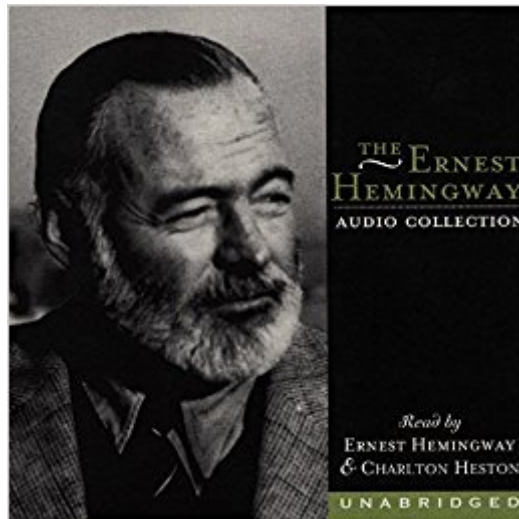




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# Ernest Hemingway Audio Collection CD



## Synopsis

Nobel Prize-winning giant Ernest Hemingway is widely considered one of the greatest American authors of the Twentieth Century. Here, listeners can experience his riveting style both from his own voice and from one of America's most esteemed actors. *The Snows of Kilimanjaro*: Performed by Charlton Heston, this is a classic story of a hard-drinking, ruthless and womanizing world adventurer who comes face-to-face with the one antagonist he cannot conquer: his own ignoble and imminent death. *The Old Man and the Sea*: Also performed by Heston and nominated for a Grammy, this recording of Hemingway's Pulitzer Prize-winning story is a perfect example of his literary precision. *Ernest Hemingway Reads*: A rich sampling of Hemingway's brilliant, multifaceted writing which the Nation said "provides his readers the opportunity to listen for and appreciate the Hemingway wit." Includes: The Nobel Prize Acceptance Speech; Second Poem to Mary; In Harry's Bar in Venice; The Fifth Column; Work in Progress; Saturday Night at the Morehouse in Billings, Montana. Read by Charlton Heston and Ernest Hemingway

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Ernest Hemingway (1899-1961) was one of the twentieth century's most important novelists, as well as a brilliant short story writer and foreign correspondent. His body of work includes the novels *A Farewell to Arms*, *For Whom the Bell Tolls*, and *The Sun Also Rises*. He won the Pulitzer Prize for his novella *The Old Man and the Sea*, and in 1954 was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature. Charlton Heston, best known for such epic films as *The Ten Commandments* and *Ben-Hur*, has appeared in more than forty motion pictures, among them *The Agony and the*

Ecstasy, Kenneth Branagh's Hamlet, and True Lies. He has received a number of awards both in the United States and abroad, including a Best Actor Academy Award<sup>®</sup> for Ben-Hur. Away from the camera, he has been active in the Screen Actors Guild, the American Film Institute, and the Center Theatre Group of Los Angeles. Ernest Hemingway (1899-1961) was one of the twentieth century's most important novelists, as well as a brilliant short story writer and foreign correspondent. His body of work includes the novels A Farewell to Arms, For Whom the Bell Tolls, and The Sun Also Rises. He won the Pulitzer Prize for his novella The Old Man and the Sea, and in 1954 was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature.

Charlton Heston reads THE OLD MAN AND THE SEA and THE SNOWS OF KILIMANJARO on three of the four CDs in this attractive package; both readings are captivating. THE OLD MAN AND THE SEA, which won a Grammy in 1977, particularly merits acclaim. Heston's deep, melodious voice personifies old Santiago as movingly as Spencer Tracy did in the film rendition of the same role. In SNOWS, Heston sensitively reveals the nature of the dying man--his anger, hostilities, sorrows, and compassions. Readings by the author himself, recorded on primitive equipment between 1948 and 1961, include his Nobel Award acceptance speech, his "Second Poem to Mary," and four other brief selections. They are interesting only because we have so little documentation of Hemingway's voice, which turns out to be squeaky and high-pitched. The famously macho man and great writer sounds much better in Charlton Heston's voice. R.E.K. <sup>®</sup> <sup>©</sup> AudioFile 2001, Portland, Maine-- Copyright <sup>®</sup> <sup>©</sup> AudioFile, Portland, Maine

My husband drives around for work all day and was going crazy with nothing to listen to, he just got into Ernest Hemingway so I decided to get this for him for Christmas. He said that Charleton Heston is amazing and the stories are great. He never read the Old Man and the Sea or the Snows of MT. Kilimanjaro and he enjoyed them both.

