



# *AudioFile* Editors Select **2024 BEST AUDIOBOOKS**

The universe of audiobooks is a vast one, and at *AudioFile*, we take our mission of evaluating and recommending them seriously. That's why we're especially glad every December to celebrate the year's truly stellar performances and share them with our readers.

You'll find *AudioFile*'s picks for the Best Audiobooks of 2024 in nine categories on the following pages. Kudos and appreciation to all of the authors, narrators, producers, and publishers who work so hard to make these outstanding listening experiences possible.

Find more of *AudioFile*'s Best of 2024 online! Listen to narrator interviews (look for podcast icons on the following pages) at [audiofilemagazine.com/podcast](https://audiofilemagazine.com/podcast); hear sound clips, watch narrator videos, and read full reviews at [audiofilemagazine.com/best-audiobooks-2024](https://audiofilemagazine.com/best-audiobooks-2024); and find special coverage on our social media channels.



Listen to narrator interviews on the  
Behind the Mic podcast

# BEST OF FICTION

## THE CEMETERY OF UNTOLD STORIES

*Julia Alvarez, read by Alma Cuervo*  
(Recorded Books)

## COME AND GET IT

*Kiley Reid, read by Nicole Lewis*  
(Penguin Audio)

## HERE ONE MOMENT

*Liane Moriarty, read by Caroline Lee, Geraldine Hakewill*  
(Random House Audio)

## JAMES

*Percival Everett, read by Dominic Hoffman*  
(Random House Audio)

## THE LIMITS

*Nell Freudenberger, read by Rebecca Lowman*  
(Random House Audio)

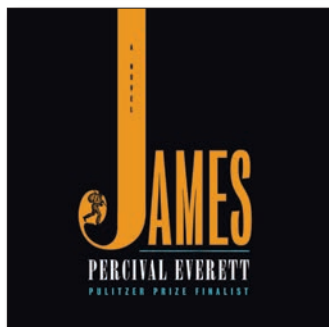
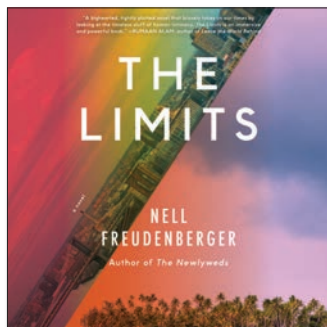
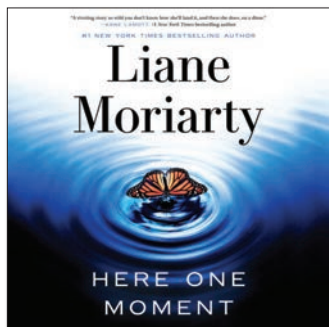
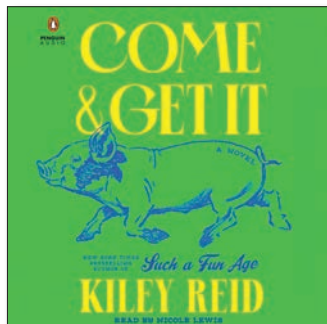
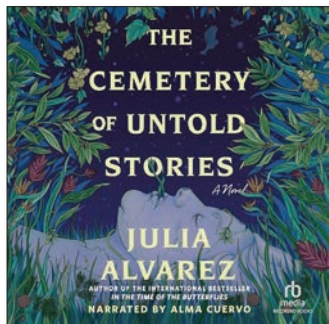


## THE WOMEN

*Kristin Hannah, read by Julia Whelan,*  
*Kristin Hannah*  
(Macmillan Audio)



*Rebecca Lowman, narrator of The Limits*



*Nicole Lewis, narrator of Come and Get It*

# BEST OF NONFICTION & CULTURE



## CUE THE SUN!

Emily Nussbaum, read by Gabra Zackman  
(Random House Audio)

## THE MESSAGE

Ta-Nehisi Coates, read by Ta-Nehisi Coates  
(Penguin Audio)

## OUR HIDDEN CONVERSATIONS

Michele Norris, read by Michele Norris and a Full Cast  
(Simon & Schuster Audio)

## A POETRY HANDBOOK

Mary Oliver, read by Kimberly Farr  
(Harper Audio)

