

Historical CDs transferred by Dan King.
Jason Hughes recorded at Motivation Sound Studios by Norman Goodham.
Philip Madoc, Richard Bebb, Michael Sheen recorded at RNIB Studios by
Ross Burman. Edited by Dan King.

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CD 1: 79:13; CD 2: 71:33; CD 3: 66:04
CD 4: 76:29 Total 4:53:09

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THE ESSENTIAL DYLAN THOMAS

'To begin at the beginning:

It is spring, moonless night in the small town, starless and bible-black...'

Historical Recordings

Under Milk Wood (1954) – Richard Burton and cast
Return Journey to Swansea • Quite Early One Morning
And death shall have no dominion and other poems

Read by Dylan Thomas

New Recordings

Memories of Christmas • The Peaches • The Outing • The Followers
Do not go gentle into that good night and other poems

Read by Richard Bebb • Jason Hughes • Philip Madoc • Michael Sheen

This unique combination of historical and new recordings celebrates Dylan Thomas as poet, writer and performer. Here are some of his greatest poems, stories and broadcasts: readings given by Thomas himself in the 1940s and 1950s as well as new recordings by leading Welsh actors of our own time. *Under Milk Wood* is Thomas's undisputed masterpiece, an unforgettable, affectionate portrait of a small Welsh town. Written for radio, its intimate blend of poetry and drama made it an instant classic; and so it remains in this unmatched recording with a perfect cast led by Richard Burton. But here, also, are two fascinating earlier radio programmes, *Return Journey to Swansea* and *Quite Early One Morning*, written and performed by Thomas, which show the past that led to *Under Milk Wood*.

The last two CDs contain new recordings of a selection of stories (including *Memories of Christmas* and *A Visit to Grandpa's*) and poems in which contemporary performance offers an interesting contrast to the 'authentic' voice of Thomas himself.

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