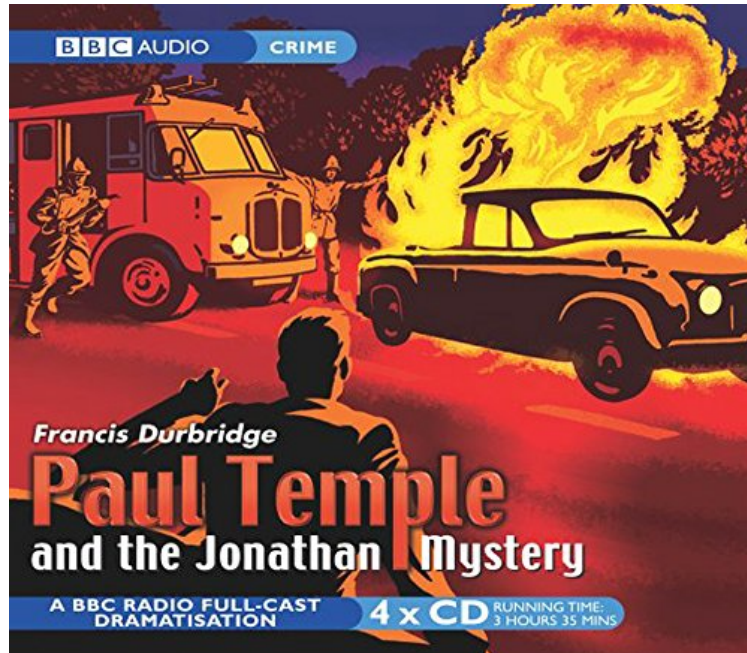


(Download) Paul Temple And The Jonathan Mystery

## Paul Temple And The Jonathan Mystery

*Francis Durbridge*

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**Francis Durbridge : Paul Temple And The Jonathan Mystery** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Paul Temple And The Jonathan Mystery:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Outstanding Radio drama. Paul and Steve are modern Nick ...By John A. Southard Outstanding Radio drama. Paul and Steve are modern Nick and Nora Charles. Jonathan is the mystery man until the last episode. 11 of 12 people found the following review helpful. Who is Jonathan? By John Austin Listen to the opening few minutes of this popular BBC radio serial from the 1960s and your attention will be claimed. Paul Temple and his adorable wife Steve chat amiably to fellow passengers on a plane flying from New York to London. With the arrival at their destination, however, comes news of a murder. The subsequent investigation into the murder relocates Paul and Steve from their London flat to a hotel in Oxford where they remain until the expected cocktail party "denouement" after they return to London. By the time this serial aired, tape recording had brought major advances in sound quality, storage convenience and duplication. Thus it is that although almost all the earliest "recording to disc" Paul Temple radio cases have not been kept, all but one of the tape recorded productions of the 1950s and 1960s survive in almost pristine condition. Sadly, it was after being broadcast in Australia that the only known copy of one of the 1950s productions disappeared in the post. The "Jonathan" case has its strengths, but several weaknesses lower its overall quality. One is the excessive amount of explaining and reporting that occupies so much of the eight episodes. The other is the dearth of memorable performances from the minor cast members. How often have bit players turned a few lines of dross in this series into pure gold? It rarely happens here. Marjorie Westbury, of course, works her magic throughout. The uncredited announcer, who introduces each episode, is Moray Watson.

Another exciting case for the dapper detective, Paul Temple, and his glamorous wife Steve, who inhabit a world of fast

cars, chilled cocktails and well-dressed ladies and gentlemen.

About the Author Francis Durbridge was born in Hull in on 25 November 1912. He was educated in Bradford and went on to Birmingham University. It was while he was there that his radio play, *Persuasion*, was written and broadcast. After leaving university he worked for a short time in a stockbroker's office before realising that the only career he was really interested in was writing. For some time he toyed with the idea of creating a detective who was also a crime novelist, but was unable to finalise the character to his satisfaction until 1938. The end result, Paul Temple, inhabited a world of luxurious sports cars, Knightsbridge flats and chic women - a bygone age of elegance and manners. Durbridge had his first detective novel published at the age of twenty-two and went on to write three dozen more. Paul Temple made his first radio appearance on 8 April 1938 on the BBC's Midland Region. Send for Paul Temple was a huge success: within a week of the serial's final instalment the BBC received 7000 letters demanding more. A second adventure, *Paul Temple and the Front Page Men*, was broadcast in November and December 1938 and was even more popular than the first. The theme tune for the series was Vivian Ellis' *Coronation Scot*, which became instantly recognisable to the millions of Temple listeners. In all, twenty-one series of Paul Temple were broadcast over a period of thirty years. During the 1950s and '60s Durbridge transferred his skills to television; *Portrait of Alison*, *Melissa* and *The Scarf* are just a few of the serials that gripped the nation during those years. They all adhered to the writer's golden formula: 'Everybody is lying, nothing is as it seems.' His appeal was widespread: in Germany in particular a new Durbridge television thriller was apparently enough to clear the cinemas. In 1967 the European Broadcasting Union commissioned him to create a radio serial for the international market. The result, *La Boutique*, made for riveting listening. Durbridge was an extremely entertaining writer and the clever twists and turns of his plots were guaranteed to keep audiences tuning in week after week. He also wrote nine plays for the theatre: *Suddenly at Home*, *The Gentle Hook*, *House Guest* and *A Touch of Danger* all ran successfully in the West End. He married Norah Lawley in 1940 and had two sons. Francis Durbridge died in London on 10 April 1998.