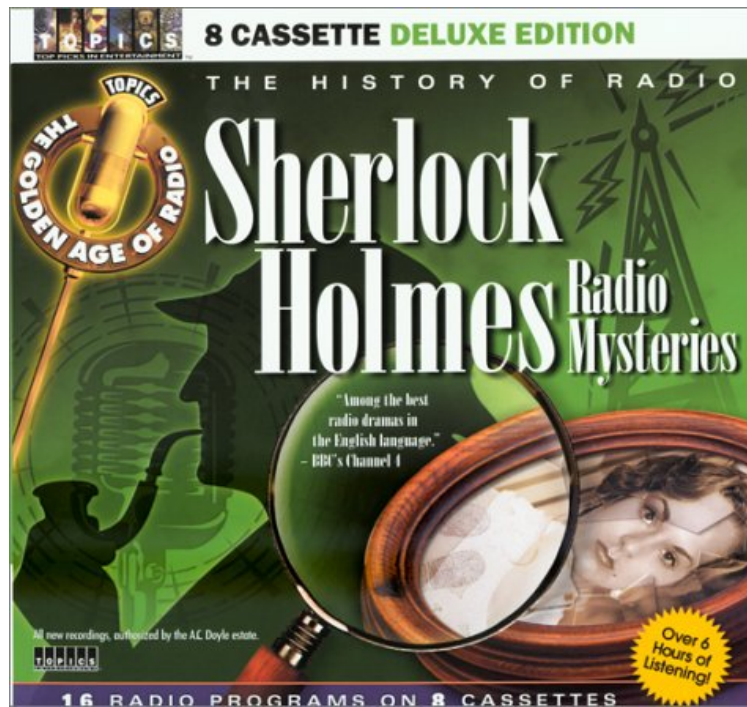


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Sherlock Holmes: Radio Mysteries (History of Radio)

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

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Sir Arthur Conan Doyle : Sherlock Holmes: Radio Mysteries (History of Radio) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sherlock Holmes: Radio Mysteries (History of Radio):

2 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Excellent pastiches, pedestrian production
By A Customer
Doyle's Holmes and Watson remain the best loved characters in detective fiction. The highlight of this effort is these new pastiches are very well plotted and rendered. Unlike the Green/Boucher pastiches performed by Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce in the 1940s, the plots here sound plausible-not departing in the supernatural or the world of science fiction. Holmes and Watson are more Doylian too. Watson is not comic relief as in the Rathbone/Bruce series. The production values are a little below the mark for the BBC. These have a very 1950s flavor and the performances seem to be given live without the benefit of editing minor flubs. One would think modern digital editing would have permitted a more flawless product. The music is a disappointment too. Given the attempt to recreate a 1950s radio drama, they would have been better off to use vintage production music in place of the dull synthetic bridges that appear here. The use of sounds effects is also pedestrian. Anyone who has heard the old Dragnet radio series or any of the better Jack Benny sketches understands the potential of sound in a good radio drama. Here, sound effects add little more than atmosphere. I've heard better on other BBC dramas. Each episode is split into 3 tracks which makes it challenging to import into an mp3 player. For non-broadcast release, each 22-minute show should have been re-edited and mixed into a seamless program without the commercial transitions. If you are importing these into an mp3 player, you'll want to use the "Join CD Track" feature (as it is called in iTunes) before importing. Otherwise you could be hearing a different episode at the track break.
10 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Holmes Watson: The Neverending Adventures
By George R Dekle
Sherlock Holmes has been done and redone in print, on the stage, on

