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The Enchanted Collection



Synopsis

This is a collection meant to be cherished for a lifetime. Listeners set out with timid Mole as he explores the world, learning about courage and friendship through a series of misadventures with Rat, Toad, and Badger in *The Wind in the Willows*. From the River Bank, tumble down the rabbit hole with Alice to a madcap world where nonsense rules in *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. From Victorian England, it's on to a small New England town in *Little Women*, where Jo March and her three sisters struggle to achieve their dreams amid the shifting roles of women in the Civil War era. Sent to live with her uncle, orphan Mary Lennox uncovers the mysteries of Misselthwaite Manor in *The Secret Garden*. Listeners then journey through the English countryside and London with a gentle, hardworking horse who experiences kindness and cruelty at the hands of different masters in *Black Beauty*. Whether encountering these cherished tales for the first or the 50th time, listeners will find enchantment in this collection.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 40 hours and 40 minutes

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Version: Unabridged

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Whispersync for Voice: Ready

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Customer Reviews

In a nutshell, I wished for more detailed, better illustrations/ richer color plates considering the cost of this set, or even gilded pages. At the time I ordered this, I could not preview the books. I really just wanted to replace my missing copy of *Black Beauty* for my daughter and could not find any one comparable to my old one in terms of lovely illustrations, this copy only has about ten per book in limited colors and detail. The books are not gilded but do have ribbon bookmarks. At first glance flipping through *Alice in Wonderland*, the font and spacing seemed a lovely choice for a young chapter book reader as my daughter is... But *Little Women* must weigh a few pounds, I can't

imagine a younger reader tackling that one without serious carpal tunnel syndrome (though it's a long book regardless of the typeset, just buyer beware, this copy is heavy!). All that being said, it is a nice collection of classics, the box flips open and closed with a very nice magnetic feature, and although made of some type of heavy duty cardboard/paper product, the box seems pretty durable.

Just received and boy was this box heavy - 10 pounds! Great collection to add to our children's library. GREAT QUALITY - A reviewer commented on The Enchanted Collection being too heavy - well for me when it comes to books, the heavier the better! Impressed with the vibrant graphics and it is a collection of fun classics that we are eager to dig into with our children. GOOD DESIGN - The box that holds the collection is a clever design with magnets on the inside edges that attracts the cover closed. Very sturdy hard covers. Textured cover, reminds me of vintage books. Ribbon bookmarks and binding is impressively sturdy. Font is a decent size for junior readers, not too small and not too big. The trend of large fonts with large margins really irks me and thankfully this is not the case here. I like how there's no book jacket, because often times the cover itself is not impressive. There is definite weight to the cover and pages. All books are consistently designed. Pictures are bright and somewhat vintage, but in my opinion the least impressive feature of the overall design. GREAT DEAL - I put this and The Adventure Collection in my cart to consider and then moved it to Save for Later list. As always, price notifications started appearing and the price began around \$30, but then ended up at \$8 somehow. Now that I am sitting down to review the price has gone back up, so buyer beware. The collection is still worth the \$30 price tag, since that breaks down to \$6 a book. The sun was shining when the price gods came to call!

At the sale price of \$19.99, the set is a good value for those who want a material object. The price of \$5 a book is great for a hardback book that should last through several readings. If I had paid the suggested retail price of \$99.99, I would not be so happy. If I was wanting a quality hardback book, I'd look at other hardback editions of these works at or above a \$20 price. Why? While there are illustrations, as other reviewers have noted, they're not that inspiring. For example, for me, the lack of Tenniel's wonderful classic black and white illustrations for "Alice in Wonderland" alone would be a deal breaker. Also, the Alice in Wonderland book is just that; it does not include "Through the Looking Glass" which is often included with "Alice in Wonderland." While the volumes are, as others have noted, quite heavy, the paper is not quite what I was expecting. Perhaps it's to make the books look old, but the paper seems to have a rather yellow tint to it. I bought the set to have at home for loaning out individual volumes or for guests to read if they desire. I have very good

editions of almost all of these books which I'd miss greatly if they weren't returned. These, honestly, if they remain in another's home, I won't miss them greatly. So...good for gifts to those just starting to collect books; I bought a couple of the sets for my nieces. But if you're looking to add quality editions of classics to your library, I'd keep looking.

I purchased these on sale, and was very pleased with both the quality of the books as well as the typeset of the books. That being said, this set is very competitively priced even at full price. When \$12 will hardly buy you a paperback book these days, these books are very definitely not paperbacks. These are hard back books, each one with a ribbon bookmark and crisp pages. The typeset is decent for younger pre-teen readers. There are not as many illustrations as in some fancier editions of these classics, but there are some. All in all, a good set of books for my granddaughters to discover these true classics. I plan on gifting this set to my granddaughter - age 10 - for Christmas. I definitely recommend.

Every child, and the child in each of us, should enjoy this collection, especially *The Secret Garden*, which I had seen as a movie, but found more charming as the original story. *Black Beauty* is a sad book for the most part, and *Alice's Adventures* can be difficult to follow, but even at 73, I enjoyed rereading the books of my youth.

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