2017 Audiobook of the Year Audie Award Finalists

The finalists for the 2017 Audiobook of the Year were announced by the Audio Publishers Association. The winner will be announced by Paula Poundstone at the livestreamed Audie Awards Gala on June 1, 2017 at the French Institute/Alliance Francaise in New York City. Paula Poundstone also emceed the awards last year. The following are the finalists for this year:

**Boys in the Trees, written and narrated by Carly Simon**
The successful singer-songwriter describes her life growing up amidst the glamour of literary New York, her path to art and music, her marriage to James Taylor, and her famously cryptic song lyrics.

**The Girl with the Lower Back Tattoo, written and narrated by Amy Schumer**
A collection of personal essays by the comedienne reflects on her raucous childhood antics, her hard-won rise in the entertainment industry, and her struggles to maintain the courage to approach the world in unstintingly honest ways.

**Hamilton: The Revolution, by Lin-Manuel Miranda and Jeremy McCarter, narrated by Mariska Hargitay, with the authors**
Offers a behind-the-scenes view of Hamilton the musical, detailing the many dramatic episodes in Alexander Hamilton’s life.

**The Underground Railroad, by Colson Whitehead, narrated by Bahni Turpin**
Chronicles the daring survival story of a cotton plantation slave in Georgia, who, after suffering at the hands of both her owners and fellow slaves, races through the Underground Railroad with a relentless slave-catcher close behind.

**Year of Yes, written and narrated by Shonda Rhimes**
The creator of Grey’s Anatomy and Scandal details the one-year experiment with saying “yes” that transformed her life, revealing how accepting unexpected invitations she would have otherwise declined enabled powerful benefits.

The other Audie Award nominees can be found in the following article:

http://www.booklistreader.com/2017/03/22/audiobooks/2017-audiobook-of-the-year-audie-award-finalists/

The Syosset Public Library owns all of the 2017 nominees both on CD and on the Overdrive site. Please contact Readers’ Services if you would like to borrow any of the nominated audiobooks.

— Evelyn Hershkowitz, Readers’ Services Librarian
Spring Releases

“Spring is the time of plans and projects.”
— Leo Tolstoy, Anna Karenina

There are so many great books to look forward to this spring season. Here are five new spring releases, your book club may want to consider:

**Anything is Possible** by Elizabeth Strout  Release Date: 4/25/17
Two sisters, one who trades self-respect for a wealthy husband and one who discovers a kindred spirit in the pages of a book, struggle with intimate human dramas at the sides of their community members and a returned Lucy Barton.

**The Golden Legend** by Nadeem Aslam  Release Date: 4/18/17
Hiding her past, Nargis feels her life crumbling around her when someone begins broadcasting local people’s secrets from the minaret of a local mosque.

**House of Names** by Colm Toibin  Release Date: 5/9/17
A retelling of the story of Clytemnestra and her children in the legendary Greek city of Mycenae, describes how at the side of her lover she plots to murder her long-absent husband for his betrayals and infidelities.

**Our Short History** by Lauren Grodstein
After finding out she is dying, a single mom contacts her ex, who left her alone rather than be a father and is shocked to discover that he is suddenly excited to meet the child he never knew.

**Since We Fell** by Dennis Lehane  Release Date: 5/9/17
Retreating from the world in the aftermath of a traumatizing reporting assignment, Rachel finds happiness with a raffish businessman before witnessing activities surrounding a conspiracy that tests the limits of her fragile psyche.

All Summaries are from the publishers. -Jean Simpson, Readers’ Services Librarian

Broadway Musicals and Plays Originally Based on, Inspired by, or Adapted from Books

Now that spring is in the air, perhaps your book group would enjoy an outing to the theater. Did you know many plays and musicals currently on Broadway are based on or adapted from books? Your book club could read the book and then go see your favorite characters come to life on the Great White Way. Here are some show stopping recommendations:

**1984** (opening June 22) adapted from the novel 1984 by George Orwell.

**Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** (opening April 21) based on the children’s book by Roald Dahl.

**A Doll’s House, Part 2** (opening April 27) sequel to Henrik Ibsen’s modern classic, A Doll’s House, about a woman who makes a momentous decision to leave her husband and children.

**The Glass Menagerie** based on the play by Tennessee Williams.

**Hamilton** inspired by the biography Alexander Hamilton by Ron Chernow. Winner of the 2016 Tony for Best Musical, Best Score and Best Actor in a Musical.

**Present Laughter** (opening April 5) based on the play Present Laughter: A Light Comedy in Three Acts by Noel Coward.

**Six Degrees of Separation** (opening April 25) based on the play by John Guare

-Lisa Jones, Readers’ Services Librarian