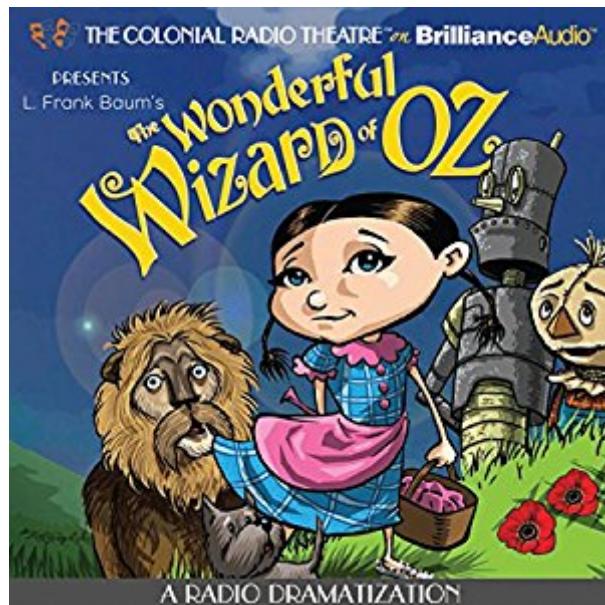


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# The Wonderful Wizard Of Oz: A Radio Dramatization



## **Synopsis**

One of the true classics of American literature. Originally published in 1900, it was the first truly American fairy tale, as Baum crafted a wonderful fantasy, peopled with memorable characters - a cornfield scarecrow, Tin Woodman, and a humbug wizard. Follow the adventures of young Dorothy Gale and her dog, Toto, as their Kansas house is swept away by a cyclone and they find themselves in a strange land called Oz. Here she meets the Munchkins and joins the Scarecrow, the Tinman, and the Cowardly Lion on an unforgettable journey to the Emerald City.

## **Book Information**

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 1 hour and 52 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Original recording

Publisher: The Colonial Radio Theatre on Brilliance Audio

Audible.com Release Date: January 11, 2011

Language: English

ASIN: B004INMV0C

Best Sellers Rank: #55 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Dramas & Plays > Children's #290 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Fiction & Literature > Drama #420 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Children's Books > Classics

## **Customer Reviews**

As has been noted by others, this rendition follows the books, not the 1939 movie. That said, this is not a "read it line by line" audiobook, it is a splendid performance piece with lively, three dimensional, characters that spark the imagination. My grandmother raised her children during the height of radio popularity which made sharing this all the more special. We decided to try to recreate what an evening, sitting around the family radio, might have been like. So, we shut off the lights and lit oil lamps, popped some popcorn and gathered around to listen and we had a ball. Wonderful Wizard of Oz: Radio Dramatization is a highly entertaining theatrical rendition of a true classic. I recommend it without reservation. We will be adding the rest of the series to our library.

Since there seem to be reviews for two totally different products mixed together here, this review is for the 2 CD Radio Dramatization of The Wonderful Wizard of Oz. We sat down and listened to this as a family during lunch a couple of days in a row (myself, my 5 year old daughter, and my sons

ages 7 to 13). We all thoroughly enjoyed this presentation. As has been mentioned in other reviews, the story is told mostly through the dialogue, with different people voicing each character. The voices are all distinctive and we had no problem keeping track of who was who. It has been a few years since I read the book, but this did appear to follow the storyline fairly faithfully. For people who are only familiar with the movie, you do need to realize that the movie is not very faithful to the book. The music and background noises helped to move the story along and we found them to be a terrific addition. The balloon rising and floating off without Dorothy, for instance... with the music, you could almost see it float away. We truly enjoyed this production. My only complaint is the packaging. Instead of a solid case of any type, the CDs were in paper sleeves, in a cardboard envelope with styrofoam to hold it in place. For the price, though, the lack of a jewel case is acceptable.

There seem to be quite a few reviews for different Wizard of Oz products in this review section, so I want to clarify that this is a review of the two disc audio CD that is a dramatization of "Wizard of Oz." My Husband, two sons (age 7 and 9) and I listened to this over a long trip over the weekend. All of us are fans of the original movie "Wizard of Oz," so I thought it would be enjoyable over a long trip. Overall, it was, and I pleasantly discovered that the movie is different from the book (which my kids have read but I have not). My oldest son is learning about writing and producing plays. This was helpful to him in listening how a radio play is produced. It was also the first time my children had ever heard a radio play - the car trip was long, and they described the pictures they were seeing in their heads as the characters were involved in the story. The book is different from the movie, as I previously stated discovered, but the differences only made it more interesting. This is inexpensive, the "Wizard of Oz" book is a classic (as well as the movie), and I say it is well worth your hard earned money.

Old fashioned is the word as this presentation is as you would have expected to hear it in days gone by when people gathered around the radio for their evenings entertainment. I was worried that my children would be a little bemused by the presentation style but being familiar with the story from books and of course the movie they followed along without any problems. It's possibly a little scary for younger children, my son thought it was creepy in places, which is testament to the storytelling, but also represents a not so modern glossing over of what was originally designed to be somewhat macabre in places. Overall I gave it four stars, it's inexpensive, and nicely done, even if it sounds very old fashioned. I think adults and older listeners will also enjoy it.

This 2 CD audio theater presentation of The Wonderful Wizard of Oz is a delightful addition to our family's audio collection. My daughter loves to listen to classic books on CD and this one truly captured her attention. The quality of the recording is clean and crisp and the characters are enjoyable and easy to understand. It follows the book- not the Judy Garland movie- so it is slightly different, and far more interesting in my opinion! My only complaint about this particular audio set is that the CDs come in a paper sleeves inside the CD box. I much prefer my CDs in a jewel case- just makes it easier for storage. The outside box got smashed under a book and I've since transferred the CDs to a jewel case.

I love the sound of radio dramatizations. Ever since I saw Prairie Home Companion, I've looked for actual radio programs to listen to from the days when radio ruled. This version of Wizard of Oz is just lovely. I've listened to it in my car with my 8-year-old niece who happens to be very into Wizard of Oz and has read all of the original books - she's a huge fan of this radio program. These stories acted out for audio purposes are very imaginative and entertaining. I can understand why the radio was so popular back in the days of my parents' childhoods. I almost felt deprived until I remembered growing up during the Golden Age of Saturday Morning Cartoons... which leaves me nothing to complain about. I've listened to the Colonial Radio Players on several other performances and have no reservations recommending this. Very nice.

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