screen, and on the radio. The first Holmes pastiche was done by William Gillette as a stage play around the turn of the century. Orson Welles redid Gillette's play on his Mercury Theater. Edith Meiser dramatized almost every one of Doyle's original Sherlock Holmes stories (and a few hundred Holmes stories of her own invention) for American radio, and a few of them survive to this day. Meiser could never bring herself to dramatize "The Final Problem." The classic radio Holmes, against which all other radio Holmes must be measured, is the Green/Boucher series of pastiches starring Nigel Bruce and Basil Rathbone. Radio drama died in America during the late '50's and early '60's, but it is still a staple of British radio over the BBC. Holmes has had a long and varied career on BBC radio, being done and redone with various actors. The present series of stories represents one of the two latest Holmes attempts on BBC. The other is the Bert Coules series starring Clive Merrison and Michael Williams. Coules' series reprises the entire corpus of Doyle's work (most of which is available from www.sherlockholmesradio.com), including "The Final Problem." "Sherlock Holmes: Radio Mysteries" consists of pastiches. The present work suffers in comparison with Coules' dramatizations, but compares very favorably with all other surviving radio renditions of Holmes. It has just the right Victorian flavor, and the stories are just as good as the Green/Boucher stories. Holmes-a-holics will have to add this work to their collection. After Coules finished the original Doyle stories, he dramatized a few pastiches himself under the title "The Further Adventures of Sherlock Holmes," and they are very good. They are not available in America, but can be ordered from www.co.uk. 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Sherlock Holmes Radio Mysteries By D. E. Boomgaarden I thoroughly enjoyed these series of stories. I love the radio plays style of "old time radio". It brings the story to life. I strongly recommend this to anyone who loves Sherlock Holmes. In addition, the manufacturer, TOPICS Entertainment, fully stands behind their products. Furthermore, they are one of the few responsible companies that I've run across. They donate 5% of their pre-tax profits to educational and environmental groups. That alone should encourage everyone to do business with this fine outfit. Buy this and you'll not regret it.

The Golden Age of Radio Series is a collection of audio titles assembled by theme. Each topic in the series features high-quality audio programs compiled together at one incredibly low price. For the first time in half a century, Sherlock Holmes returns to radio in a new series of broadcasts! Here is a collection of newly-conceived tales of the world's first consulting detective, as told by his friend and associate, Dr. John Watson, portrayed by actor Lawrence Albert. Sherlock Holmes Radio Mysteries is produced under authority of the estate of Dame Jean Conan Doyle, granddaughter of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. Each episode is fully dramatized, with a professional cast of actors, realistic sound effects, and a special suite of music that was commissioned for this radio series. But, most importantly, the creator of the programs, Jim French, researched and took special care to abide by the Doyle canon: you will hear Holmes, played by John Gilbert, in all his changeable moodiness, and Dr. Watson as his alert and outspoken assistant the way Sir Arthur wrote them. In a review of radio dramatic programs worldwide, the BBC's Channel 4 included the very broadcasts heard in this album as among the best radio dramas in the English language. Whether you are a longtime fan of the denizens of Baker Street, or a newcomer to the genre, Sherlock Holmes Radio Mysteries is an entertaining audio collection based on this timeless and most loved private detective duo. Jim French, who produced the dramas in this collection, has spent 50 years on the air. He writes and produces an on-going stream of award-winning radio mysteries, now syndicated worldwide as Imagination Theatre. 16 Programs: 1. The Poet of Death Holmes and Watson must find out if the death of their client was an accident, or a murder. 2. The Sealed Room The Great Detective is involved in a British diplomatic secret with international complications. 3. The Adventure of the Blind Man A pair of Grecian Urns and a murdered thief lead the duo to a plot against the government. 4. The Woman From Virginia A young American heiress is kidnapped and Holmes must find her. 5. The Adventure of the Seven Shares Holmes has Watson following a visitor from South Africa, who may be plotting a mass murder. 6. The Adventure of the Painted Leaf Holmes is asked by none other than H. G. Wells to find his stolen manuscript of The Time Machine. 7. The Secret of the Fives The American government asks Holmes to find out who is threatening Congress and President McKinley. Guest starring Russell John of Gilligan's Island. 8. The Quartermaine Curse Holmes and Watson investigate a strange death of a famous archeologist murder, or curse? Guest starring Richard Sanders of WKRP in Cincinnati. 9. The Adventure of the Bishops Ring A priceless ring is taken from a locked room but how? 10. The Adventure of the Samovar Why did a thief steal a Russian tea kettle and ignore the valuable silver? The answer involves Holmes, Watson, and Mrs. Watson. 11. The Adventure of the Red Death Holmes must uncover a pair of strange deaths in the home of an eccentric inventor. Guest starring Richard Sanders. 12. The Dark Chamber Holmes and Watson must identify a masked man, in pursuit of a famous English actress. 13. The Ragwort Puzzle A bank robbery is investigated, but how did the thief commit the crime without entering the bank? 14. The Adventure of the Mind Reader Holmes must prevent the assassination of an African dignitary, but the suspects include Holmes brother, Mycroft. 15. The Gambrinus Cure While investigating the possible disappearance of a businessman's wife, Holmes and Watson find more than they bargained for. 16. The Billingsgate Horror A series of murders by decapitation may involve Holmes old foe. But, the problem is the man has been deceased for some time

"Among the best radio dramas in the English Language" -- BBC's Channel 4 January 12th, 2001