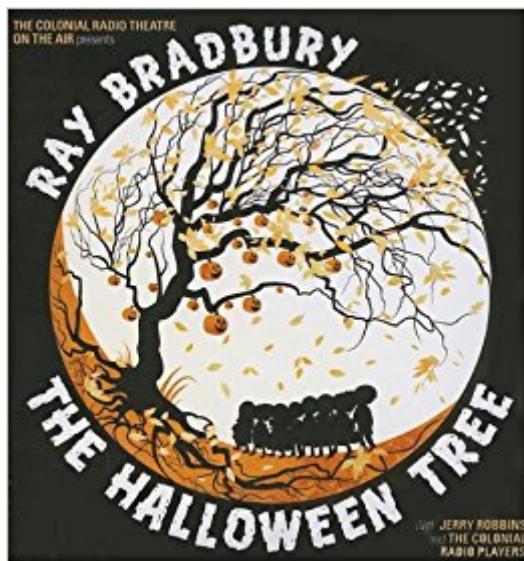


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# The Halloween Tree (Dramatization)



## Synopsis

Special indeed are holiday stories with the right mix of high spirits and subtle mystery to please both adults and children. In Ray Bradbury's classic *The Halloween Tree*, eight boys set out on a Halloween night and are led into the depths of the past by a tall, mysterious character named Moundshroud. Bradbury's lyrical prose whooshes along with the pell-mell rhythms of children running at night, screaming and laughing, and the reader is carried along by its sheer exuberance.

## Book Information

Audio CD

Publisher: Blackstone Audiobooks, Inc.; Unabridged edition (October 1, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1433232162

ISBN-13: 978-1433232169

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 5.2 x 6 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #993,680 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #5 in Books > Books on CD > Authors, A-Z > ( B ) > Bradbury, Ray #245 in Books > Books on CD > Children's Fiction > Fantasy #453 in Books > Books on CD > Children's Fiction > General

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

When young Pipkin becomes ill and is whisked away into the mysterious darkness of the Halloween tree, his friends must race through space and time to save him. With a peculiar old man named Moundshroud to guide them, the kids encounter the many earlier manifestations of the holiday known as Halloween. The voice talent for this production matches well with the predominant characters of young boys, and Jerry Robbins plays Moundshroud with a good eccentric and maniacal tone. While there are sound effects, they are mostly limited to ambient vocals in the background and wind, never utilizing the more calm-fracturing accoutrements like slamming doors or dishes breaking. A wealth of music complements the story and gives the listener a sense of plot progression, although some of the singing feels a bit overdone. (Sept.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

"A spectacular guide to the nether regions. ""[A] haunting, unforgettable night....satisfyingly spooky."

--This text refers to the MP3 CD edition.

This is one of the best radio productions of any Ray Bradbury story I have ever listened to - including the famous Bradbury 13. This production blows that away in my opinion. Listening to The Halloween Tree is like watching a movie. The sound effects are amazing. The scene where Moundshroud creates a kite out of circus posters on the side of a barn is fantastic and there are hundreds of effects in that one scene alone. This radio drama is filled with so many incredible images. The music is as good, if not better, than many Hollywood film scores, and they even do the songs that are written in the actual book, using Bradbury's actual lyrics. The boys all have distinctive voices so you always know who is speaking, and Moundshroud is the stuff of nightmares, while at the same time "kid friendly" which is not an easy task to pull off. I now have all the colonial Bradbury productions, and this one is by far the best.

I love this, love this, love this. Love the book, and this is such a great old time radio style telling of the story, even though they did edit out a bit of my favorite chapter, Chapter 2, the one that describes Pipkin. This is right up there for Hallowe'en listening along with Donald Knaack and Michael Douglas Jones' telling of Poe's "The Raven" - The Raven (feat. Michael Douglas Jones)

This is another triumph for Jerry Robbins and the Colonial Radio Theater. This is a third in a series of Ray Bradbury's books referred to as the "Green Town" stories. The other two are "Something Wicked This Way Comes" and "Dandelion Wine". I highly recommend all three but it is "The Halloween Tree" I'm reviewing right now. This is a wonderful story for the family, but be forewarned it is a slightly morbid subject, but is handled in Bradbury & CRT's usual tasteful and entertaining manner. It is a wonderfully historical trip through time. J.T. Turner is fantastic as the narrator making you wonder if he isn't the author of the story himself relating it just for you. Jerry Robbins is the mysterious and slightly suspicious Mr. Moundshroud and does the part with an enthusiastic and marvelous creepy touch. Just the right balance of the bizarre and humorous. Anastas Varinos(Pip), Matthew Scott-Robertson (Tom) and the other children sound like they've stepped right out of this Bradbury classic and really deliver 1st class performances. Mr. Jeffrey Gage gives us a soundtrack that sounds like it would be enjoyable on its own, and yet it never over powers the performances and, as all great soundtracks do, it lifts the story and moves it along at just the right pace. If you are an audio drama buff or just a Bradbury buff add this to your collection. You'll find that Ray

Bradbury's stories come alive when you step into this theater of the mind adaptation. Enjoy!

I love Halloween and this is my favorite Halloween book. It keeps the blood, gore, and evil type things out. It adds history, cuteness, and friendship there to tell an amazing story.

Classic Bradbury at its best. In addition to this they also do the Martian Chronicles which I also purchased. Love Audio Books and these are very good indeed if not great.

I like getting the book with the audio book, and I enjoyed this for the first time and I am over 50. The cultural references throughout make this a nice listen around Halloween.

Very intriguing and mysterious.

Ray Bradbury won a hugo for the adaptation of his novel into a video. This radio play has all the same heart and excitement of that film. A group of friends, all dressed up for Halloween rush to a friend's house only to find him ill and being taken to the hospital. As potential death looms for the young boy, his friends go on a series of adventures exploring the history of Halloween and other cultural events related to our, very human, fear of death. Though written for children, this story explores some of the darker sides of fear, and the importance of facing it, as seen throughout the ages.

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