Try an Audiobook for Your Book Club Read

Many book clubs explore various titles and different venues to add interest and excitement to the overall book discussion experience. Some groups have included book to film excursions, or theme-related activities. Another idea that may interest book clubs is to try an audiobook for their next discussion. An audiobook can provide a unique involvement for the listener. Personally, audiobooks such as The Goldfinch by Donna Tartt, The Other Story by Tatiana De Rosnay, Brooklyn by Colm Toibin, and The Son by Jo Nesbo have remained with me for close to a year now. I believe that if I had read these books, the characters may not have resonated in the same way.

The 20th Annual Audie Awards Gala is scheduled for May 28th in New York City. This award competition recognizes excellence in audiobook and spoken word entertainment. For the complete list of this year’s finalists, go to http://www.audiofilemagazine.com/audies/.

One thing to consider is that it may be more convenient for members to choose a winner from a previous year since the audiobooks may be more accessible. If you are interested in locating previous audiobook winners, you can go to http://www.audiopub.org/audies-gala.asp.

Here are some suggested audiobook titles:

- **The Goldfinch** by Donna Tartt - Read by David Pittu
  2014 WINNER: LITERARY FICTION & SOLE NARRATION – MALE
  Taken in by a wealthy family friend after surviving an accident that killed his mother, thirteen-year-old Theo Decker tries to adjust to life on Park Avenue.

- **Still Foolin’ ‘Em: Where I’ve Been, Where I’m Going, and Where the Hell are My Keys** by Billy Crystal—Read by Billy Crystal.
  2014 WINNER: AUDIOBOOK OF THE YEAR & NARRATION BY THE AUTHOR One of America’s favorite comedians looks back at his extraordinary career, highlighting the most powerful and memorable moments of his long and storied life, and outlines the absurdities and challenges that come with growing old.

- **The Longest Ride** by Nicholas Sparks—Read by January LaVoy and Ron McLarty
  2014 WINNER: ROMANCE After being trapped in an isolated car crash, the life of an elderly widower becomes entwined with that of a young college student and the cowboy she loves.

- **Beautiful Ruins** by Jess Walter — Narrated by Edoardo Ballerini.
  2013 WINNER: SOLO NARRATION – MALE A novel that spans fifty years with the Italian housekeeper and his long-lost American starlet, the producer who once brought them together, and his assistant. A glittering world filled with unforgettable characters.

- **State of Wonder** by Ann Patchett – Narrated by Hope Davis
  2012 WINNER: LITERARY FICTION A researcher at a pharmaceutical company, Marina Singh journeys into the heart of the Amazonian delta to check on a field team that has been silent for two years—a dangerous assignment that forces Marina to confront the ghosts of her past.

- Jean, Simpson, Readers’ Services Librarian
Memorial Day….Remembering All Those Who Served

Memorial Day is a day for remembrance of those who have died in service to our country. It was first observed on May 30, 1868 to commemorate the sacrifices of Civil War soldiers. Memorial Day is celebrated at Arlington National Cemetery each year with a ceremony in which a small American flag is placed on each grave. Traditionally, the President or Vice President lays a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Below is a list of popular military books that explore different aspects of war that your book club may wish to explore:

- **Legend: A Harrowing Story from the Vietnam War of One Green Beret's Heroic Mission to Rescue a Special Forces Team Caught Behind Enemy Lines** by Eric Blehm
- **All the Light We Cannot See** by Anthony Doerr (Winner of the 2015 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction)
  - **A Farewell to Arms** by Ernest Hemingway
  - **Redeployment** by Phil Klay
- **American Sniper: The Autobiography of the Most Lethal Sniper in U.S. Military History** by Chris Kyle
  - **Lone Survivor: The Eyewitness Account of Operation Redwing and the Lost Heroes of SEAL Team 10** by Marcus Luttrell

“Your silent tents of green we deck with fragrant flowers; Yours has the suffering been, the memory shall be ours.”
- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

New to Book Club in a Bag

Readers’ Services has added the following book to our collection:

**Shotgun Lovesongs** by Nickolas Butler

NATIONAL BESTSELLER  "Impressively original." —The New York Times
"Sparkles in every way. A love letter to the open lonely American heartland…A must-read."
—People

Sharing a childhood in small-town Wisconsin before going their separate ways with careers and families, Hank, Leland, Kip and Ronny are reunited during a visit marked by culture clashes, respective pursuits of meaning and a woman who inspires passion in each of them. A first novel." (From the publisher)

Let us provide everything you need for a successful book discussion. We can supply you with 10 copies of the book and a discussion binder. The binder contains discussion questions, biographical information and critical material.

Please contact Readers’ Services, 921-7161, ext 239 to reserve a book for your Book Club.

- Evelyn Hershkowitz, Readers’ Services Librarian