listen to something else). This is a set worth having, particularly at the price ... is selling it at (think of it on a per-disk basis). It tells the story in a very enjoyable way and will (hopefully) send you either back to the books or to the books if you haven't read them. A definite buy.

This is the second LOTR dramatization I own. This version is longer than the other one I own, and I like it as well, perhaps even better. This includes more detail and the songs are sung, much like one would imagine songs telling tales were sung centuries ago. These dramatizations are fun to listen to with the lights off and a fire in the fireplace on a cold winter night. Worth the money.

My husband and sons (ages 10 and 8) enjoyed this very much on a cross country road trip this year! They'd read most of the trilogy already. I will say that there were parts loud and

suspenseful/dramatic enough that my 4 yr old daughter would get scared. But for the right age, a really great story and well done.

Loved it!!!!!! This is a great narration and it is the same version I listened to on cassette tape growing up. I had ordered a different set for Christmas but it was different, then I found this. I am so excited to have found this, now my daughter can listen to it too when she gets a little older!!

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