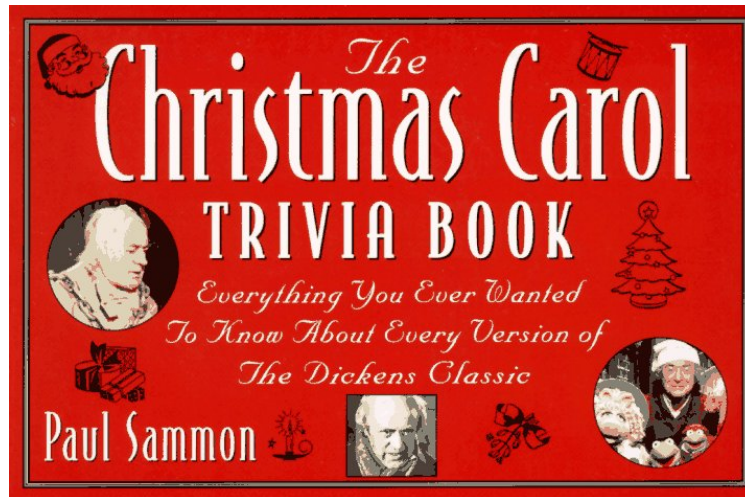


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## The "Christmas Carol" Trivia Book: Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Every Version of the Dickens Classic

Paul Sammon

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**Paul Sammon : The "Christmas Carol" Trivia Book: Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Every Version of the Dickens Classic** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The "Christmas Carol" Trivia Book: Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Every Version of the Dickens Classic:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Trivial Pursuit in the Form of a Book By William Mortensen Vaughan This is like Trivial Pursuit, but in book form, and related to numerous adaptations of A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens. 3 of 5 people found the following review helpful. For Die-Hard Fans Only! By Timothy B. Fling This very slender book is not a bad afternoon read, but ultimately it fails in what it attempts to do. The author himself comes off as pompous and disengaging, as his "trivia" book is little more than a brief collection of personal opinions of his favorite Christmas Carol versions. These thinly veiled reviews lack the calibre of even your local TV Guide synopses. The only real trivia examples here are in classroom style question-exercises included at the end of each chapter! While I have no problem with this, the author postures himself as the true expert on A Christmas Carol with no real exposition as to why said versions are his favorite! I am giving it three stars, though, as the subject matter remains enjoyable no matter how clumsily presented. Also worth noting- The recent Patrick Stewart version is omitted from this collection. Sacrilege! 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. I liked it. By J. Smith Okay. First, an admission. I liked this book. Before the internet made such research into various film and movie adaptations more accessible, people had to rely on books such as this for information to break down various opinions and analysis on movies. While "The Christmas Carol Trivia Book" is hardly scholarly, it is fun and informative, and I confess that I have read this book several times. Mr. Sammon does a pretty effective job in presenting the histories of various Christmas Carol films, tv productions, radio shows, and plays. While I agree with the great majority of his opinions such as his high ranking of the 1951 version of A Christmas Carol and the 1970 Richard Williams version, I do disagree with his low assessment of Mr. Briscusse's songs in the 1970 musical version (Hey! I hum "Happiness Is"

every so often. It's a wonderful love theme). But to be fair, Mr. Sammon does give credit to the film's other strengths: Albert Finney, the credits, and the unique use of hell in the movie's climax. The 1970 Australian version of A Christmas Carol that CBS presented for nearly ten years is given a pretty low ranking. But I myself, thought it had its own strengths, particularly the ominous music which stuck in my head for years. I almost forget to mention this little booklet's other strength. A pretty decent section on how Dickens' came up with the story, the original publication history, and the first public performances by Dickens. All worth a mention. The story of the 1951 British adaptation is another highlight. There are so many excellent twists to this version that Mr. Sammons mentions: the use of the classic "Bonny Barbara Allen," the hourglass special effect to show time travel, the acting, etc. Such a wonderful version. This book should also be given credit for bringing attention to the superb animated 1971 animated Richard Williams short, which is in itself a work of art. It is simply shameful that more viewers don't know about this adaptation, and it should be out on Blu-Ray if not on DVD. If you can afford to, buy an out of print VHS video of it on ebay or , and you'll be stunned by the work on this short twenty-two minute cartoon. While this book may not be current, and there are more scholarly versions available, the "Christmas Carol Trivia Book" does have its strengths. Sincerely, JThreeWilliston ND

Here's everything you ever wanted to know about every version of the Dickens classic--from Alister Sim's to Henry Winkler's to Alvin and the Chipmunk's adaptation. Fun facts and brain-teasing questions make this the perfect book to find stuffed in a stocking or next to a bowl of Razzleberry dressing. Illustrated with photos throughout.