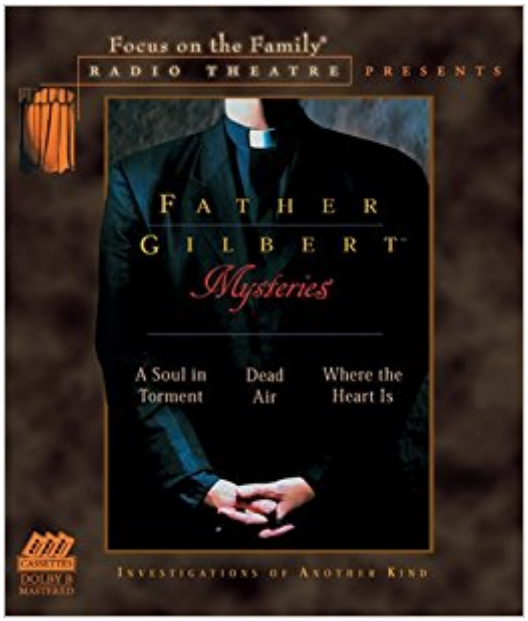
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Father Gilbert Mysteries (Radio Theatre)



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Synopsis

Value priced! When Louis Gilbert turned in his detective's badge to become an Anglican priest, he thought his days of solving difficult mysteries were over. Now, as the vicar of an ancient church in a small English village, Gilbert finds himself at the center of one strange mystery after another. Recorded in London with some of England's finest actors, these original audio dramas capture the imagination. Three episodes include "A Soul in Torment," "Where the Heart Is," and "Dead Air."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

[Editor's Note: The following is a combined review with BILLY BUDD and THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE.]--American religious organizations have long embraced radio drama as a vehicle for their messages. Now comes Focus on the Family, syndicating a variety of plays to religious stations on the low end of the FM dial, and now offering them on CD. Produced overseas, these are professional handsome offerings, with didacticism nearly invisible. Father Gilbert, a Scotland Yard detective turned Anglican minister, fights crime like any other shamus, only his perpetrators lurk in the bowels of hell. In DEAD AIR, while appearing on a "chat show," Gilbert receives a chilling phone call that appears connected to a set of murders. It turns out that he is the intended victim, his soul coveted by demons. It's a bit like PBS's "Mystery" series with a soupÃƒÂ§on of FAUST. THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE and BILLY BUDD are faithful and endearing versions of C.S. Lewis and Melville, respectively. The former, first published in 1950, derives from Lewis's Chronicles of Narnia, a series of sophisticated children's allegorical

fantasies set in the mythical kingdom of Narnia. The author was a scholar as well as a writer and religious apologist. The latter presents the often dramatized allegory of good, evil, and self-sacrifice on the high seas of human destiny. Y.R. Winner of AudioFile Earphones Award Ã Â© AudioFile 2002, Portland, Maine-- Copyright Ã Â© AudioFile, Portland, Maine --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I appreciate that it is clean cut, but the story line is so predictable and boring. Didn’t even bother listening to most of it.

This is definitely another wonderful set of dramas from the Father Gilbert Mysteries. I heard the story "Dead Air" on the radio years ago, but I missed the end. So glad to have the complete version of the story. CD was good, company was good, arrival was good. It was all good.

I was looking for something that would hold my interest and yet allow me to enjoy making long driving trips

My husband and I loved these series of audio drama. Great mysteries for long trips in the car...we bought the whole series and wish they would come out with more

good purchase

’Father Gilbert Mysteries’ is a three episode collection of newly-produced British radio dramas. The main focus of the series is to provide an entertainment outlet for religious expression. The show is produced by a company called ’Focus on the Family Radio Theatre’, whose main goal is to showcase interesting tales with a religious message. The ’Father Gilbert Mysteries’ does so. Sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn’t. I am a huge fan of radio productions (both old and new), and so when I saw this new set of mysteries at the local bookstore, and read the teaser on the back, I just had to give it a whirl. Though it has its faults, it *did* leave me wanting more - surely the sign of a good production? The genesis of the series is that Father Gilbert was once a detective for New Scotland Yard, but a particularly vile case made him reconsider things, and so he became a priest. He now resides in a cozy little English village, but trouble still seems to have no problem finding him. I will give a brief synopsis of each episode, giving you a better idea of what to expect of the series. But, be quite aware that this is a program steeped in Christian ethics, so keep that in mind. It is

handled well for the most part, though it sometimes hinders the storyline. The first episode is: 'A Soul In Torment'. A young man comes to see Father Gilbert as the priest is moving in to his new vicarage. It comes across as though the man has commited murder (or will do so in the near future). The curious priest calls upon his policeman friend to help unravel the strange situation surrounding the mysterious visitor, and the game is afoot, so to speak. This is the weakest story, as the religious aspect isn't handled well, and causes the mystery to not really be a mystery (if that makes any sense). Program two is called: 'Where the Heart Is', and is the most solid of the lot. It involves a missing chalice that is supposedly housed on the church property where Father Gilbert resides, and the nefarious people who will do anything to get it. The story is plotted well, and some of the scenes (especially those which take place in a crypt), are pretty suspenseful. The final show is: 'Dead Air'. It explains a lot about why Father Gilbert left the police force, as the villian from the vile crime which made him resign returns to wreak more havoc. We only hear the villian over the phone, and he calls himself "Legion", after a demon in the Bible. His voice is eerie, and it is in *this* story that the religious overtones really help make the story frightening (in a good way). The ending is especially scary, as Gilbert must finally confront Legion, and we are left wondering *what* the villian really was. As with most British radio programs, the production is top-notch, with great acting, well-done sound effects, and (mostly good) stories. If you can make it past the mess of 'A Soul In Torment', then you'll see what an intriguing series this really is. Christianity and mysteries are no strangers to one another, and one must admire 'Father Gilbert Mysteries' for striving to blend the two in the most pleasant way possible.

My only problem with the Father Gilbert Mysteries is that there aren't more of them. I own this set on CD and think they are wonderful. The stories are involving and the characters solidly done with nice little touches throughout. My personal favorite of the three stories on this CD is Where the Heart Is followed closely by Dead Air. The stories are first rate but not particularly suspenseful or scary for that matter but they are extremely well done. The only exception might be Dead Air which did give me a little shiver when I first heard it and has my eleven year old completely terrorized (in that shivery way kids enjoy) The stories are remarkably clean and appropriate for the entire family (again Dead Air is probably not for children younger than 10) I just wish Focus on the Family would put out more of the Father Gilbert Mysteries!

This is the best audio in dramatized formed I have heard. Of course, the themes are religious, but anyone can benefit from them. The quality of the production is incredible. I recommend all of the

Father Gilbert 1, 2, 3 (the last one can be ordered through focus on the family [fotf.org]-it's awesome as well) I would suggest you buy ALL OF FOCUS ON THE FAMILY RADIO THEATER (most of them are classic stories). I have! You will not be disappointed.

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