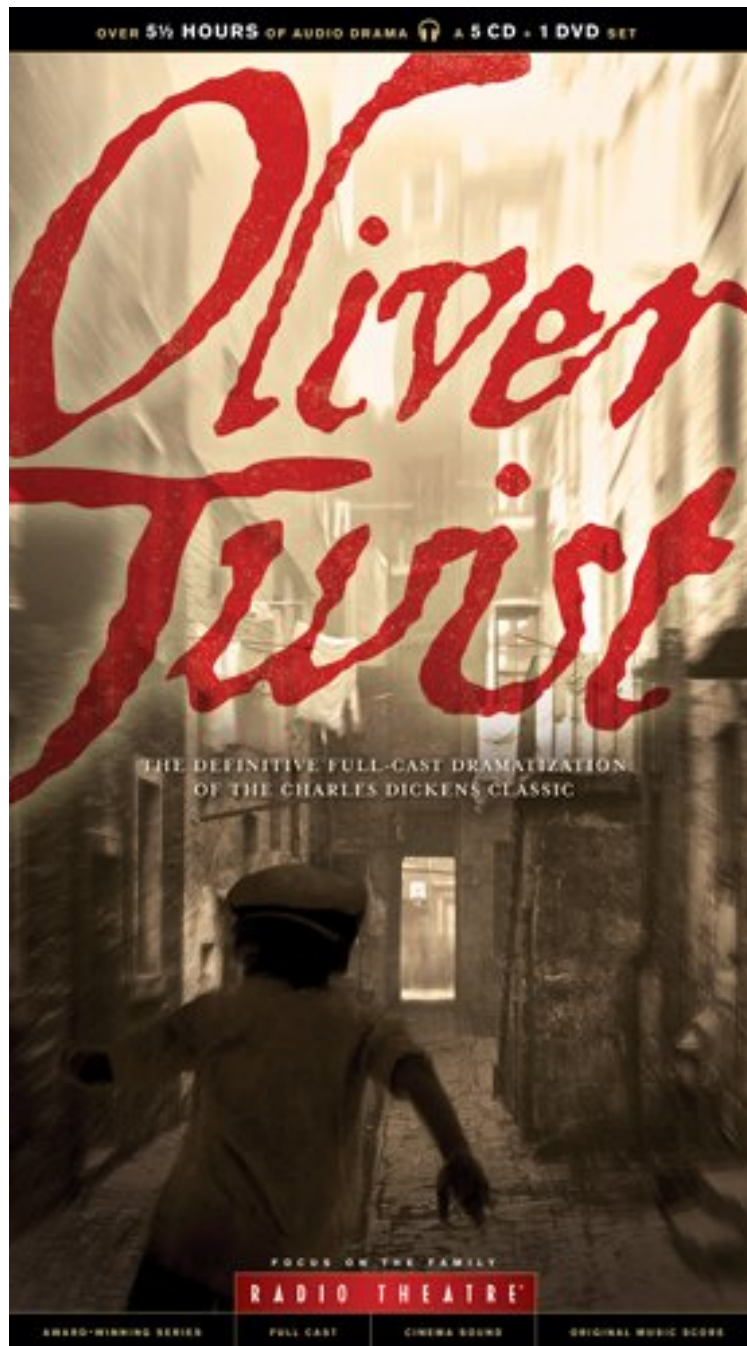


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Oliver Twist (Radio Theatre)

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From Tyndale House Publishers : Oliver Twist (Radio Theatre) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Oliver Twist (Radio Theatre):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Boy for SaleBy Marcos ProtheroeI thought I'd never buy anything from Focus on the Family, but the production is really good. Fans of British sitcoms will recognize actor Geoffrey Palmer as Mr. Brownlow. He played Lionel Hardcastle in *As Time Goes By* (1992-2002) with Judi Dench. Of course, all the voice actors do an outstanding job communicating the intrigue, sarcasm, moral conflicts, and social inequalities of the novel. However, the production does reflect an additional, curious irony: lots of violence, but no cussing. In the book, Oliver suffers physical and psychological abuse as an orphan, a child laborer, and a child criminal. The audio presentation is unsparing in its depiction of this sadistic underworld of Industrial England, but don't expect the novel's occasional profanity. Most of the time, the intensity of the criminal characters, such as Fagin, Monks, and Bill Sikes, covers the fact that all the actors are minding their verbal manners, but it does seem odd that Mr. Bumble isn't allowed to famously protest "...the law is a ass --a idiot," (sic). Instead, Focus on the Family uses the lesser known novel quote "...the law is a bachelor..." At any rate, the five CDs include an interpretive foreword and afterword, which serve as bookends of the Radio Theatre production. There's also a DVD of a behind-the-scenes look, as well as a documentary about the "modern day Oliver's" of the foster care system. The set makes a great gift --for yourself, as well as someone else.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Focus on the Family's finest to dateBy MicheleI've listened to several of Focus on the Family's radio theatre dramatizations of classic novels and, while all are excellent, *Oliver Twist* is definitely their best production yet. It has the elements that make FOF's dramatizations so good: top notch voice actors and sound effects. But what makes this one better is the length -- 5 full CDs. Before now FOF has kept their dramas to just 2 CDs, occasionally 3, which sometimes makes for too much abridgement (I'm thinking in particular of *Les Miserables*). But with *Oliver Twist* they gave wider scope, including more of the story so that even someone who has never read Dickens' novel will have no trouble following or understanding the storyline. Dickens' novels are always peopled with characters who are, though interesting and often quirky, nevertheless one-dimensional. The same is true with *Oliver Twist*; even the main character Oliver himself has just one mood which never changes from the beginning of the novel until the end. (The one exception is Nancy; she is that rarity among Dickens' characters, someone who is conflicted and more than one-dimensional). But FOF's dramatization is so good and the actors so talented that they manage to make the listener almost forgive and forget the flatness of the characters they're portraying. Even the packaging of this book is far better than anything FOF has done before, with brief bios and photos of the main actors. Highly recommended.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Worth every single penny - and then some . . .By TLC OklahomaFocus on the Family's production of *Oliver Twist* is phenomenal - definitely for audiences ages twelve and up - but phenomenal. All of my tweens/teens loved this story. The characters are portrayed beautifully and the music/sound effects are flawless. We just finished it today, and my kids are ready to start it all over again . . . and to be honest with you, so am I. Great story - wonderful production!

An audio drama of the highest quality, *Oliver Twist* was recorded on location in London with an award-winning cast. This classic story will steal your heart as the timeless characters are brought to life in Focus on the Family Radio Theatres edition of Charles Dickens beloved tale. This amazing audio production comes on five CDs, with a bonus DVD that includes behind-the-scenes production footage and the documentary *Modern Day Oliver*. Purchase of the product also benefits Focuss Wait No More adoption initiative. With cinema-quality sound and an original soundtrack, this audio drama tells the story of a young orphan sent from a child farm to begin life in a workhouse. After committing the unpardonable offense of asking for more food, Oliver is sent off to apprentice with a coffin-maker whose wife mistreats him. He runs away to London, where he meets the Artful Dodger and Fagin, who trains kids to be pickpockets. Despite his many trials and hardships, he finally gets his happy ending, bringing hope for redemption to all around him.