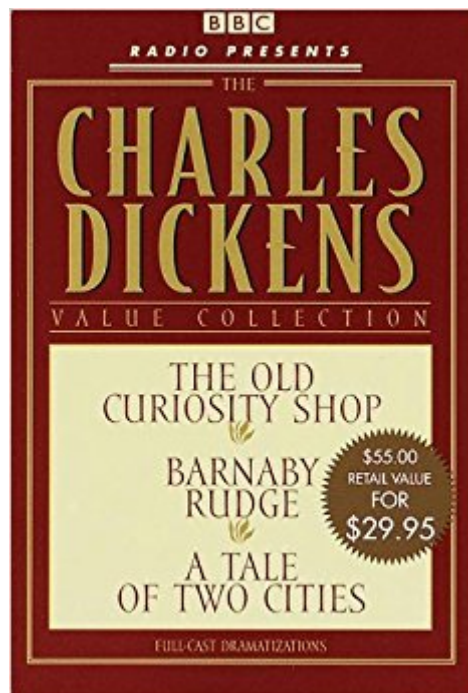




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The Charles Dickens Value Collection: The Old Curiosity Shop, Barnaby Rudge, A Tale Of Two Cities



Synopsis

The Old Curiosity Shop is a story of contrasts: youth and old age, beauty and deformity, freedom and restraint. Expansively comic, sentimentally tragic, it is sometimes fairytale and sometimes myth. Barnaby Rudge, Dickens' magnificent tale of private lives and public events takes place in the seething unrest of the 1780's London. With a richly diverse cast of characters, Dickens weaves the complex themes of public authority and rebellion with the private conflicts of fathers and sons in a spellbinding, fictional recreation of the Gordon Riots. The spectre of the revolution, the flaming chateaux, the ferocious mobs, the rumbling of the death carts, the hiss and thud of the guillotine, the storming of the Bastille - all are vividly portrayed in Charles Dickens' great French Revolutionary romance, A Tale of Two Cities which dashes back and forth from London to Paris during the nightmare of The Terror.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

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Customer Reviews

The Old Curiosity Shop is a story of contrasts: youth and old age, beauty and deformity, freedom and restraint. Expansively comic, sentimentally tragic, it is sometimes fairytale and sometimes myth. Barnaby Rudge, Dickens' magnificent tale of private lives and public events takes place in the seething unrest of the 1780's London. With a richly diverse cast of characters, Dickens weaves the complex themes of public authority and rebellion with the private conflicts of fathers and sons in a spellbinding, fictional recreation of the Gordon Riots. The spectre of the revolution, the flaming chateaux, the ferocious mobs, the rumbling of the death carts, the hiss and thud of the guillotine, the storming of the Bastille - all are vividly portrayed in Charles Dickens' great

French Revolutionary romance, *A Tale of Two Cities* which dashes back and forth from London to Paris during the nightmare of The Terror.

Charles Dickens was born in Portsea, England in 1812. He grew up in poverty, and was forced to leave school and go to work, at age eleven, in a London warehouse. Dickens returned to school when the family fortunes improved, and later became an office boy, a newspaper reporter, and finally, an author. With *Pickwick Papers*, he achieved immediate fame; in a few years, he was the most popular and respected author of his time. *Oliver Twist*, *Nicholas Nickleby*, and *The Old Curiosity Shop* were all huge successes for Dickens. *A Christmas Carol*, *Bleak House* and *Hard Times* reveal his deepening concern for the injustices of British society, while *A Tale of Two Cities* and *Great Expectations* complete his major works.

I was encouraged to buy another set of audio cassettes after listening to "Death in Holy Orders", which made our long trips in the car more enjoyable. Charles Dickens audio collection even more interesting. The only problem that we had is when characters' speech went too fast and it was hard to understand it. But for native English speakers it should be OK.

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