## THERE'S ALWAYS THIS YEAR

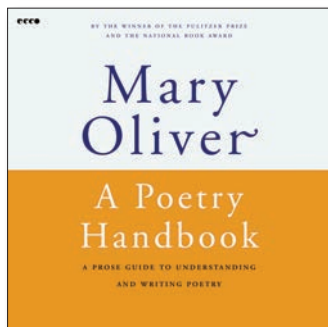
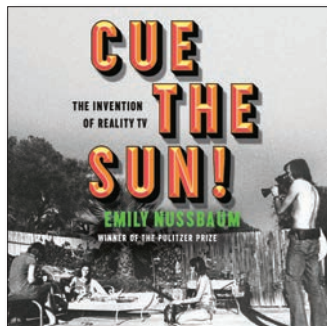
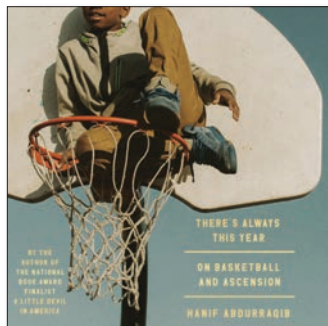
Hanif Abdurraqib, read by Hanif Abdurraqib  
(Random House Audio)

## WHAT'S NEXT IS NOW

Frederik G. Pferdt, read by Sean Pratt  
(Harper Audio)



Hanif Abdurraqib, author & narrator of  
*There's Always This Year*



Gabra Zackman, narrator of *Cue the Sun!*

Hanif Abdurraqib photo by Kendra Bryant, Gabra Zackman photo by Ashley Corrett

# BEST OF BIOGRAPHY & MEMOIR



## 3 SHADES OF BLUE

James Kaplan, read by Dion Graham  
(Penguin Audio)

## BITS AND PIECES

Whoopi Goldberg, read by Whoopi Goldberg  
(Blackstone Audio)

## BITTER CROP

Paul Alexander, read by Maya Days  
(Random House Audio)

## JOHN LEWIS

David Greenberg, read by David Sadzin  
(Simon & Schuster Audio)

## PROFILES IN MENTAL HEALTH COURAGE

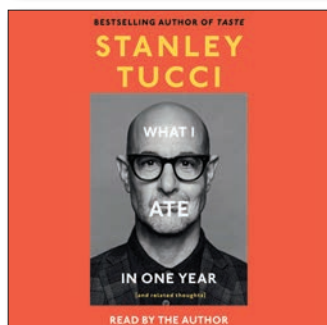
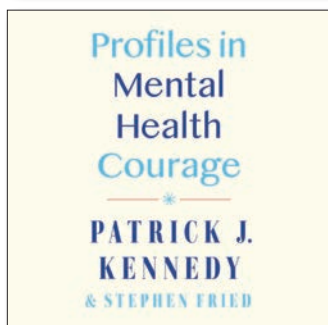
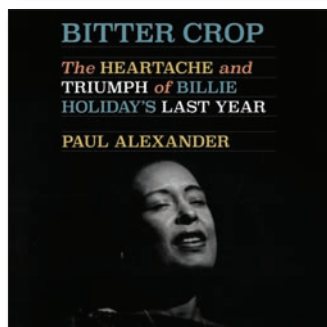
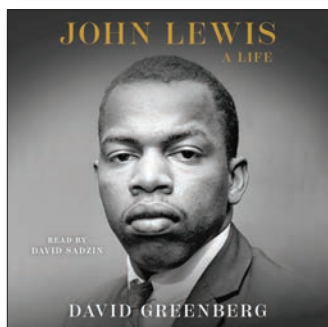
Patrick J. Kennedy, Stephen Fried, read by Johnny Heller,  
Patrick J. Kennedy  
(Penguin Audio)

## WHAT I ATE IN ONE YEAR

Stanley Tucci, read by Stanley Tucci  
(Simon & Schuster Audio)



David Sadzin, narrator of John Lewis



Johnny Heller, narrator of Profiles in Mental Health Courage

David Sadzin photo by MG Vander Els, Johnny Heller photo by Jo Anna Perrin

# BEST OF MYSTERY & SUSPENSE

## THE BRIAR CLUB

Kate Quinn, read by Saskia Maarleveld  
(Harper Audio)



## THE GREY WOLF

Louise Penny, read by Jean Brassard  
(Macmillan Audio)

## A NEST OF VIPERS

Harini Nagendra, read by Soneela Nankani  
(Tantor Media)

## THE SEQUEL

Jean Hanff Korelitz, read by Julia Whelan  
(Macmillan Audio)

