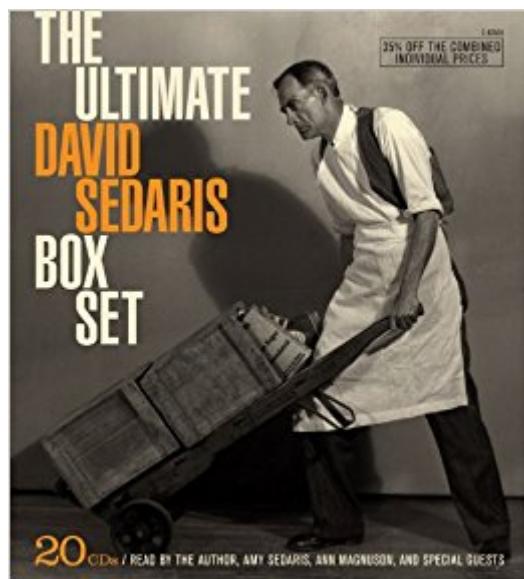


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The Ultimate David Sedaris Box Set



Synopsis

David Sedaris, who regularly appears on NPR, is fun, satirical and brazen. A wonderful collection of his greatest work.

Book Information

Audio CD

Publisher: Grand Central Publishing (November 20, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1594836345

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Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 2.8 x 5.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 37 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #458,289 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #35 in Books > Books on CD > Humor #1405 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Essays

Customer Reviews

Starred Review. Previously released in 2002 as a 14-CD set containing Sedaris's Naked, Holidays on Ice, Barrel Fever and Other Stories and Me Talk Pretty One Day, this updated 20-CD box set adds his latest two Grammy-nominated audios (his single-disc live concert at Carnegie Hall and the unabridged Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim). Twenty-two hours of Sedaris in one box should be nirvana to his legion of fans. This collection allows listeners to witness Sedaris's growth as a writer. He never stops being funny but by Dress Your Family, his essays exhibit the memoirist more than the humorist, and his ability to walk a razor's edge between hilarity and heartbreak (without bathos) is breathtaking. His essays are written to be read aloud, and he performs them flawlessly. Considering the long gestation of this collection, it's surprising that the interior packaging is so dismal. The discs are housed in blank, black slipcases with no illustrations or track listings (which is especially distressing because Barrel Fever, Naked and Holidays don't have track listings on their discs and there is no track listing on the outer package). (Nov.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

David Sedaris is a playwright and a regular commentator for National Public Radio. He is also the author of the bestselling Barrel Fever, Naked, Holidays on Ice, and Me Talk Pretty One Day. He travels extensively through Europe and the United States on lecture tours and lives in France --This

text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

For the material and David Sedaris, 5 stars, no question. BUT - I bought this as a "new" product directly from , not from a third party seller, yet when I checked out all of the discs to make sure everything was in good condition, it was very clear that this was used, re-packaged merchandise. 5 or 6 of the discs had obvious fingerprints and dirty/greasy smudges. 3 of them had a sticky, glue-like residue on them which I managed to clean off with some lighter fluid and a tissue; this may have been glue from the packaging, I didn't really look further into that yet (that has been a problem on a few box sets I've owned). Overall, the packaging had plenty of scuff marks and was obviously worn - not that it was ripped to shreds or anything like that, but it just looked like something that had been used for a few weeks, then repackaged (the flimsy shrink wrap should have been my first clue). Anyways, I was able to clean everything up and there were no fatal scratches on any of the discs, so I'm not going to make any further issue of it with ... besides which, I'm just not in the mood to pack it all up again, send it back, and wait for another set - just wanted to share this experience in a public forum.

This set of audio CDs is worth the purchase price, but be warned that the packaging royally sucks, and if you convert it to digital for a hand-held music device be prepared to do some digital manipulation. First off there are no track listings. When importing the files they come into iTunes as music files and not audiobook files. You have to convert them to audiobook files via info. Also the discs come in differently and will not be listed in order in your library. For example discs might be listed as (Disc X), [Disc X], or my favorite DX. This varies from CD to CD and not just from one book to another. Whomever it was that prepared these CDs lacked the basic knowledge to set a format, and keep it from disc to disc. Overall the sound quality is good, and the stories are great. So I will take the bad with the good, but you have been warned.

I'll jump on the package-train and say that it really is the downfall of this set. Luckily, the price tag has come down significantly from its original release, making this flaw an easier pill to swallow. My biggest complaint with the way the sleeves are designed is not aesthetical or even economical; it's that the sleeves scratch the disks. Several of the CDs arrived with hairline scratches on the surface of the disks from rubbing around in the loose cardboard pockets, coming in contact with debris from the cardboard in storage and transit. Luckily, we have programs like iTunes that allow you to import your files and preserve them. I spent a few hours cataloging the entire set into my iTunes library, so

hopefully I won't have any problems listening to it. The track listings were readily available thanks to the import software, so it wasn't a difficult process getting them all in there; just time-consuming. A little tip: If you want them separated in your library from your music as Audiobooks, once you import a disk, you can change the media type to "Audiobook," and it will whisk it away to the Book section of your library. Edit multiple tracks (from all 3 -5 disks for the book) and title/label them as one album (i.e. Me Talk Pretty One Day) and it should take the 3 - 5 disks in the set and lump them into one whole Audiobook. Hope this helps. The set is worth it for the material if you are a fan and don't already own them, but like countless others have advised, the packaging/protection of materials leaves much to be desired.

I'm a big Sedaris fan, and listening to him actually read his stories is hilarious. I think this set would be great if you love him, have only read a book or two, or have no idea who he is. I think the stories come alive when he tells them. I don't have any complaints about the box itself like some other reviewers. It's a box- I'm not looking for heirloom quality, people. Someone also complained about a lack of a play list, but I just downloaded everything onto my ipod, and it put everything in order for me. I like to listen to these stories when I'm bored at work- they wake me up and give me a good laugh. Snarky, witty, self-deprecating humor...my favorite.

I don't have any other David Sedaris audio books, so this was a wonderful chance for me to get a lot of Sedaris, for a great price! I knew from prior reviews what I was getting, and it really doesn't matter to me that it is not organized in any particular fashion and that you can't figure out from the packaging where you can find which book. I just want as much Sedaris as possible to listen to when I drive long distance in the car. This collection is comprehensive and kept me laughing for many, many hours. It's a great way to get a lot of Sedaris audio books in one economical collection if you don't need or want corresponding written material to guide you.

great

If he wrote it, I'll read it! He is the funniest writer I've come across in 48 years! This set is fantastic because Mr Sedaris is reading his own stuff so you get the full effect. But his account of his attempts to quit smoking in Up In Flames was the ultimate in blow milk out your nose funny! And so relatable for those that have walked in those shoes and have tried (and/or succeeded to quit smoking)! Before you die, you MUST read David Sedaris - anything!

This is great. So much for such a good price. I'm always amazed that someone nut case hasn't blown Sedaris up and I'm always pleased that he's still out there telling us wonderful stories. If you like Sedaris you'll probably love this set.

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