

[FREE] My Family and Other Animals: BBC Radio 4 Full-Cast Dramatization

## My Family and Other Animals: BBC Radio 4 Full-Cast Dramatization

Gerald Durrell

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**Gerald Durrell : My Family and Other Animals: BBC Radio 4 Full-Cast Dramatization** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised My Family and Other Animals: BBC Radio 4 Full-Cast Dramatization:

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Celia Imrie and Toby Jones star in this BBC Radio 4 dramatization of Gerald Durrell's much-loved comic gem. My

Family and Other Animals is the classic tale of naturalist Gerald Durrell's magical 1930s childhood on pre-war Corfu. His descriptions of his eccentric family and his encounters with the local creatures are full of humor and charm, and the book has delighted readers of all ages for 60 years. Ten-year-old Gerry is the youngest member of the Durrell family, which also consists of Mother, pompous eldest son Larry, gun-mad second son Leslie, acne-ridden sister Margo, and Roger the dog. When they arrive in Corfu, Gerry is thrilled to find a paradise of exotic wildlife to be explored. Soon he is embarking on natural history expeditions, swimming in the clear blue sea, and befriendng the island's inhabitants. Gerry's relatives are less impressed with his exploits, especially when his burgeoning animal collection sparks chaos at the family's Christmas party . . . With a specially created soundtrack, this vivid adaptation takes the story out of the studio and into the Greek wilderness that enthralled Durrell the young naturalist. Duration: 2 hours approx.

.com As a self-described "champion of small uglies," English writer Gerald Durrell (1925-1995) devoted his life to writing and the preservation of wildlife, from the Mauritius pink pigeon to the Rodrigues fruit bat. My Family and Other Animals was intended to embrace the natural history of the Greek island of Corfu, but ended up as a delightful account of his family's experiences that were, according to him, "rather like living in one of the more flamboyant and slapstick comic operas." As a 10-year-old boy, Gerry left England for Corfu with "all those items that I thought necessary to relieve the tedium of a long journey: four books on natural history, a butterfly net, a dog, and a jam-jar full of caterpillars all in imminent danger of turning into chrysalids." Durrell's descriptions of his family and its many eccentric hangers-on (he stresses that "all the anecdotes about the island and the islanders are absolutely true") are highly entertaining, as is the procession of toads, scorpions, geckos, ladybugs, glowworms, octopuses, the puppies Widdle and Puke, and the Magenpies. This is a lovely book. A bewitching book \* Sunday Times \* Durrell has an uncanny knack of discovering human as well as animal eccentricities \* Sunday Telegraph \*About the Author Gerald Durrell, OBE (1925 1995) was an English naturalist, zookeeper, conservationist, author, and television presenter. He founded what is now called the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust and the Jersey Zoo (now Durrell Wildlife Park), but is perhaps best remembered for writing a number of books based on his life as an animal collector and enthusiast.