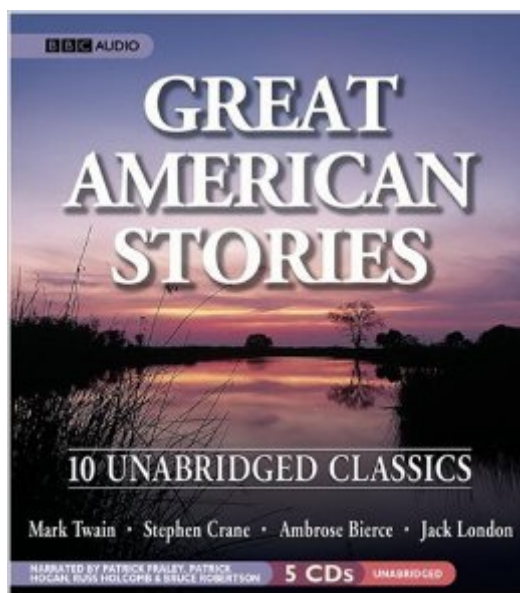


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# Great American Stories



## Synopsis

These ten treasured stories from the most influential authors of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries are selected for their literary importance as well as their dramatic, oral qualities. The following stories are included in this collection: The One Million Pound Bank Note, The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County, A Visit to Niagara, and Mysterious Visit by Mark Twain, narrated by Patrick Fraley The Blue Hotel and The Bride Comes to Yellow Sky by Stephen Crane, narrated by Patrick Hogan The Eyes of the Panther and An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge by Ambrose Bierce, narrated by Russ Holcomb The Love of Life and To Build a Fire by Jack London, narrated by Bruce Robertson

## Book Information

Audio CD: 1 pages

Publisher: BBC Audiobooks America; Unabridged edition (March 7, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1572703032

ISBN-13: 978-1572703032

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 1 x 6.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (49 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #377,387 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in [Books > Books on CD > Authors, A-Z > \( T \) > Twain, Mark](#) #37 in [Books > Books on CD > Literature & Fiction > Short Stories](#) #77 in [Books > Books on CD > Literature & Fiction > Classics](#)

## Customer Reviews

I purchased this for my father along with a selection of other audio books. He reported that he liked this one the best. Apparently the selection of stories was excellent, and the reading was clear and expressive.

I bought this and a few other books on CD for my husband who has a bit of dyslexia (sp?) and has trouble reading. He was so engrossed in the stories that if he were near the end of one, he would sit in the driveway and listen until it was done. So then, by proxy, I know all of the stories and it seems like a wonderful 'read'. This is a perfect gift for someone who enjoys fine adventure literature by fine authors.

**Book Description** These ten classic stories from four of America's greatest authors of the 19th and early 20th century were selected for their literary importance as well as their dramatic oral qualities. The stories include Mark Twain's "The One-Million Pound Bank Note," "A Visit to Niagara," and "A Mysterious Visit;" Stephen Crane's "The Blue Hotel;" Ambrose Bierce's "The Eyes of the Panther;" and Jack London's "The Love of Life" and "To Build a Fire."

This collection of American short stories from the late-19th and early-20th centuries is quite good, though by including selections from only a handful of authors not really representative of American literature during that period (what, no O. Henry?). The four Mark Twain stories---"The One Million Pound Bank Note", "The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County", "A Visit to Niagara", and "Mysterious Visit"---are of course hilarious, particularly the first and third of these. "The Blue Hotel" and "The Bride Comes to Yellow Sky" by Stephen Crane are both good (though perhaps not great). "The Eyes of the Panther" by Ambrose Bierce is somewhat predictable and hokey, but "An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge" is quite effective. And Jack London's "The Love of Life" and "To Build a Fire" are both quite dark, even disturbing---harrowing wouldn't be too strong a word---but very well crafted. The narrators here are all excellent as well. Definitely worth a listen.

I got this for my husband for Christmas, but I have been able to enjoy the stories too. He has listened to many of the stories twice now. Great story selection and well read.

This was the first time purchasing stories on CD and I loved it. I don't spend alot of time in my car but sometimes talk radio is too hostile and music isn't stimulating enough but these stories were perfect. It got me through snow storms and traffic by taking away to different places and times. I would recommend to everyone.

This was a Christmas gift for a blind friend of mine. He lives in a Care Center, and gets someone to play it for him....he sure enjoys listening to the stories, as do the others who can hear it around him!! Great to have several stories in one CD!

These stories are beautifully done and the readers are incredibly good. My only objection is that the stories are all of the same type like an Edgar Allen Poe type. I was hoping for drama classics. If you like mysteries and ghost stories, you will love these. Nevertheless, even for me they were interesting. I put them on my iPod and used them when walking - made the walk just fly by. The last

two by Jack London about the arctic wilderness were just fascinating. I didn't want my walk to end so I kept walking! I can still feel the cold of that arctic wilderness even though I live in Southern California! The stories would be good in the car too. Another fascinating one was "An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge". I had seen a movie version of this 40 or so years ago. It is about a man about to be hung during the civil war. I never got over it. It haunts me to this day.

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