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From Blackstone Audio, Inc. : The Autobiography of Mark Twain before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Autobiography of Mark Twain:

1325 of 1350 people found the following review helpful. The Scholarly Mark Twain EditionBy C. HuttonThe potential reader for this edition should be aware of several items. First, this autobiography is an oversize hardbook which means it may not fit into a bookshelf with other more traditional hardbooks. Second this is an academic press which means that there is a long introduction and discussion of prior autobiographical starts by Mark Twain (1870-1905) for two hundred pages. The actual autobiography of Mark Twain is only 270 pages of transcriptions from his dictation of his 1906 attempt to write his life story. Following the narrative are an additional 150+ pages of notes, index and appendixes. Two more volumes will be published later. Third, this edition is a rambling text with no chronological sequence. Mark Twain told stories as he remembered as they came to his memory. None of these observations are negative but the reader should be aware of these differences.This book aims to be the definitive edition by publishing everything that Mark dictated or wrote after 1905 in the order that it came into creation. Prior publications were much shorter as various editors organized what they thought was interesting, had his family's approval and was in some chronological sequence (Charles Neider did the best overall job of this fifty years ago). What the reader has here is Mark Twain's true speaking voice -- he is doing a monologue in your presence, going wherever his memory takes him.31 of 32 people found the following review helpful. Privilege and deep pleasureBy Free Press AdvocateWhat a privilege to be alive for the release of this first volume of Twain's autobiography. How sad that some readers are unable to find their way around the apparatus of the volume; there is a table of contents, yes? Ah, what

would Twain say? One can but imagine. I found the explanation of the recording and assembling of the "Auto" extremely interesting. The business of book publishing hasn't changed much, the complications of assembling and tracking manuscript sections, the copyright dilemmas--all germane to anyone who writes. And the images of the places and circumstances in which Twain dictated-- The reader perches on the porch stair in Dublin NH, or drinks a second coffee while Twain in his heavy silk nightshirt, leans back against his bedpillows, and speaks. The book is lively, agile, brilliant. Twain's voice seems clearer and stronger, or richer, than in other works. What hilarious story telling, fierce opinions, indignation, humanity and wit. I have been laughing out loud while reading, and still burst into giggles picturing the 14-year-old Twain stark naked, dancing like a bear, not knowing he's being watched. What writer hasn't wanted to remonstrate, line by line, against fatuous editing? And with such cutting, snarky wit. I'm scarcely 200 pages into Twain's actual work, and I'm reading more and more slowly, dreading the end of the volume and all the while thinking of people to whom to give the book when Christmas comes. I often despair about the world at the beginning of the 21st century--but Twain's new work released this year brightens the atmosphere significantly--1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. one of America's best literary people By William B. Griffin Anything written by Mark Twain, one of America's best literary people, probably deserves four stars or better. This autobiography, dictated in his last years, is a chronological ramble and includes a lot of his memories of people and places that are incidental to the essence of his life and work. His thoughts about the death of his daughter Suzy at the young age of 24 are special and should resonate with anyone who has to suffer such a loss. I enjoyed reading it, but I would suggest his big books-- Tom Sawyer, Huck Finn, Innocents Abroad, etc.--should be read before this "autobiography".