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Borgen: Outside the Castle: A BBC Radio 4 Full-Cast Drama

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Tommy Bredsted, Joan Rang Christensen, Rum Malmros : Borgen: Outside the Castle: A BBC Radio 4 Full-Cast Drama before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Borgen: Outside the Castle: A BBC Radio 4 Full-Cast Drama:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A good supplement to the great TV Borgen By F. R. Lewis This radio series supplement to the superb television "Borgen" is not as good, but it is by no means as bad as some critics have claimed. A senior civil servant trying to modify government policy on genetically modified (GMO) products finds himself the object of a conspiracy to eliminate his plan and him as well. He is betrayed by a subordinate, booted by his minister (of the pre-Birgitte Nyborg government), and shunned by his colleagues in other departments. While the civil servant is trying to steer a middle course between the existing total GMO ban and corporate interests seeking unfettered sale of even the most risky GMO products, he is jammed up by all sides. In the course of his struggle to fight the good fight, there are disastrous consequences for himself, his dysfunctional family, and his allies. Having spent 30 years in the civil service myself (in the USA), I can say the depiction of the dynamic between people within the service, with politicians, and with outside stakeholders (including other levels of government - in this story, between the Danish civil service and EU bureaucrats - is mainly accurate if slightly exaggerated. As with the main character here, over the years I encountered departments where the number two was always firmly convinced all problems would be solved if only he (or she) replaced the current number one, and nefarious number twos would not hesitate to smarm the political overseers of the department in order to accomplish this. Likewise, the idea of a dull bureaucrat being whacked by corporate assassins is a bit much, but I recall one case during my career when something

similar did really happen. The radio series is a good-but-not-great thriller. It lacks the sharp exchanges, fierce confrontations, and strong characters of the TV Borgen - in particular, it lacks a magnetic Birgitte Nyborg. One can imagine what the TV series would be like if Bent Sejro or Bjorn Marrot were the main character instead of Birgitte. On the other hand, there is a Hanne Holm-like journalist who adds color. This Borgen is good quality radio entertainment worth the attention of TV Borgen fans. It is also suitable for people who enjoy political thrillers - it has the elements of classic film noir. But it is not "must-hear" radio in the sense that Borgen was, and remains, "must-see" TV.

A thrilling BBC Radio full-cast spin-off from the Danish TV series, starring Tim Pigott-Smith. Hans Gammelgaard, Private Secretary in the Danish Ministry of the Environment, is seeking approval for the controlled use of genetically modified crops by Danish farmers. However, unseen enemies seem prepared to go to any lengths in pursuit of their own agenda. When Hans is sacked, he and his grandson Nick join forces with cynical journalist Jan Glerup to find out who has been pushing commercial interests in the GMO debate in Borgen. A series of threatening phone calls means time is running out. Hans begins to fear not only for the political situation, but also for his family. Adapted from the original Danish version, this radio drama is set against the backdrop of the first Borgen television series, which followed the unlikely emergence of Birgitte Nyborg as the country's new Prime Minister. At the center of the drama is the Danish parliament, nicknamed Borgen "the castle." While the TV drama focuses on the politicians, the radio drama is set in the world of the civil service.

"Any fan of the show should welcome this adaptation, translated by Joy Wilkinson and with a first-rate British cast but using the same music and a similar darting construction." Daily Telegraph