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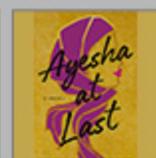
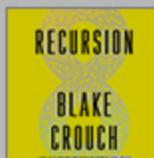
#07 — February 2019

- Listen to Black Women
- New Narrator Showcase
- Audio Stars for Adults, 2018
- Audio Stars for Youth, 2018
- Spring Audiobook Preview
- Video Reviews

Everyone's listening.

Recommend more audiobooks in 2019.

Check out our staff picks



FROM THE EDITOR



If you venture outside tonight, you'll see a nearly full moon—and it might even be bright enough to outshine the stars in the sky. But who wants to do that in this amazingly—dare I say *offensively*—cold winter? Lucky for you, you can stay warm and cozy inside. Make yourself a cup of tea, go ahead and fortify it to your preference, and bask in the warmth of more than 100 starred audiobook reviews.

There's something for everyone, truly, and though these are last year's titles, it's a great way to help that patron "just looking for something *good* to listen to," or stock a display of overlooked but nearly-new audios, or remind yourself of the book with that one narrator who always makes your spine tingle and *always* had a wait list when you'd go to grab it for your drive home six months ago.

Before we get to the stars (so many stars . . . probably brew a whole pot of tea, not just a cup), I want to call attention to another best-of list, the [ALA Film and Media Roundtable's Notable Videos for Adults](#) list and remind readers that each issue of *All Things Audio* includes a special section of new video reviews. Also in this issue, we spotlight a first-time narrator with a familiar voice and share a listen-alike list: "[Listen to Black Women](#)," with more than a dozen audios by, about, and narrated by a diversity of Black women. And if you missed the [Spring Audiobook Preview](#) in print, I have it linked here as well.

Tea cool enough to drink yet? Here we go!

—Heather Booth, Audio Editor
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LISTEN TO BLACK WOMEN



Listen to Black Women: 14 Audiobooks By, About, and Voiced by Black Women

By Heather Booth

With Black History Month coming to a close, it's time to load up your listening queues with enough material to take you far beyond February. Highlighted here are 14 audiobooks by, about, and performed by Black women whose voices are varied and whose stories are diverse. [read more](#) →

NEW NARRATOR SHOWCASE



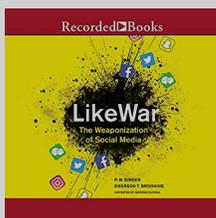
British actor Nyasha Hatendi has been nominated for six Tonys and is currently appearing in Netflix's *Black Earth Rising* and Hulu's *Into the Dark*, but fortunately, this busy and talented actor has made time to record an audiobook, too! After listening to his carefully restrained performance on this winter's *The Western Wind*, we hope he brings his ample talents at subtle characterizations back for more.

AUDIO STARS FOR ADULTS, 2018



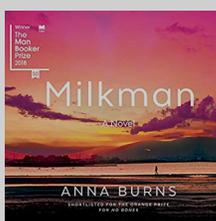
★ **Becoming.** By Michelle Obama. Read by the author. 19hr. Books on Tape, CD, \$45 (9780525633693).

With impeccable pacing and her trademark blend of practicality and warmth, the former First Lady's familiar voice immediately pulls listeners close for what feels like an intimate chat with a friend.



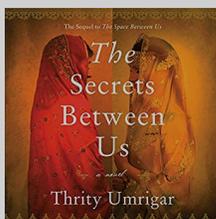
★ **LikeWar: The Weaponization of Social Media.** By P. W. Singer and Emerson T. Brooking. Read by George Guidall. 11.5hr. Recorded Books, CD, \$123.75 (9781501912610).

The gruff-voiced, unsparring Guidall is perfectly suited to narrate this sobering status report on the effects of social media on today's globally wired world.



★ **Milkman.** By Anna Burns. Read by Bríd Brennan. 14.5hr. Dreamscape, CD, \$29.99 (9781974932092).

