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#09 — June 2019

- New Narrator Showcase
- Features
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- Women in Politics
- Video Reviews

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ALA ANNUAL
CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION
JUNE 20-25, 2019
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FROM THE EDITOR



Are you in the lazy days of summer, or the energetic frenzy of activity as patrons race in to grab that perfect road-trip audiobook that's going to make their summer vacation a perfect respite? I hope there's a dash of both in your June; I also hope this newsletter will offer some enjoyable audios to accompany you through your summer. As you read this, I'll be relaxing with family and a few good audiobooks in the middle of a National Park for a few days after the ALA Annual Conference where *Sadie* will be honored with the Odyssey Award. In this issue, Sonja Cole offers [a list of full-cast listen-alike titles](#) for this stunning audio production that really highlights the amazing storytelling power that a full-cast and stellar production quality can bring to a title.

ALA Annual is only one of many June events which we need to acknowledge! June is Audiobook Month, and I had the pleasure of announcing our Voice of Choice narrator for the very first time. Congratulations to [Robbie Daymond](#) for this year's honor! Other Audiobook-Month notables:

- The Audiobook Publisher's Association [announced](#) that audiobook listenership continues to rise, with 50 percent of

respondents over 12 reporting that they have listened to audiobooks, with those under 45 comprising the largest groups of listeners. The report shows an overlap between podcast and audiobook listenership, too—look for the Podcast Connection feature in the pages of *Booklist* to aid your RA with these patrons—and that a growth in listening is supported by technological advances like in-dash audio systems and bluetooth technology.

- The *Booklist* [Fall Audiobook Preview](#) appears in our June issue. It's a great way to get a jump on the audios your patrons will be asking for in the months to come.
- Teens can still get in on free summer listening through the [SYNC](#) program, which thematically pairs and releases two audio titles each week for free all summer long through Overdrive.
- I talk about audiobooks, reader's advisory, and my three go-to books on the [Ela Area Public Library's Three Books](#) podcast.
- We all know summer listening is often road-trip oriented, and [Buzzfeed](#) has compiled a list of 20 top Google Play audiobook downloads. Do you have downloadable versions of these best-sellers for your patrons?

And if that isn't enough for your listening pleasure, there's even more here!

In This Issue

- June also leads in to *Booklist's Guide to Graphic Novels in Libraries*, a special July supplement, and audiobooks are part of the fun, too! [Audio versions of graphic novels](#) are out there and provide a unique way of experiencing these titles.
- If you're looking for a more traditional audiobook experience, author and avid audiobook listener Debbie Macomber suggests some of the [favorite titles](#) she listens to while gardening.
- This June also commemorates landmark historical events. It's the centennial of the introduction of the 19th Amendment, which we are honoring with selected [reviews of films that acknowledge the changing roles of women in public life](#).
- In honor of the 75th anniversary of the D-Day invasion, [new audiobook reviews](#) look at the significance of this event in fiction and nonfiction.

—Heather Booth, Audio Editor
hbooth@ala.org

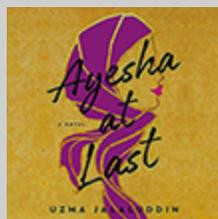
NEW NARRATOR SHOWCASE

Three debut narrators are getting rave reviews from *Booklist* reviewers.

Shorne Marks is a British actor entering the audiobook realm with *Queenie*. She has a great faculty for accents, which she displays to marvelous effect portraying the titular *Queenie*, a Jamaican Brit, just like her character on the BBC's Investigator Morse prequel series, *Endeavour*.

Anna Kyra Hooton, who narrates *Oksana, Behave!*, has ample personal background upon which to draw for the character of Oksana. Both emigrated from Russia to America as children, and Hooton's range of Russian-accented, and American-accented, characters displays her deep understanding of how accents evolve over time.

Roshni Shukla is our final New Narrator this month. Like Hooton and Marks, her debut recording of *Ayesha At Last* highlights a talent for understanding the nuance of accents within communities, here in a modern Canadian Muslim retelling of Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*.



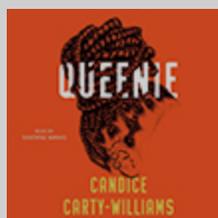
Ayesha At Last. By Uzma Jalaluddin. Read by Roshni Shukla. June 2019. 11hr. Books on Tape, CD, \$95 (9781984890412)

Playing to Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, Jaluddin recreates the classic as she brings it to modern times. Jaluddin and debut narrator Shukla together are unbeatable with their Austen-esque sarcasm. [read more →](#)



Oksana, Behave! By Maria Kuznetsova. Read by Anna Kyra Hooton. Mar. 2019. 7.5hr. Books on Tape, DD, \$57 (9781984832245).

