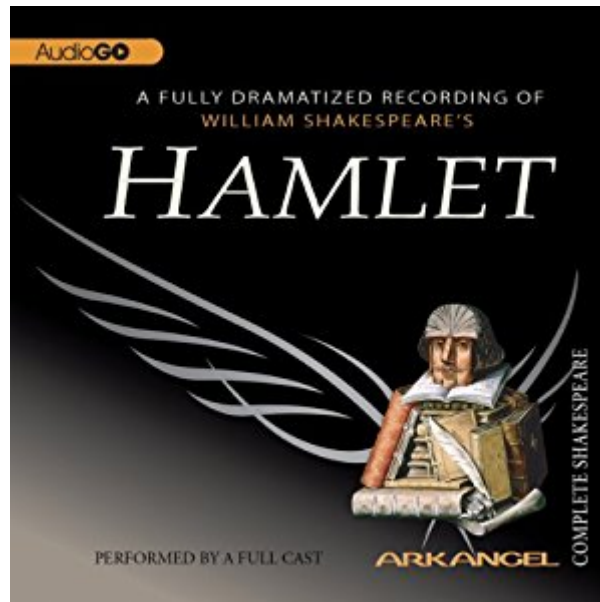


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# Hamlet: The Arkangel Shakespeare



## Synopsis

Shakespeare's most famous play is one of the greatest stories in the literature of the world. Distressed by his father's death and his mother's over-hasty remarriage, Hamlet, Prince of Denmark, is faced by a specter from beyond the grave bearing a grim message of murder and revenge. The young prince is driven to the edge of madness by his struggle to understand the situation he finds himself in and to do his duty. Many others, including Hamlet's beloved, the innocent Ophelia, are swept up in his tragedy. Hamlet is played by Simon Russell Beale. Imogen Stubbs plays Ophelia, Jane Lapotaire is Gertrude, and Bob Peck is Claudius. Polonius is played by Norman Rodway.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 3 hours and 25 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Original recording

Publisher: Arkangel

Audible.com Release Date: May 13, 2014

Language: English

ASIN: B00KBAN3X0

Best Sellers Rank: #48 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Fiction & Literature > Drama #102 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Nonfiction > Computers #120 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Arts & Entertainment > Performing Arts

## Customer Reviews

What a terrific find! I got the Romeo and Juliet cd from the same company and was very pleased. So, I tried Macbeth. This is the finest interpretation of the parts I have ever heard. The readers even speak with Scottish accents. This a dramatized version, complete with sound effects. My students love it.

I started listening to the Arkangel series because of David Tennant (Doctor Who). Since then I've become addicted to this series, buying what I cannot borrow. The full cast of actors present the material in a very natural style, quite different from the respectful, poetic style that I was exposed to in school so many years ago. I've even gone through four of the histories, something that I never intended to do. Read all the other reviews for well-considered, thoughtful reviews, especially in

comparison to other offerings. I just know that I am enjoying listening to these CDs just for fun.

As with most of the Arkangel Shakespeare, this is a very decently done performance, with some great acting. (The music, which is modern and a little sentimental, seems to me a mistake.) But as with all the Shakespeare, I'm a big believer in the Caedmon recordings from several decades ago, which feature simply amazing actors of the last generation: Sir Ralph Richardson, Paul Scofield, Sir John Gielgud, Hugh Griffith, Jeremy Brett, Sir Michael Redgrave, Cyril Cusack, Alan Bates, Vanessa Redgrave...the list goes on. The Arkangel recordings have a lot to offer, but we ought to have the option of listening to the classic recordings of these plays. Protest to Caedmon Music/Harper Collins today!

This set of three Compact Discs contains a really great dramatization of Shakespeare's famous play, Hamlet. Arkangel brought together a battery of great actors, who really brought the story to life. Simon Russell Beale does a great job as Hamlet, bringing a great deal of tension to the portrayal. My one and only complaint is that the story is produced straight out of the book - which means that there is very little introduction of the cast of characters or of the scenes. When you read the play, you see the scene described and the characters listed, and when you see the play performed you see the scenery and see the faces of the actors. But, in this purely audio play you have to get to know the characters from their voices alone, and sometimes it is a little hard to imagine where the action is actually taking place. But, in spite of that little problem, I really did enjoy the play and had little problem following the broad outline of what was happening to whom and why. Yep, I found this to be a very enjoyable dramatization, and I do not hesitate to recommend it!

I purchased the HAMLET (ARKANGEL SHAKESPEARE) AUDIOBOOK CD to use in my high school senior English classes. I also enjoy listening to the CD myself on occasion just for fun because the vocal performances are so well done. The music is a more modern than on other recordings of Hamlet, but that didn't really bother me too much (the students enjoyed it more than period music they've listened to before on other recordings). The cast on this album includes: Simon Russell Beale - Hamlet Imogen Stubbs - Ophelia Jane Lapotaire - Gertrude Bob Peck - Claudius Norman Rodway - Polonius Paul Jesson - Ghost/Gravedigger Alan Cox - Horatio Damian Lewis - Laertes John McAndrew - Rosencrantz Clarence Smith - Guildenstern Clifford Rose - Player King Chook Sibtain - Fortinbras Nicholas Rowe - Marcellus/Osric Alex Boyd-Williams - Cornelius/Reynaldo Nicholas Murchie - Prologue/Lucianus/Doctor Steven O'Neill - Player Queen Alan

Westaway - Barnardo Alex McSweenty - Francisco Nick Monn - Voltemandt's not the best HAMLET AUDIOBOOK CD out there, but overall the HAMLET (ARKANGEL SHAKESPEARE) AUDIOBOOK CD is a good one.

with a lot of these plays one either enjoys them or not, the production engages one or not. This one I both enjoyed and found engaging. I think it is well done.

Love how the songs are different tracks, and music always intros them. The actors are clear with good, meaningful inflection.

I love this story! The CD audio is very good. It's very easy to get lost in the story.

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