Set amid the Troubles in Northern Ireland, Brennan's melodic, Irish-accented narration becomes a poem, a song, wrapping around the listeners and completely immersing us in the clever language and wordplay that Burns uses to create her ethereal but gritty novel.



★ **The Secrets between Us.** By Thrity Umrigar. Read by Sneha Mathan. 12hr. Harper, CD, \$26.99 (9781538550595).

Chameleonic narrator Mathan amplifies Umrigar's already spectacular novel, and bolstered by a shared ethnicity with Umrigar's memorable characters, Mathan shifts fluidly between accents, ages, and backgrounds.

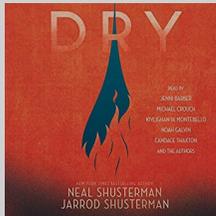
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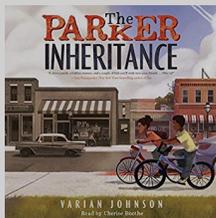
★ **Dreamers.** By Yuyi Morales. Read by Adriana Sananes. 30m. Dreamscape, CD, \$14.99 (9781974908196).

Lyrical narrated by Sananes, who uses languid and poetic pacing to let the emotions and words wash around the listeners, this recording also includes Mexican folk music and light sound effects in the background. This combination brings the book to life, enriching the story with movement and feeling.



★ **Dry.** By Neal Shusterman and Jarrod Shusterman. Read by Jenni Barber and others. 11hr. Simon & Schuster Audio, CD, \$39.99 (9781508263081).

The full cast of narrators succeed in bringing to life the many characters in this survival adventure. The authors also provide narration in a stark reporting style to heighten the severity of the disaster. This is an exciting listen that you won't want to turn off.



★ **The Parker Inheritance.** By Varian Johnson. Read by Cherise Booth. 2018. 10hr. Scholastic, DD, \$54.99 (9781509467259).

Boothe excels in powerful depictions of each young protagonists, and portrays the adults with the same care, creating realistic characters who support—or occasionally undermine—Candice and Brandon as they investigate a historical mystery. Her sensitive, expressive narration creates compelling stories in both eras in the Odyssey Honor Audiobook.



★ **We Say #NeverAgain: Reporting by the Parkland Student Journalists.** Read by a full cast. 5.5hr. Listening Library, CD, \$45 (9781984843425).

The rawness, passion, awe, and pain in the words of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School student journalists and their teachers come through with a striking clarity. With an emotional impact that is difficult to absorb in its entirety, this collection is not to be missed.

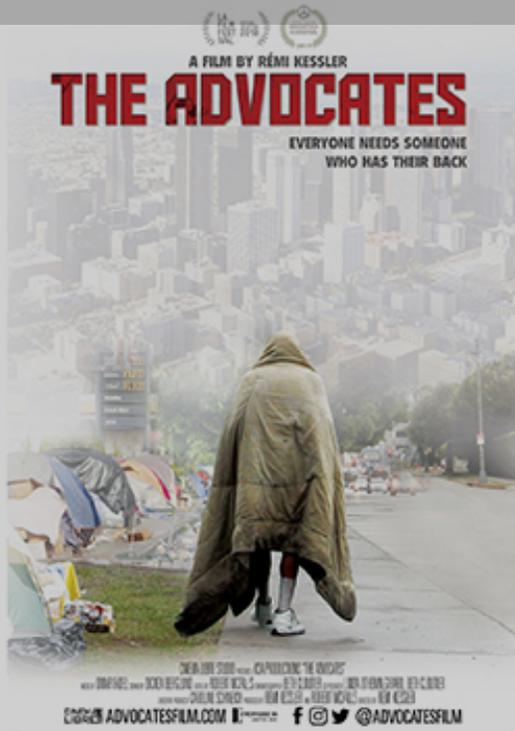
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SPRING AUDIOBOOK PREVIEW



