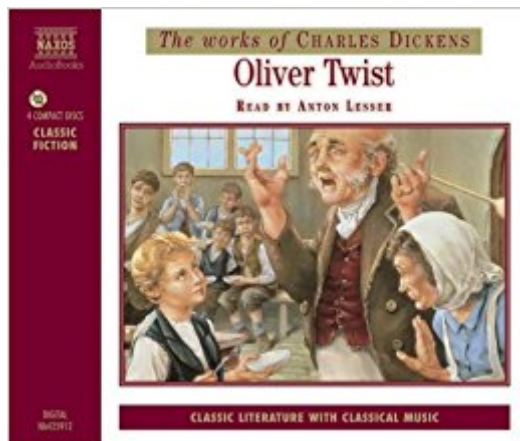


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# Oliver Twist 4D



## Synopsis

The eighth novel in Naxos AudioBooks' series of the great works of Charles Dickens. *Oliver Twist* is Dickens' second novel. Coming shortly after 'The Pickwick Papers', it is a thrilling study of childhood innocence thrust into the darkly comic world of Fagin, his apprentice the Artful Dodger and their gang of child thieves. Who will help the orphaned Oliver to escape from their clutches and discover his true history? The original story is even more powerful than the musical that popularised it.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Starred Review. The inimitable Martin Jarvis brings his talents to bear on Charles Dickens's classic in an audiobook that will delight listeners with its superb recreations of gritty 19th-century London. To escape Mr. Bumble and life in the workhouse, Oliver flees to London where he meets the Artful Dodger and becomes embroiled with Fagin's ragtag band of thieves. Jarvis simply dazzles: his performance captures both the humor and sorrow of the text, his narration is crisp, and his characterizations--his rendition of the terrifying district magistrate, Mr. Fang, is particularly memorable--are as varied as they are energetic, befitting, and enjoyable. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Grade 4-8-Presented by the St. Charles Players, this is an example of radio theatre at its finest. The narration moves the abbreviated story along at a brisk, easy-to-follow pace, while the highly polished troupe of actors offers a colorful array of voices and British dialects. From Cockney

low-lives to privileged members of the aristocracy. Sound effects and music add spark to the production. Although this version is only about one-third the length of the original, both the story line and the picture of British social conditions and injustices during Dickens's time come through vividly as young Oliver makes his way from the desolation of a workhouse for orphans to Fagin's den of thieves in London and, finally, to the comfort and security of life with an honorable gentleman. As such, it is bound to whet the appetites of upper elementary and middle school youngsters who will be intrigued into reading the original. It also offers, through drama, an enjoyable way of understanding history and should stimulate lively discussions on the relationship between dire poverty and a life of crime. Carol Katz, Harrison Public Library, NY Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I have been procrastinating on writing this review. This is one of my all time favorite stories, and I have been trying to define why. Certainly not because of the senseless violence depicted. It is doubtful that it is the historical era that draws me. But I do think perhaps that history does play a role. *A Tale of Two Cities* was the first classic that I had been introduced to. I remember my mother had bought me a boxed set of illustrated classics for children when I was just knee high to a grass hopper. Also included in the set, from what I can remember, was *Great Expectations*, *War of the Worlds*, and *The Man in the Iron Mask*. All of these books hold a special place in my heart, more from nostalgia of my childhood, now that I think of it, than the actual quality of the stories. The primary setting is a small city in France, heavy with unrest and ripe for revolution. The secondary setting is London, England, where a French family has migrated to. Hence the two cities. Madame Defarge had always been my favorite character. Being a crafty person myself, I had admired the fact that she was ALWAYS knitting, and the details she had included in her designs. They must have really watered down the children's version. As an adult, I fear and pity her. This is definitely in my top three best books by Dickens, and my family knows they are on their own when I am reading it as it is the original PYOL (Plan Your Own Life). All I can say is, read it.

Some Kindle versions have so many typos and problems, this one is really well done, I only noticed a few little things - misplaced commas and things of the like. Near the end, one paragraph repeats, but those of us who frequently get these free or cheap classics on Kindle will be used to that, and it's worth it to me. As far as the story goes, it was excellent of course! This is Charles Dickens we're talking about here! The story is so much better than any movie. Such a lovely combination of joy and tragedy, classic to Dickens. Highly recommended, especially if you're not familiar with his other

works but know the basic story of Oliver.

This is one of those grand gems of English literature, also it was one of Dicken's first historical novels, since many of his other works, experiments in style, strayed away with its ramblings rather than followed the consistency of a formula story. If a reader is looking for an easily accessible book written by the world's greatest literary genius, they should read this book, rather than his other notable works, except "Great Expectations", which is a phenomenal work. His characterizations, command of dialogue, and descriptions, are awesome! I especially like Sydney Carton, who I picture in my mind's eye as a young and dashing Liam Neeson, who would perfectly fit the part in a film adaptation. This is truly English literature at its best. Dickens work, A Tale of Two Cities, is unmatched in the literary world! I think it a true test of someone's English abilities, especially ESL, if they can read and totally comprehend this sophisticated book. If you can say you have read and understood this literary work in its entirety, it will reflect a mastery in your English abilities because in this book you will find the finest presentation of English in print. Memorize this book and you have mastered the English language, guaranteed.

A story of love and hate, intrigue and mystery set in the years leading up to the French revolution and reaching a climax in the middle of the "terror" when enemies of the people were denounced and sentenced to the guillotine at the rate of 50 plus each day. Amongst them is our hero Charles Darnay .Can anyone save him from losing his head? Read this Dickensian classic and memorable story to see.

(This is a review of the Kindle Serials edition of Oliver Twist.) I always had trouble plowing through 19th Century literature. Dickens seemed to be a genius story teller but the arc of his novels seemed wrong somehow. Reading Oliver Twist in the same pattern of installments it was written for in the first place makes it into a different reading experience. I hesitate to say this but I felt it was a different book when read this way. Apparently Dickens knew what he was doing but until now we had no way to get the books in the serial format the author wrote them.I hope will publish the rest of Dickens' works as serials. They really are better this way.

The novel is great as one would expect from Dickens. It gives a very graphic description of life in England during Dickens's time. I was not pleased with the Dover edition for its numerous typos. Dickens writes in a very stylistic parlance of his time and his characters are recognizable by the very

deep personal understanding of their speech patterns. However, there are numerous sections where misspelled words could not be concealed by the dialogue, making the reader stop and lose the flow of the prose. Once the typos are fixed, the edition gets the last star from me.

I have often been curious about this story and have finally read it through. It was engaging and well written. Although there were instances where I was flummoxed at some allusions in the story, I continued to read it through and I am glad I did. The Reign of Terror was just that. The victims of the aristocracy became the victimizers. Dickens brings this out so well. The only parts of the story I didn't care for were the syrupy and sentimental descriptions of Lucie Manette, although she was heroic in the love she had for her father, whom she saved by her strong love for him. Other than that, this was a most excellent story.

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