



Cafe Talk - Articles, Editorials, and More

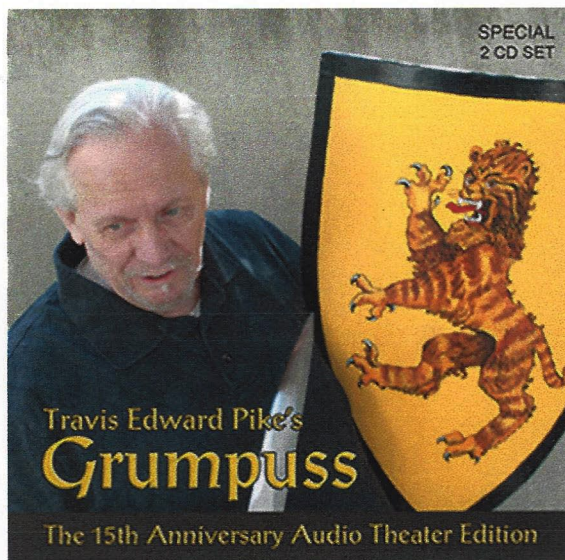
AUDIOWORLD - Not For Kids Only

By Bennet Pomerantz

I am a VERY proud uncle of two wonderful children, Noah and Sarah. I am also a godparent of a few children (most are teens), who call me Uncle. I love all these kids dearly; however, I find myself in an emotional tug of war with the audio selections I need to play for the teens, when I am on a car trip with them. I want to listen to tapes or CDs and be entertained by an audiobook of something more than simple ideas. Also, I want quality material that is not just fairy stories, counting tapes, Sesame Street stuff, and ABCs. So, this column is devoted to parents who face the same dilemma on a daily basis.

Narrator/Author Travis Edward Pike takes the young and the young at heart on a mystical audio journey in *Grumpus* (two cassettes, approximately 90 minutes; an audio original by Other Worlds Entertainment). This *Beowulf* wanna-be is great pleasure. It sounds like a cross between *The Reluctant Dragon* and *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, with a game of Dungeons and Dragons thrown into the mix. Pike's imaginative narration harkens to a medieval storyteller, which REALLY makes this piece work.

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Since this review was written in May, 2000, the dual cassette version has been discontinued. The remastered Dual CD *Grumpus 15th Anniversary Audio Theater Edition* is now available at [CDBaby](http://CDBaby.com), [Amazon](http://Amazon.com), and through other select retailers worldwide. To audition clips from the CD edition on Youtube click this link, <http://www.grumpus.com/AUDSAMPLES.html>.