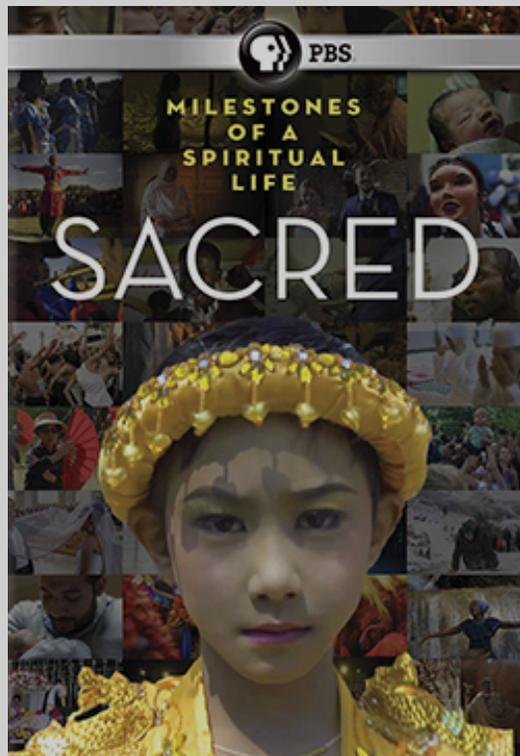
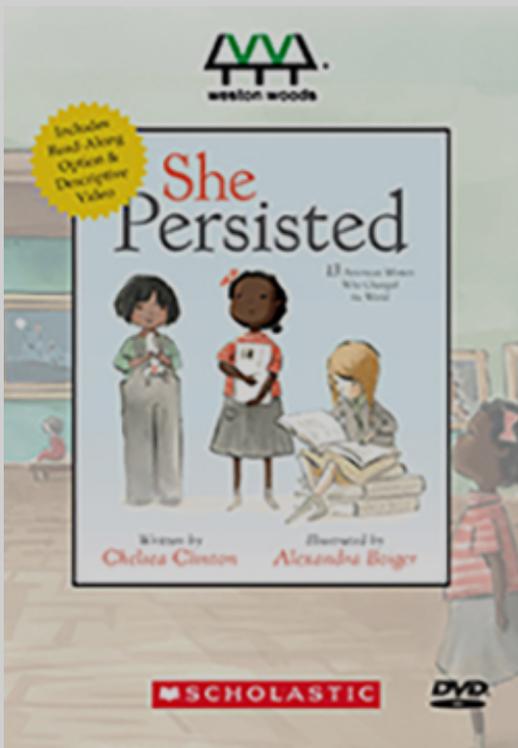
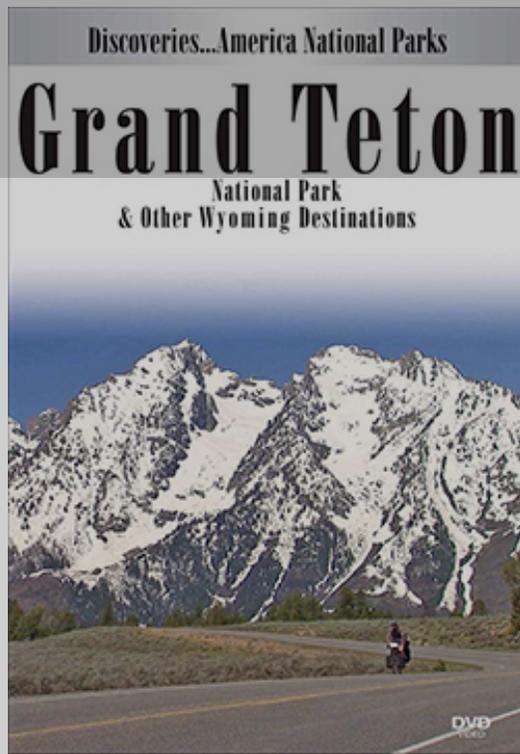
In lieu of our usual Upcoming on Audio feature, here is the list of all lists—the Spring Audiobook Preview! Check out what publishers want you to know about and what *Booklist* audio staff are particularly excited about. [read more](#) →



★ STARRED REVIEW



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