## SHANGHAI

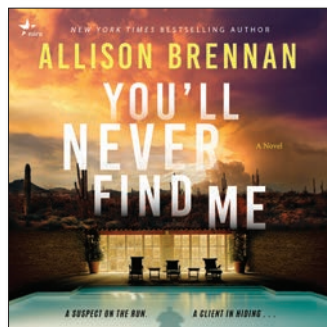
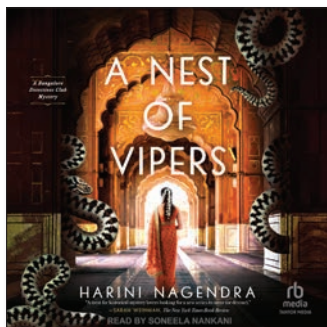
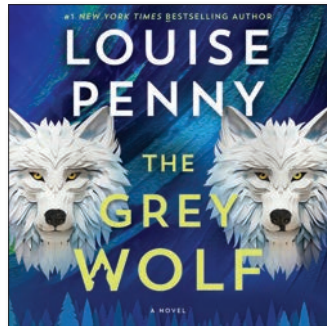
Joseph Kanon, read by Jonathan Davis  
(Simon & Schuster Audio)

## YOU'LL NEVER FIND ME

Allison Brennan, read by Hillary Huber  
(Harlequin Audio)



Soneela Nankani, narrator of  
A Nest of Vipers



Jean Brassard, narrator of The Grey Wolf

Soneela Nankani photo by Jody Christopheron, Jean Brassard photo by Steve Vaccarello

# BEST OF MULTI-VOICE

## DANGEROUS VISIONS

Harlan Ellison [Ed.], read by an Ensemble Cast  
(Blackstone Audio)

## GEORGE ORWELL'S 1984

George Orwell, Joe White [Adapt.], read by Andrew Garfield,  
Cynthia Erivo, Andrew Scott, Tom Hardy, et al.  
(Audible, Inc.)

## HOW WOMEN MADE MUSIC

Alison Fensterstock [Ed.], Ann Powers [Intro.], NPR,  
read by Alison Fensterstock, Ann Powers, et al.  
(Harper Audio)

## JOURNEY'S END

R.C. Sherriff, read by James Callis, Josh Cole, et al.  
(L.A. Theatre Works)

## MOON CALLED

Patricia Briggs, read by Khaya Fraites and a Full Cast  
(Graphic Audio)

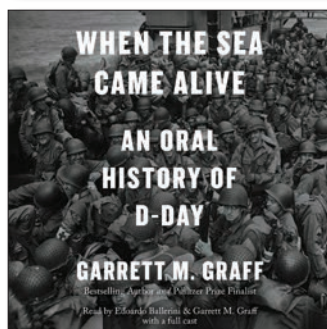
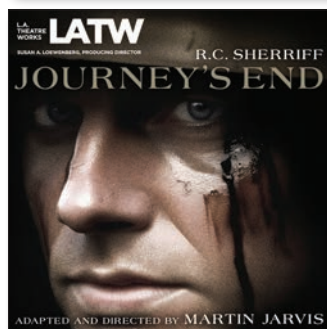
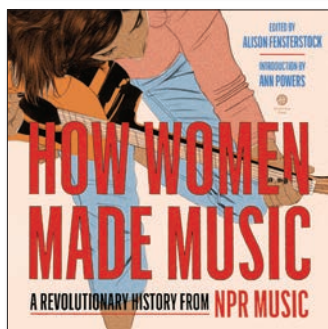
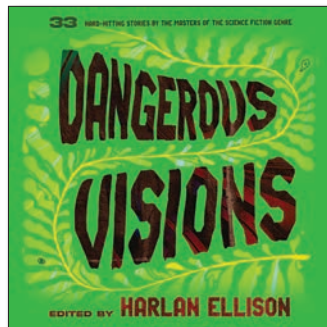


## WHEN THE SEA CAME ALIVE

Garrett M. Graff [Ed.], read by Edoardo Ballerini  
and a Full Cast  
(Simon & Schuster Audio)



Andrew Garfield, part of the cast of  
George Orwell's 1984



Edoardo Ballerini, narrator of  
When the Sea Came Alive

Andrew Garfield photo courtesy of Audible, Edoardo Ballerini photo by Ed Branley

# BEST OF SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY



## **BLOOD OVER BRIGHT HAVEN**

*M.L. Wang, read by Moira Quirk*  
(Random House Audio)