Debut novelist Kuznetsova gets paired with a first-time narrator, and the collaboration is—well, ideal. [read more →](#)



★ **Queenie.** By Candice Carty-Williams. Read by Shvorne Marks. Mar. 2019. 10hr. Simon & Schuster Audio, CD, \$23.99 (9781508277972).

Carty-Williams and Shvorne Marks are quite the dynamic duo: a debut novelist gets paired with a first-time narrator for spectacular results. [read more →](#)



FEATURES

Listen-alikes

Full-Cast YA Audios for fans of Odyssey Award Winning *Sadie*



Listen-Alikes: Full-Cast YA Audios for fans of Odyssey Award Winning *Sadie*

By Sonja Cole

Winner of the 2019 Odyssey Award and the 2019 Audie Award for Young Adult Audiobook, *Sadie* is a powerful story narrated by a cast of more than 30 voices. The multiple voices bring a whole new dimension to the listening experience that really elevates the audiobook. If you loved the full-cast narration of *Sadie*, this list of audiobooks for teens can help you discover more multi-narrator listen-alikes. [read more→](#)



Guess What I'm Hearing: Debbie Macomber Recommends Audiobooks for Multitasking

By Debbie Macomber

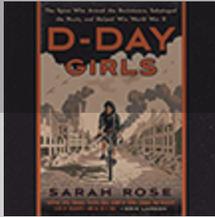
Audiobooks have changed my reading habits in a big way. Because of audiobooks, I have access to more books in an enjoyable and entertaining format. Listening to books allows me the pleasure of multitasking. [read more→](#)



Graphic Novels on Audio

By Heather Booth

It seems incongruous—how is it possible to *listen* to a book created in a visual format? With a title range spanning classic comics, nonfiction, realistic contemporary, and more, publishers are taking on the challenge as the popularity of both graphic novels and audiobooks continues to grow. [read more→](#)



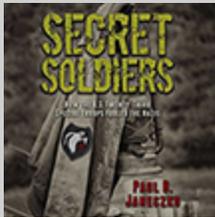
D-Day Girls: The Spies Who Armed the Resistance, Sabotaged the Nazis, and Helped Win World War II. By Sarah Rose. Read by Sarah Rose. Apr. 2019. 10.5hr. Books on Tape, DD, \$76 (9781984886750).

France was pivotal in the defeat of Nazi Germany by the Allied Forces. Throughout the war, women—most French-born but for various reasons relocated to England—were trained in London to serve as spies and resistance organizers in their native country. [read more →](#)



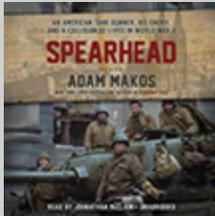
Love and Ruin. By Paula McLain. Read by January LaVoy. May 2018. 11.5hr. Books on Tape, CD, \$40 (9780525634836).

In her nuanced reading, LaVoy embodies Martha Gellhorn, introduced here as a 28-year-old American journalist covering the Spanish Civil War in 1937 in Madrid. [read more →](#)



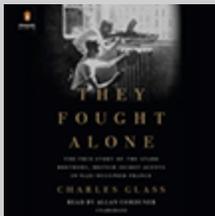
Secret Soldiers: How the U.S. Twenty-Third Special Troops Fooled the Nazis. By Paul B. Janeczko. Read by Ron Butler. Apr. 2019. 7hr. Brilliance, CD, \$29.99 (9781721365548). Grades 9-12.

Focusing on a fascinating part of WWII history, Janeczko presents a comprehensive account of the 23rd Headquarters Special Troops. This unit was comprised of artists, engineers, stage production designers, and more. [read more →](#)



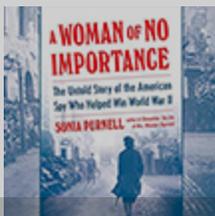
Spearhead: An American Tank Gunner, His Enemy, and a Collision of Lives in World War II. By Adam Makos. Read by Johnathan McClain. Feb. 2019. 13.5hr. Books on Tape, CD, \$45 (9781984846006).

Over the years, there have been numerous stories shared from those that survived the battlefields of WWII, and Makos' book adds another layer to the harrowing tales of survival. [read more →](#)



They Fought Alone: The True Story of the Starr Brothers, British Secret Agents in Nazi-Occupied France. By Charles Glass. Read by Allan Corduner. Sept. 2018. 10.5hr. Books on Tape, CD, \$40 (9780525639930).