I highly recommend this collection of Hemingway reading his own words, which comes with the audio books of The Old Man and the Sea, and short story, The Snows of Kilimanjaro, both read by the great Charlton Heston, who gave award winning narration to these immortal works. If you want a taste of how Hemingway spoke in his life this is welcome addition to any collection of Hemingway's works.

Especially enjoyed Heston's reading of Snows of Kil. and Old Man and the Sea: his voice and skillful

presentation of the material were very powerful.

My son is hard to buy for, at this stage of his life if he wants something he can afford it and just goes and gets it. So, I always give him audio books for Christmas and Birthdays, he said he liked this one.

Very short

perfect!

I have read everything Hemingway wrote and visited his home in Key West, the man is a legend on many levels. In order complete one's Hemingway collection this CD is required. Enjoy the readings and the brief glances at the man's voice

Of the Charleton Heston readings of *The Old Man and the Sea* little need be said; they are professional in all respects and fine as they can be. It is good to hear Hemingway's deceptively simple prose read well, for it discloses the fundamental modern English architecture beneath it: decidedly tuned to the ear, with conscious attention to alliteration and repetition of sounds and words. The stories are two of the most carefully crafted in Hemingway's canon, and the resonant voice of Heston will gratify repeated listenings. The addition of a rare disc of Hemingway's own voice will seem, in context, a throw-away or add-on. First of all, the listener will be startled by the high, occasionally hesitant pitch of the author's voice, simultaneously tentative and clipped, and heavily accented. It is no species of stereotyped tough guy one might have expected, neither Jimmy Cagney nor John Wayne. Nor is it one used to public performance. It is quite obviously private, and distinctly regional -- the timbre found in many great plains settlers, with a distinctly 19th century timbre that by now has all but vanished. The occasion was Hemingway's pal A.E. Hotchner (author of *Papa Hemingway*) bringing a tape recorder down to Cuba in the 1950s. Set pieces of the public non-fiction voice were what the author obviously found most comfortable in this experiment: introductions to an obscure play and the collected stories, and finally a very moving performance of the short Nobel speech. There is also humor -- a self-parody of *Across the River and Into the Trees* harder on himself than any critic, and an outrageous improvised bawdy tale that sounds rather boozed. Yet there are two incredible, serious performances here: the wartime *Second Poem to Mary*, and the first chapter of book III of the then unreleased *Islands in the Stream*. In the world of

audio literature, this is about as good as it gets. The poem eerily harks back to the horrors of the World War II Battle of Hurtgen Forest; it sounds as convincing as a battle report, and is an anguished, angry testament to bravery amidst death and monstrosity and the tactical errors of top brass, leaving fighting men in an impossible situation. The Islands reading describes Thomas Hudson amongst similar unspeakable things. If not for everyday or for cruising through town, this disc is certainly for sometimes, preferably late at night and perhaps aided by a shot of your favorite tonic to help you take the hit. In such a setting you will quickly understand how and why this unusual voice became a standard in the war-ravaged "American Century." The thoughtful listener might aid appreciation by picking up Caedmon's Gertrude Stein Reading, and listening to it at the same sitting. Here is another classic, lost Midwestern voice -- and Hemingway's perhaps most important Paris teacher. The similarity of the diction between her Picasso and his Second Poem is a grand revelation, and the sort only possible through this aural dimension Stein thought so essential to her pioneering sandblast job honing our modern English tongue. Yeah kids, maybe you can do it now, perhaps even in your sleep. But only because they did it first.

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