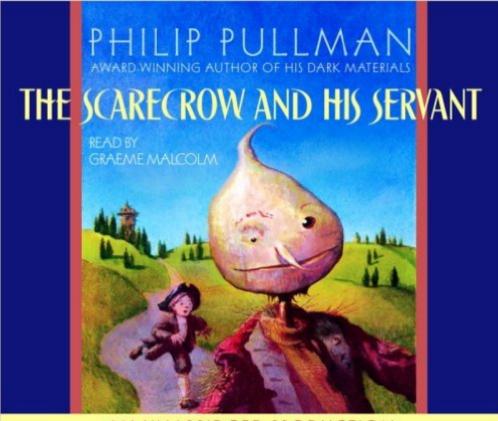
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The Scarecrow And His Servant



AN UNABRIDGED PRODUCTION



Synopsis

A tattered scarecrow stands in the middle of a muddy field, taking no notice of the violent thunderstorm around him. But when a bolt of lightning strikes him, fizzing its way through his turnip head and down his broomstick, the Scarecrow blinks with surpriseâ "and comes to life. So begins the story of the Scarecrow, a courteous but pea-brained fellow with grand ideas. He meets a boy, Jack, who becomes his faithful servant. Leaving behind his bird-scaring duties, the Scarecrow sets out for Spring Valley, with Jack at his side. As the valiant Scarecrow plunges them into terrifying dangersâ "battles, brigands, broken hearts, and treasure islandsâ "he never realizes heâ ™s being followed by the one family who desperately wishes heâ ™d never sprung to life. Will the Scarecrow discover the secret to his past before the crooked Buffalonis close in on him?

Book Information

Audio CD Publisher: Listening Library (Audio); Unabridged edition (September 13, 2005) Language: English ISBN-10: 0307280748 ISBN-13: 978-0307280749 Product Dimensions: 5 x 1 x 5.8 inches Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (19 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #3,320,509 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #12 in Books > Books on CD > Authors, A-Z > (P) > Pullman, Philip #1195 in Books > Books on CD > Children's Fiction > Fantasy #1708 in Books > Books on CD > Children's Fiction > General Age Range: 9 - 12 years Grade Level: 4 - 7

Customer Reviews

A delightful, laugh-out-loud read, for children and adults alike. From the wonderful Phillip Pullman .The scarecrow, lovingly constructed by the ailing farmer - and complete with turnip head - comes to life when struck by lightening. Then his travels start. He meets young Jack - all alone in the world and says to him :" Here you are, an honest and willing youth and here am I, a Scarecrow of enterprise and talent. What would you say if I offered you the position of my personal servant ? "Jack accepts - and their adventures begin. A rollicking tale complete with military skirmishes, pirates, lost treasure. A wonderful cast of birds, led by Granny Raven. And the villianous Buffalonis, intent on destroying all that is beautiful in the Scarecrow's true home, Spring Valley. The story comes to its climactic finale in the courtroom where the Buffalonis plot to deprive the noble scarecrow of Spring Valley. The final chapter will leave you laughing with joy. And renewed appreciation of Phillip Pullman's exceptional talent. Read the book with an open mind. Do not compare this with the famous Dark Materials trilogy, as some readers inevitably will do. Enjoy it purely as a story. A multi-layered story. Children will enjoy this story on their level. The astute adult reader will gain something more : The courtroom scene with its costumed pomposity and legal terminology " non independentem judgi nogoodi " is a clever broadside at the theatre of the court. Pullman's use of the English language - and a lexicon of names as rich as J.K. Rowling's - will leave the reader wanting more from this author. I loved the Dark Materials trilogy and all its complexities.

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