Meticulously researched details characterize this account of the Starr brothers, George and John, who served in Britain's Special Operations Executive (SOE) organization. [read more →](#)

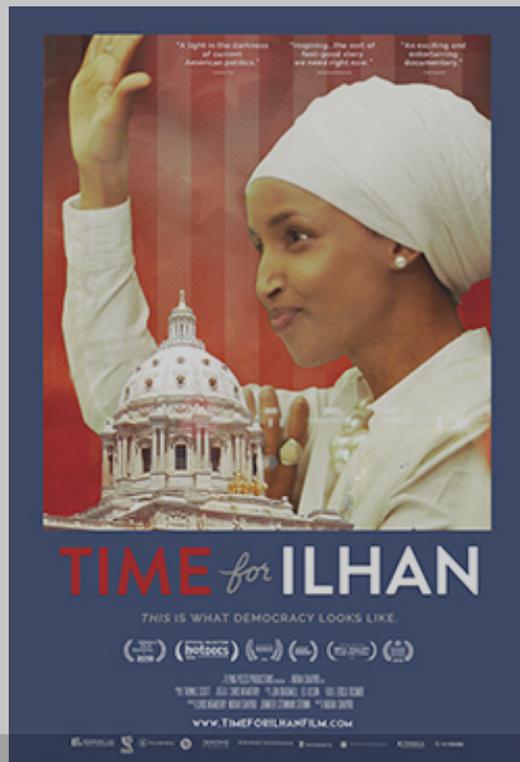
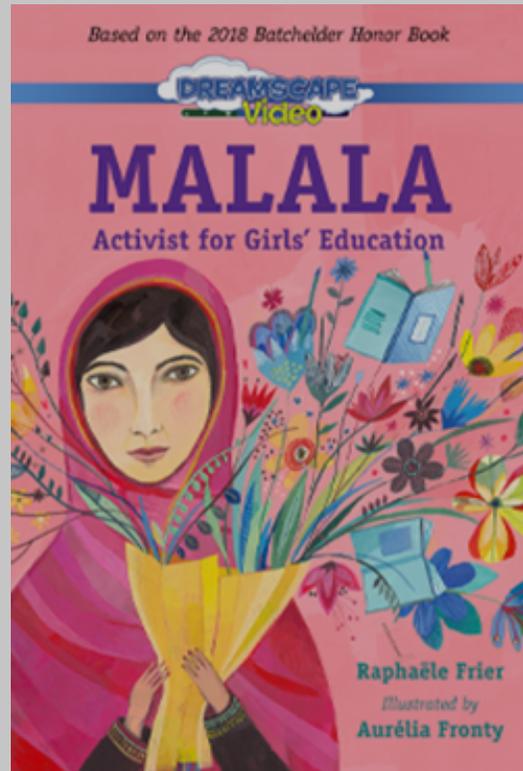
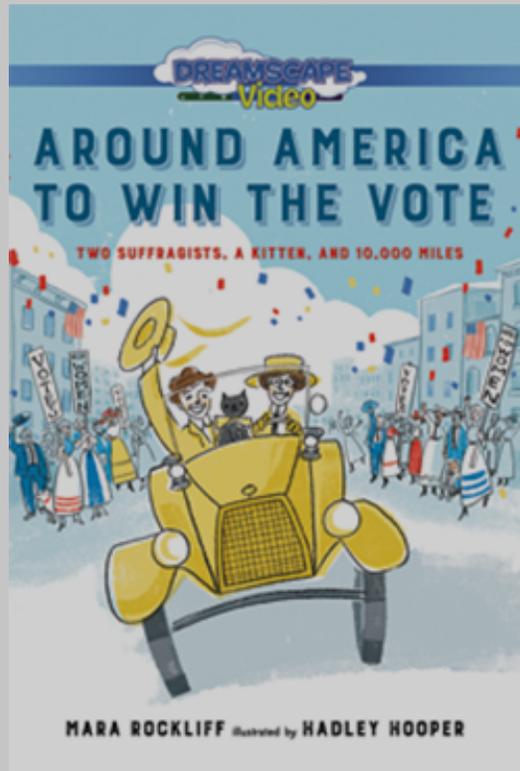


