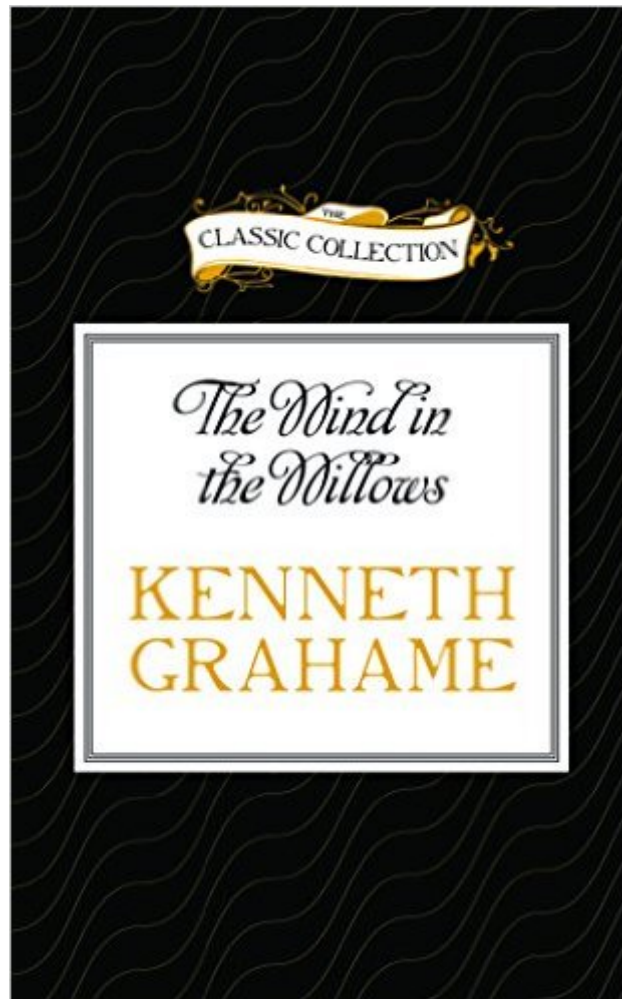


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# The Wind In The Willows (The Classic Collection)



## Synopsis

The magic unfolds from the first lines of Water Rat's soliloquy about messing about in boats in this captivating version of Kenneth Grahame's classic. Although it's generally considered a children's book, get a copy for yourself as well as the child in your life, as you won't want to give this away. Ralph Cosham's performance is a study in characterization without over-dramatization. His Ratty is breezy and lighthearted, his Mole shy and considerate. His Badger sounds just like that gruff old man you once knew who had a heart of gold. And his Toad—well, his Toad is perfectly insufferable. Cosham sounds as if he is reading his favorite work of fiction, and his affection is contagious.

## Book Information

Series: The Classic Collection

Audio CD

Publisher: The Classic Collection; Unabridged edition (November 4, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1491527765

ISBN-13: 978-1491527764

Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.4 x 5.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (19 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #574,129 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #101 in [Books > Books on CD > Children's Fiction > Classics](#) #320 in [Books > Books on CD > Children's Fiction > General](#) #3173 in [Books > Children's Books > Classics](#)

Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 3

## Customer Reviews

I hardly feel up to the task of reviewing this. How is it that the first-ever novel, and first work in ten years, of a short story author whose name isn't primarily known anymore (and among his works, only one other is remembered), and which is cobbled together in this way (one 5-chapter arc, then a second 5-chapter arc interrupted by two alternating self-contained chapters--and where the plot arc that ties things together doesn't do so as well as the themes explored more deeply elsewhere, as in one of the self-contained chapters), has stood the test of time, to where it's still remembered and beloved and influential today? How is it that a work like this so impresses the late Professor J. R. R. Tolkien, who apparently as a rule didn't think much of English literature since the time of Geoffrey

Chaucer in the Middle Ages? I wonder if even the author fully knew his own work's significance--it's there, it's palpable, but...it hardly seems possible to put it into words except through poetry. Yet the book is its own prose poem, if you will, so that the book is almost its own review. And maybe that's just as it should be--it's like trying to review God. The best way that we, whose brains are too tiny to fit the infinite God inside them, can know what God is like (other than experiencing the effects of His actions) is to know what He isn't like. Beyond that, only poetry can really capture the Mystery to any palpable capacity, for all of the writings of such Doctors of the Church as Saint Thomas Aquinas (not that those are wrong or not worthwhile, just that they aren't the be-all and end-all of the faith, and mundane words don't capture the experience, not even when you understand them).

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