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Radio Spirits

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Radio Spirits : Box 13 before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Box 13:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Judy V Enjoyed this old time radio cd. Great for those long trips in the car. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Alan Ladd at His Best By Bobby Underwood Finding new ideas for mystery and adventure stories could sometimes be murder for Dan Holiday. From 1948-1949 Paramount screen hero Alan Ladd starred as the mystery writer who had the nifty idea of advertising for adventure in the Star-Times. Each week listeners would have a great time following along as he responded to a query which always led to trouble, often big trouble. Started by Ladd and buddy Bernie Joslin, Ladd remained loyal to the old gang at radio station KFWB, where he had gotten his start. Writer Russell Hughes and actress Sylvia Picker were two who'd been good to him way back when and were rewarded once he was one of the biggest stars in Hollywood. Ladd's own production company, Mayfair, brought the show to syndication, but it proved so popular that it had a network run on West Coast Mutual. Box Thirteen was one of the best things Alan Ladd ever did. It was a high quality show which relied on his charisma and talent rather than a large budget. The stories were terrific, not a dud anywhere in sight. Everything that was great about Ladd, and old radio itself, can be heard and enjoyed in Box Thirteen. It is, in fact, one of the finest and most entertaining shows ever produced for radio. Sylvia Picker played the ditzy secretary, Suzy, and would always end the show on a humorous note by misapplying a phrase or word. The silliness of her character acted as a balance to the rough ordeal listeners had just heard Holiday make it through. Some episodes were full of intrigue, others murder, and a few had a sweet bent to them in the end. More fun was crammed into the half hour of this show than perhaps any other on radio. THE FIRST LETTER -- Holiday's first case involves blackmail and

murder, and he finds himself on the wrong end!INSURANCE FRAUD -- Did someone disappear so insurance could be collected by his widow 7 years later?BLACKMAIL CAN BE MURDER -- A body in a closet and an elderly lady make this one adventure Holiday could do without!ACTOR'S ALIBI -- Holiday looks into the murder of a radio star and Suzy becomes his permanent girl Friday.EXTRA! EXTRA! -- Dan tries to clear a boy's dad of theft.SHANGHAIED -- Holiday has a wet adventure!SHORT ASSIGNMENT -- An amateur gumshoe needs Holiday's help.DOUBLE MOTHERS -- Holiday becomes a daddy when he meets a little girl on a park bench!BOOK OF POEMS -- Holiday gets poems rather than a letter in Box Thirteen, from a dead man....THE GREAT TORINO -- A ticket to see a magic act brings Holiday more entertainment than he wanted.SUICIDE, OR MURDER? -- Did a reporter do himself in, or did he have help?TRIPLE CROSS -- A roulette wheel and a pretty girl add up to trouble in this adventure.DAMSEL IN DISTRESS -- One of my favorite episodes has Holiday helping a lonely teenage girl. This is the kind of episode which separated Box Thirteen from others.DIAMOND IN THE SKY -- Dan's off to Paris, but it's anything but glamorous when he discovers he got suckered! Another of my all-time favorites from this show.DOUBLE RIGHT CROSS -- Dan helps an old friend prove he didn't throw a fight.LOOK PLEASANT, PLEASE -- How did a simple picture lead to Holiday being engaged?!THE HAUNTED ARTIST -- Is a painting really haunted?THE SAD NIGHT -- A book may lead to a fortune, and death!HOT BOX -- What's in Box Thirteen has Holiday bidding at an auction in this episode. When someone else grabs the item, adventure follows.THE BETTER MAN -- A load of money is attached to a dinner invitation in Box Thirteen!Each of these episodes is great in its own way. Box Thirteen was radio at its zenith. It was entertaining and fun. There was adventure and humor, and you couldn't wait to hear what would show up next in response to Holiday's ad in the Star-Times. For Ladd fans this is an absolute must.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Ladd On RadioBy Bobby UnderwoodAlan Ladd was a huge star for Paramount when he decided to produce his own radio show. Though he only did it for a couple of years, Box 13 was a very enjoyable show. A perfect blend of mystery and action with a dash of humor thrown in, this is my all-time favorite radio show.Ladd played Dan Holiday, a writer who decided to place an ad in the Star-Times newspaper to help him come up with ideas for his books. Holiday got a lot more than he bargained for most of the time. The ad read as follows: ADVENTURE WANTED: WILL GO ANYWHERE, DO ANYTHING. Needless to say, Holiday had some great adventures, and ran across more than a little intrigue in his efforts to help someone with a problem, no questions asked.Sometimes it was Holiday himself who was in trouble, responding to a letter in his box or a small gift left there that rarely turned out to be exactly what it seemed. His daffy but sweet secretary, Susie, was always using the wrong word or destroying a famous saying almost beyond recognition, helping lighten the mood of this excellent and entertaining show from 1948-49.You get six tapes here with three shows each on them. Tape #5 on this particular collection contains one of the best shows of the series. "Hare and the Hound" begins when someone follows Susie in order to steal a letter sent to Box 13. Holiday attempts to find out why, and in the process gets accused of murder by an eyewitness. When Holiday tracks down the guy who accused him to get out from under the charge, he discovers the whole thing is about espionage. He uses the guy as bait to flush out the real culprit and get to the bottom of things. How he does so will involve switching cabs in an all night ride around the city while Holiday pays them with phony five dollar bills, hoping the cops will catch on and close in before someone else does. It's great stuff!Ladd's Box 13 was always fun to listen to and there was always a nice closing to each show that would involve Holiday talking to Susie, trying to explain what had transpired and finally giving up, but with a smile. This was Ladd at his finest and a sterling example of old-time radio at its most entertaining. If you're feeling nostalgic and want to sample the best of a sadly forgotten medium in entertainment, this is a highly recommended place to start.

This 1948-1949 detective adventure stars Alan Ladd as mystery novel writer Dan Holiday. Holiday seeks material for his books by running an ad in the Star-Times newspaper: "Adventure wanted: will go anywhere, do anything - Box 13." It all adds up to danger for Holiday and 18 great half-hour radio episodes for you. Flash of Light 09-13-48 The Clay Pigeon 02-28-49 Round Robin 03-07-49 Treasure of Hang Lee 12-20-48 Hunt and Peck 09-27-48 The Better Man 07-26-48 The Haunted Artist 07-05-48 The Sad Night 07-12-48 Three to Die 08-16-48 Speed to Burn 01-17-49 House of Darkness 01-24-49 Tempest in a Casserole 10-25-48 Mexican Maze 11-01-48 Hare and Hounds 09-20-48 Look Pleasant Please 06-28-48 Last Will and Nursery Rhyme 08-30-48 Double Trouble 01-31-49 Find Me, Find Death 11-15-48