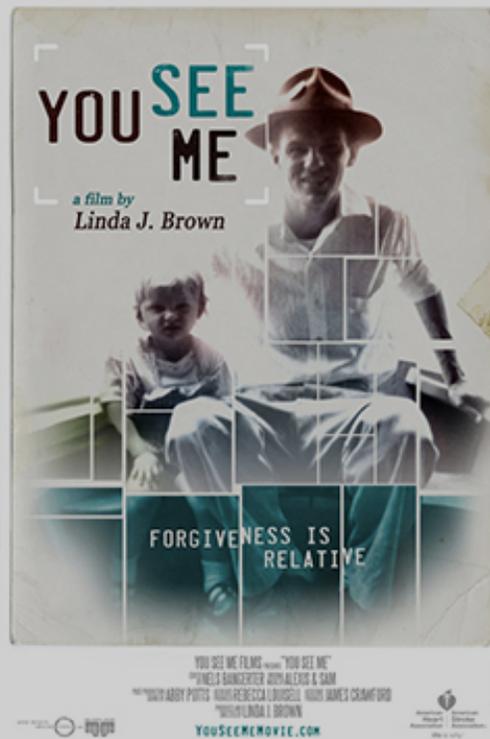
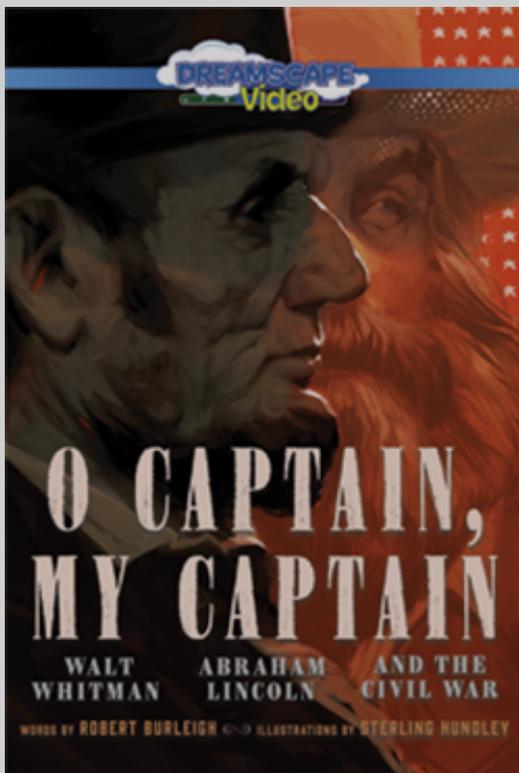
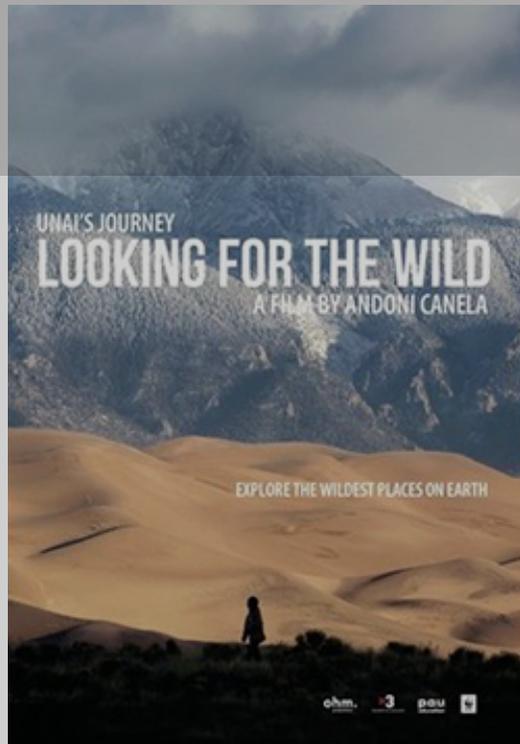
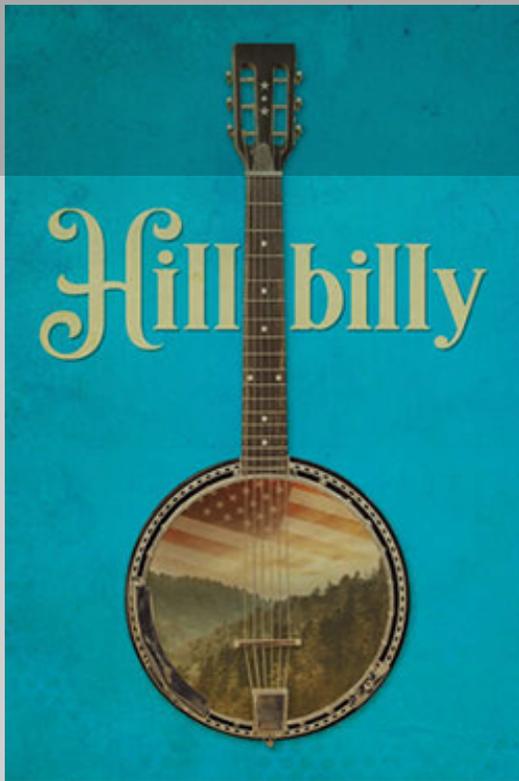
★ **A Woman of No Importance: The Untold Story of the American Spy Who Helped Win World War II.** By Sonia Purnell. Read by Juliet Stevenson. Apr. 2019. 14hr. Books on Tape, DD, \$95 (9781984842732).

Despite having won awards for bravery from the French, British, and American governments and having a CIA training facility named for her, Virginia Hall was a little-known but crucial player in the French Resistance in World War II. [read more →](#)

Women in Politics

A century after the 19th Amendment was passed by Congress, these four films examine women in public life.





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