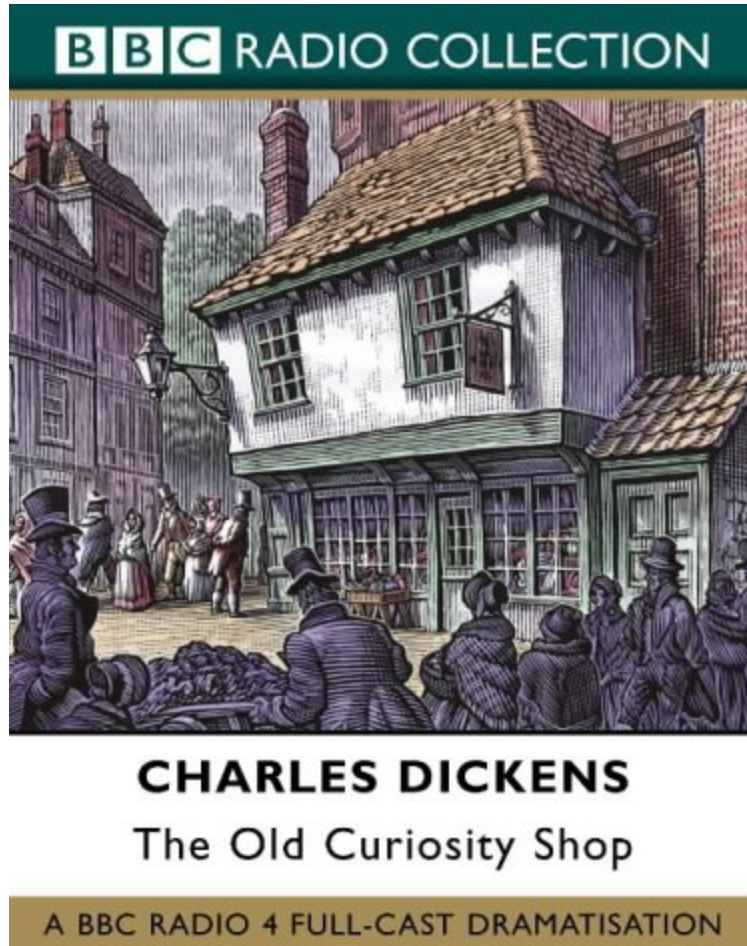


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The Old Curiosity Shop

Charles Dickens

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Charles Dickens : The Old Curiosity Shop before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Old Curiosity Shop:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Not the best Dickens By AMethystPurple This was the worst Charles Dickens book I've ever read. And I've read most of them. The characters were not fully developed. The ending was predictable. It did have some redeeming qualities, so 3 stars. Also, this e-book had type-o's. I actually skipped through parts at the end, getting bored, to read what happened to my favorite characters, which was pretty much what I expected would be the outcome. I know to expect a happy ending, which I'm actually glad for and wait in anticipation for. However, while the end was not completely happy, it was not completely satisfying in the happy parts. It felt like when you watch a movie based on real life and at the end they say "So and went on to do this..." It just doesn't always satisfy your craving to be swept away in the story. --I wasn't moved, like I usually am. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great acknowledgement and analysis of the the existence of gambling ... By Alistair Goodwin NZ Almost a four star but got a bit bogged down with excess sentimentality in places and a lot of misery too.

Great acknowledgement and analysis of the the existence of gambling addiction which surprised me and is still relevant today. (as are the traits of humanity in his books). I always love Dickens' descriptions of old London, all the slums which are now high end neighbourhoods. (should have invested years ago!) 3.5 stars.8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. The quality leaves much to be desired (compared to earlier Nonesuch editions)By Z HayesHaving collected all of the other Nonesuch Dickens editions (2008 and earlier), I am very disappointed by the quality of this edition's binding. The Old Curiosity Shop is a heavy tome, but the previous Nonesuch editions had superior binding. Not so the case with this edition - on the outside, the binding looks and feels the same as the previous editions, but when I examined the bindings on the inside, I discovered to my horror that this binding is glued together, not sewn as in previous editions. This is simply unacceptable! The price for this book does not match the inferior quality of the binding.I discovered (surprise, surprise) that the 2008 Nonesuch Dickens' were printed and bound in Thailand, but this 2011 edition is printed and bound in China! Perhaps this might explain the difference in quality? The paper quality of the 2008 editions is also superior, the paper feeling smoother and thicker. This 2011 edition has pages that feel like cheaper quality paper, and much thinner. The illustrations are also not as clearly defined and appear lighter than the 2008 editions.I also ordered The Pickwick Papers and Our Mutual Friend to complete my collection of the Nonesuch Dickens. Overall, I am very disappointed in this 2011 Nonesuch Dickens' editions and am only keeping them so as to complete my collection.

Little Nell lives with her grandfather in the old curiosity shop. After her grandfather builds up gambling debts in the hope of giving her a better life, the pair flee to seek the happiness which always eludes them.

.com The sound of Little Nell clattering hurriedly over cobblestones immediately sets the stage by bringing to mind the narrow and dangerous streets of Victorian London. No fewer than 20 performers are called upon to conjure up the Dickensian world of wanderers, ne'er-do-wells, con artists, and kind Samaritans--and each performance is excellent. Tom Courtenay plays the sadistic Quilp, "the ugliest dwarf that could be seen anywhere for a penny" with magnificent sarcastic glee, and Teresa Gallagher's silvery, childlike voice is ideally suited for the role of the angelic Little Nell. Nell is on her way home to the dusty shop where she and her grandfather live a rather mysterious life. The old man disappears every night--visiting gambling dens with the naive hope of winning a fortune. Instead he sinks deeper and deeper into debt. Enter Daniel Quilp, moneylender, who becomes furious upon learning that the grandfather is a pauper and will never be able to repay his tremendous debt. Quilp seizes the curiosity shop and begins making lecherous overtures to Nell, so she and her grandfather steal away one morning to seek their fortunes elsewhere. But the demonic dwarf is never far behind. Sound effects are employed judiciously and serve mainly as a springboard for the listener's imagination. The sound of a crying baby is enough to convey the image of crowded lodgings and genteel Victorian poverty, while raucous laughter and high-pitched squawks evoke the barely controlled chaos of an outdoor Punch and Judy show. The dramatization pares Dickens's weighty novel down to two and one-half hours, but does so skillfully, retaining Dickens's wit, marvelous dialogue, and delightful characterizations. (Running time: 155 minutes, 2 cassettes) --Elizabeth LaskeyFrom School Library JournalGrade 7-12-Dickens story of contrasts: youth and old age, beauty and deformity, freedom and restraint.Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. The lascivious and repellent dwarf Quilp who dogs saintly Little Nell and her feckless grandfather is one of Dickens's most vividly nasty creations. Anton Lesser is wonderful in all the intricacies of this powerful fable - a sound investment for winter evenings. - Rachel Redford, The Observer