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Mandela: An Audio History: Commemorative Edition





Synopsis

Audie Award, Audiobook of the Year, 2015 Recognized as one of the most comprehensive oral histories of apartheid ever broadcast (NPR, BBC, CBC, SABC), Mandela: An Audio History tells the story of the struggle against apartheid through rare sound recordings. The series weaves together more than 50 first-person interviews with an unprecedented collection of archival sound: a rare recording of the 1964 trial that resulted in Mandela's life sentence; a visit between Mandela and his family secretly taped by a prison guard; marching songs of guerilla soldiers; government propaganda films; and pirate radio broadcasts from the African National Congress (ANC). Once thought lost forever, Radio Diaries producer Joe Richman unearthed a treasure trove of these historic recordings in the basement archive of the South African Broadcasting Corporation. Ultimately, over 50 hours of archival recordings and many more hours of contemporary interviews with the living witnesses to South Africa's turbulent history have gone into the creation of one of the most moving audio documentaries ever produced. Includes a commemorative 32-page booklet featuring historic photos and a complete transcript of the audio program.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition Listening Length: 1 hour and 17 minutes Program Type: Audiobook Version: Unabridged Publisher: HighBridge, a division of Recorded Books Audible.com Release Date: February 5, 2014 Language: English ASIN: B00I9MTDH2 Best Sellers Rank: #77 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > History > Africa #365 in Books > History > Africa > South Africa #519 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > Africa

Customer Reviews

This was one of the best documentaries I have every heard. I was impressed by Mandela before this, but it made me realize how little I know about his long and complex journey. The fact that so much of this was first hand accounts, real recordings etc made it all the more special.We turned around and used it for a Quaker Youth Retreat with great success.Mlke

Considering that "Mandela: An Audio History" is the history of the entire apartheid era of South

Africa in 75 minutes, this short history is surprisingly thorough and very compelling. The audiobook tells the story of apartheid through the story of Nelson Mandela - why he decided to fight against it, how he decided to fight against it, his trial for treason, his time in prison, how the struggle continued with him as the symbol of hope and resistance, the collapse of the apartheid system and it ends with the election of Mandela as president. Each chapter begins with a short introduction by Anglican Bishop Desmond Tutu (also a large voice against apartheid). The story is mostly told through interviews with Mandela and dozens of others and also includes snippets from radio and TV news broadcasts. Of course, details are left out. Desmond Tutu's Nobel Prize is not mentioned and Winnie Mandela is glossed over and nothing is mentioned about their marital troubles (to be expected considering their age difference and considering that he was imprisoned for such a long part of their marriage) and her implication in a murder and virtual endorsement of the heinous practice of necklacing. But, like I already noted, things have to be left out if the goal is a short history. This is a very fine short history of apartheid - very approachable and I found it to be quite engrossing.

Fantastic to hear the story of resistance to apartheid and the triumph of non-racial democracy through the voices of the very people who made it happen. A wonderful resource for teaching as well.

The audio was fantastic! It was everything I wanted to be and more! I am looking forward to sharing this audio with my students.

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