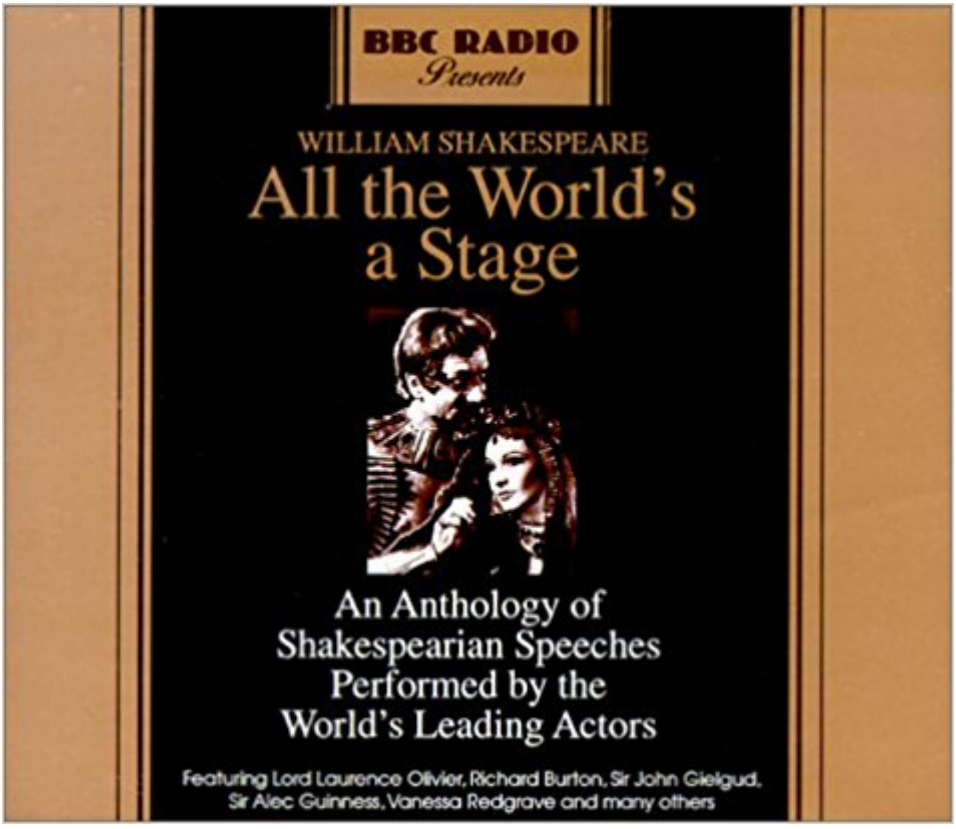
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All The World's A Stage: An Anthology Of Shakespearean Speeches



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Synopsis

All The World’s A StageHis characters are unforgettable Hamlet, Othello, Romeo and Juliet -- their stories resonating with audiences no less today than when Shakespeare first penned them. Now, in this magnificent collection of the bard’s greatest speeches, Shakespeare’s best-loved scenes come to life in remarkable performance by the world’s greatest actors, masterfully preserved by the BBC Archives.Listen as Lord Laurence Olivier falls under Vivien Leigh’s spell as the ill-fated Antony and Cleopatra. Hear Richard Burton’s compelling performance as the victorious Henry V in his stirring St. Crispian Day Speech. Thrill to Sir Alec Guinness as King Lear, and Vanessa Redgrave as the rapturous Rosalind In As You Like It. Experience Derek Jacobi as Richard II, Sir John Gielgud as the disturbed, melancholy Hamlet, plus a host of other stars appearing in infamous roles, ushering forth memories of Shakespeare’s rascally wisdom, fallen men, sweet youth, and mighty Kings.Tragedy, comedy, passion and relentless cruelty are interwoven in this glorious collection, with works as diverse as Macbeth and Much Ado About Nothing. Listeners will revel in this treasure-trove of memorable characters, scenes and prose as, once again, Shakespeare’s immortal words prove his brilliant insight into the human heart.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

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Archives.Listen as Lord Laurence Olivier falls under Vivien Leigh's spell as the ill-fated Antony and Cleopatra. Hear Richard Burton's compelling performance as the victorious Henry V in his stirring St. Crispian Day Speech. Thrill to Sir Alec Guinness as King Lear, and Vanessa Redgrave as the rapturous Rosalind In As You Like It. Experience Derek Jacobi as Richard II, Sir John Gielgud as the disturbed, melancholy Hamlet, plus a host of other stars appearing in infamous roles, ushering forth memories of Shakespeare's rascally wisdom, fallen men, sweet youth, and mighty Kings.Tragedy, comedy, passion and relentless cruelty are interwoven in this glorious collection, with works as diverse as Macbeth and Much Ado About Nothing. Listeners will revel in this treasure-trove of memorable characters, scenes and prose as, once again, Shakespeare's immortal words prove his brilliant insight into the human heart.

I tried a BBC Royal Shakespeare Company CD once; it was like listening to a Monty Python parody. This thing is calm and measured, but with Gielgud, Burton, Olivier, et al., it's hardly too calm and measured. Some people complain about lack of context, others about the little musical intros. I don't mind these things at all, and if I did, they would be outweighed by the listen-ability of the thing.

Someone used the word snippet to describe what is included in this production; it is a good term. So, snippet it is; but what has been included gives no introduction, no explanation, no explication, no nothing. The tape is of different bits of Shakespeare's plays which run rapidly into each other. To get any fair use out of this work the listener needs to sit with a printed copy of the complete works sitting on his or her lap otherwise the whole exercise is meaningless. Shakespeare requires understanding what is being said in context. This tape would be better served if it included a brief introduction regarding which play the snippet came from and how the dialog ties in with the action. Without this information only those who have read all the plays will not be lost. There are not many who can claim that background. So, as a stand-alone audio, for most of us, this tape is a sad waste.

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