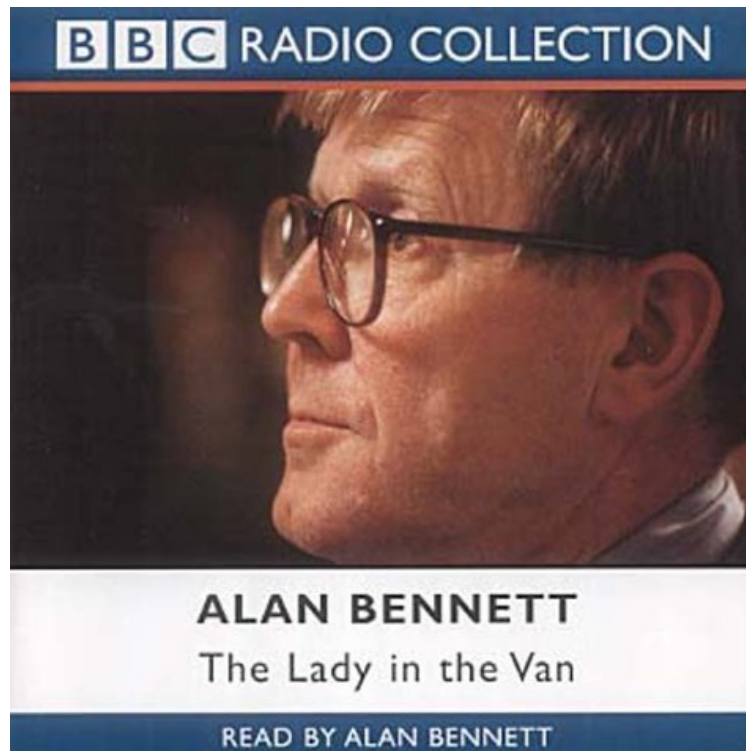


(Free and download) The Lady in the Van (BBC Radio Collection)

The Lady in the Van (BBC Radio Collection)

Alan Bennett

DOC | *audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub



#13269633 in Books 2001-08-06 Format: Audiobook Original language: English Binding: Audio CD | File size: 31.Mb

Alan Bennett : The Lady in the Van (BBC Radio Collection) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Lady in the Van (BBC Radio Collection):

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. "Van-tastic!" By Phoebe Stogstill Why on earth did I buy this little 95 page book? A friend posted the trailer for the upcoming movie production of the same name and I was so intrigued that I decided I wanted to read the story first. It will be awhile before the movie comes out on DVD, and I just couldn't wait that long. I am so glad I read it. As a person who has done years of eldercare, I can certainly relate to the quirks of the lady in the van. The author tells the incidents in such a humorous way. I especially loved his anecdote about the late Vincent Price and his wife. If you, too, should want to learn the story, I do not feel you will regret reading this book. It is well worth it. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Lovely, lovely read By Ruth B. This was just a wonderful read, and I was really sad it was only a novella as I would have enjoyed so many more of Miss S's stories. I was drawn to the book after watching an interview with Maggie Smith, who is playing Miss S in the movie of the book, and find the casting to be spot on. I don't think anybody else could play this uppity, yet seemingly crazy and impoverished lady. Miss S's views and dialogue are a treat, and you can well imagine an older family member you are forced to visit on a regular basis, both entertaining and quite repulsing you at the same time. My only regret was Alan Bennett not explaining why he allowed her to move onto his property, something he can be commended on, as I doubt many would do the same. As I say, lovely short read. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Poor Alan! By Customer Bennett is always good and his style is recognisable. I found this account oddly divorced from reality and as

if he were looking back and congratulating himself for having been so nice to the lady in the van. In reality he is still the same stiff, bloodless character he has always been and has not really grown into compassion or understanding, especially of the mentally unwell. I was also sickened by the neglect of the mentally ill by London and the UK in general. The nuns up the hill could also have shown more compassion and help but apparently the order was on its last legs. Poor old Alan will always remain divorced from the cut and thrust of everyday life because of his upbringing and his social milieu and the fact that he has never had to put another sentient being's feelings and problems before his own. He is always an excellent writer - spare and trenchant.

The humorous and moving tale of Miss Shepherd, an eccentric old lady who, by a bizarre series of twists and turns, lived in the author's garden for many years. Alan Bennett reads his own acclaimed work, recently adapted as a West End smash hit starring Maggie Smith as the eccentric old lady.

"...a wonderfully bittersweet comic diary of the years in which a lethally dotty and very smelly old bat parked her unroadworthy vehicle in Bennett's Camden garden, thereby providing him with a roughly equal amount of good journalistic copy and guilty landlordly irritation." Sheridan Morley, Spectator

About the Author Alan Bennett has been one of our leading dramatists since the success of *Beyond the Fringe* in the 1960s. His television series *Talking Heads* has become a modern-day classic, as have many of his works for the stage including *Forty Years On*, *The Lady in the Van* (together with the screenplay), *A Question of Attribution*, *The Madness of George III* (together with the Oscar-nominated screenplay *The Madness of King George*), and an adaptation of Kenneth Grahame's *The Wind in the Willows*. At the National Theatre, London, *The History Boys* (also a screenplay) won numerous awards including Evening Standard and Critics' Circle awards for Best Play, an Olivier for Best New Play and the South Bank Award. On Broadway, *The History Boys* won five New York Drama Desk Awards, four Outer Critics' Circle Awards, a New York Drama Critics' Award, a New York Drama League Award and six Tonys. *The Habit of Art* opened at the National in 2009; in 2012, *People*, as well as the two short plays *Hymn* and *Cocktail Sticks*, was also staged there. His collection of prose, *Keeping On Keeping On*, published in October 2016. Of his two previous collections, *Writing Home* was a number one bestseller and *Untold Stories* won the PEN/Ackerley Prize for autobiography, 2006. Bennett's *Six Poets, Hardy to Larkin, An Anthology*, was published in 2014. His fiction includes *The Uncommon Reader* and *Smut: Two Unseemly Stories.*, ALAN BENNETT has been a leading dramatist since *Beyond the Fringe* in the 1960s. His works for stage and screen include *Talking Heads*, *Forty Years On*, *The Lady in the Van*, *A Question of Attribution*, *The Madness of George III*, an adaptation of *The Wind in the Willows*, *The History Boys*, *The Habit of Art*, *People*, *Hymn* and *Cocktail Sticks*. His previous collections of prose are *Writing Home* and *Untold Stories* (PEN/Ackerley Prize, 2006). *Six Poets* contains Bennett's selection of English verse, accompanied by his commentary. Recent fiction includes *The Uncommon Reader* and *Smut: Two Unseemly Stories*.