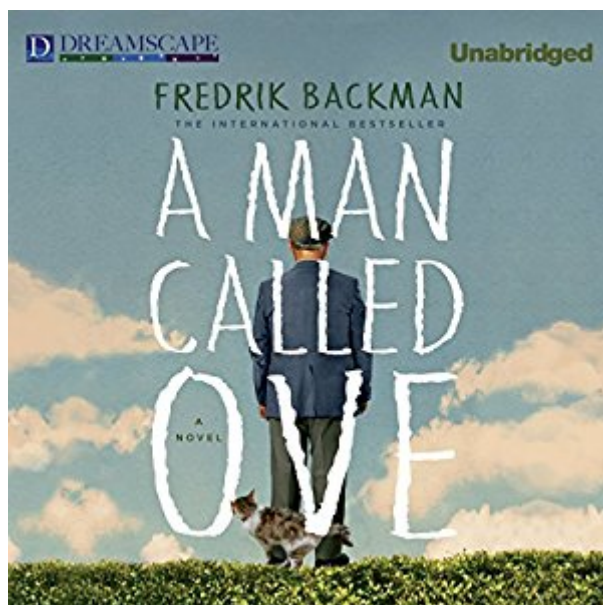


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A Man Called Ove



Synopsis

Meet Ove. He's a curmudgeon - the kind of man who points at people he dislikes as if they were burglars caught outside his bedroom window. He has staunch principles, strict routines, and a short fuse. People call him "the bitter neighbor from hell". But behind the cranky exterior there is a story and a sadness. So when one November morning a chatty young couple with two chatty young daughters move in next door and accidentally flatten Ove's mailbox, it is the lead-in to a comical and heartwarming tale of unkempt cats, unexpected friendship, and the ancient art of backing up a U-Haul. All of which will change one cranky old man and a local residents' association to their very foundations.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 9 hours and 9 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Dreamscape Media, LLC

Audible.com Release Date: August 5, 2014

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B00MG4N5SW

Best Sellers Rank: #5 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Humor & Satire > Humorous #43

in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Fiction & Literature #66 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Literary

Customer Reviews

My sister and I listened to this book from Audible and I am now reading his other book. Such a sweet, well written story of despair and hope. Having just lost a husband less than a year ago, I can certainly relate to his sorrow and feelings of worthlessness - being old and useless. What a blessing this book as been to me.

I honestly didn't go into this book expecting to like it as much as I did. I have trouble with books where the main character is not someone I particularly like. But, I gave this one a shot. I was pleasantly surprised. I couldn't help but like the curmudgeon. It's not a deep-thinking book. It's there for entertainment, to make you 'feel' emotions, to transport you to another place and another life.

Therefore, I give the book five stars for being exactly what it claims to be--a story about one man and the circle of friends that he makes despite his grouchy personality. I liked the backstory with the wife (even though I thought the author went too far with the tragedy heaped onto this always-optimistic woman). I bought the audio book to listen when I couldn't read and the narrator was flawless. I've heard some pretty bad narrators lately from best-selling books (Miss Peregrine's for example), but this audio book was very well done. I have one gigantic bone to pick with the author. 59 years old is not 89 years old. Fifty-nine years old is when most people are in the apex of careers--before retirement and also having a lot of knowledge and experience to help them in their career fields. The 50-somethings in my office know what an iPad is, how to use computers, have the latest cell phones, and are pretty up on all the new tech gadgets because they are the ones that can afford them! There was no reason why the author couldn't make this a lot more believable by making the main character 79 or older. There was nothing to prevent the backstory being set further back. The whole time I was reading, I had to make myself forget the character was supposed to be 59. For godsakes, the President of the United States is 56!! I wonder why the author chose such a relatively young main character to act like my grandfather would. But, if you can overlook that weird decision, the rest of the story is very well done and very entertaining.

There is a part of me that didn't think I needed to review *A Man Called Ove* because so many people have read it at this point, but I have talked to a few who have not, hence my desire to write this review. I will admit that I am entirely on the Ove train! The book is about a man, named Ove, who is the angry neighbor that we all seem to have. He complains about everything, has put up signs around his neighborhood with rules about what should and shouldn't be done, and feels there is a proper place for everything. He is not a friendly guy to say the least. Into his life walks or rather drives a family who are to be his new neighbors. He doesn't bother to get to know their names and calls them the pregnant one and the lanky one. After an accident with the lanky one, Ove is forced to help this family, complaining the entire time. Throughout the book Ove also speaks to his wife, complaining about the neighbors, the rule breakers, and how much he misses her (very minor spoiler). During interludes within the narrative, we read about how Ove became Ove. I will say by the end of the book, a bunch of dust was flying around the room and some got into my eyes. The first thing to write is this book is funny. Ove is quite the character and how he treats people is hysterical. He just doesn't care what he says or how he says it. He simply wants order in his world and has lived that way for all of his life. The way he expresses himself becomes incredibly funny. It is also a tragic story. Backman interweaves the two (funny and tragic) quite well and doesn't make it

overly heartwarming. This could have easily become a book with the sentiment that we don't know people's past, so don't judge them, but it isn't. Ove is an ass in his past too and sometimes with reason. Backman keeps it level with just enough to make the reader fall for Ove. The great thing is this is a book that pretty much anyone and everyone can (and will) enjoy. I recommended this one for book clubs and discussion groups. Grandmas will like this as well as middle aged men. Ove is simply a good book. I gave this one 5 stars.

This was one of those accidental finds--meandering through book choices and came across it. I absolutely loved this book. It is funny, tender, thoughtful and thought-provoking. The character of Ove seemed a bit too curmudgeonly at first, but as his story unfolded, it all fit. A touching perspective on loss and what it means to choose life and figure out one's new role as a loner. It also celebrates the importance of coincidence and embracing what life brings. Laughed out loud and blubbered like a baby--what more can one ask of a book? Heartily recommend A Man Called Ove.

This is a story of a strange man and when your finished reading the story I think you will agree. Ove is one of those people that you see and know in your everyday life and think to yourself- he is odd. But deep down he has a heart of gold- you just have to dig deep enough to find it. It took me a little bit to get interested enough to read it but once I did I knew it would be a good book and it was. I felt like God took a special interest in Ove because every time Ove tried to do a certain thing something happened and he had to postpone his feat.

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