## **THE CRONE OF MIDNIGHT EMBERS**

*Iris Beaglehole, read by Bethan Dixon Bate*  
(Podium)

## **THE MERCY OF GODS**

*James S.A. Corey, read by Jefferson Mays*  
(Recorded Books)

## **THE STARS TOO FONDLY**

*Emily Hamilton, read by Vico Ortiz*  
(Harper Audio)

## **THE WARM HANDS OF GHOSTS**

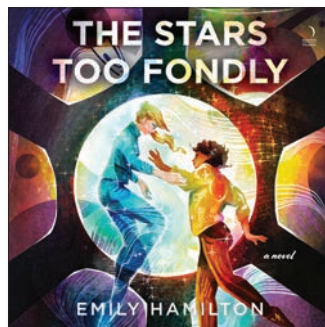
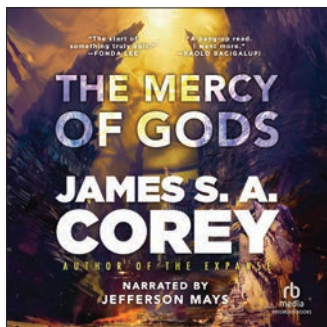
*Katherine Arden, read by Michael Crouch,  
January LaVoy, Katherine Arden*  
(Random House Audio)

## **WHEN AMONG CROWS**

*Veronica Roth, read by Helen Laser, James Fouhey,  
Tim Campbell*  
(Macmillan Audio)



*Moira Quirk, narrator of  
Blood Over Bright Haven*



*Jefferson Mays, narrator of  
The Mercy of Gods*

Moira Quirk photo by Andrea Akins



# BEST OF CHILDREN & FAMILY LISTENING

## THE BEAUTIFUL GAME

*Yamile Saied Méndez, read by Maria Liatis*  
(Hachette Audio)

## BRIDGES INSTEAD OF WALLS

*Mavis Staples, Carole Boston Weatherford, read by Mavis Staples, Adenrele Ojo*  
(Listening Library)

## FREE PERIOD

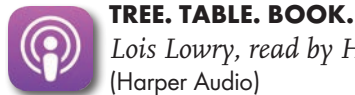
*Ali Terese, read by Josephine Huang, Cassandra Morris*  
(Scholastic Audiobooks)

## IMPOSSIBLE CREATURES

*Katherine Rundell, read by Samuel West*  
(Listening Library)

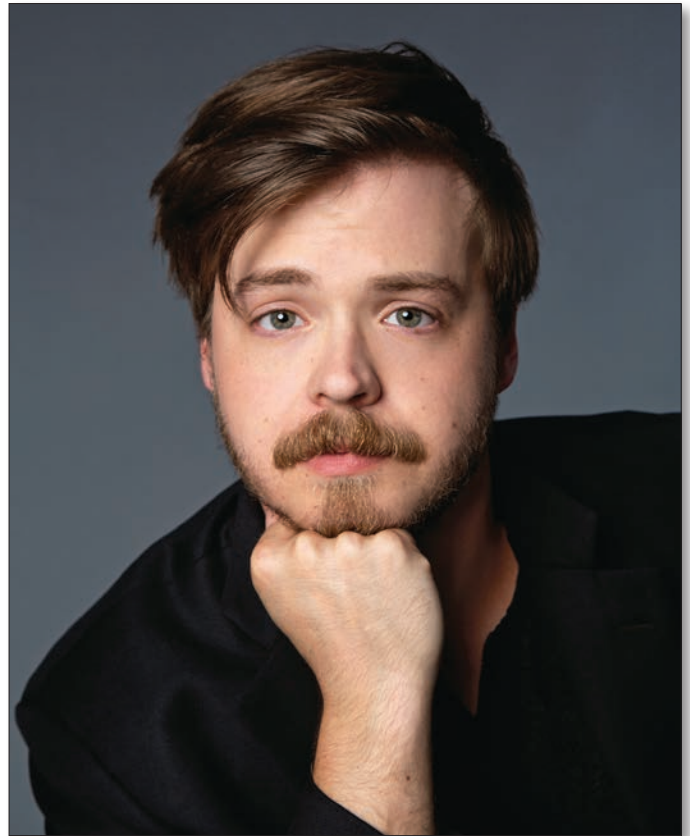
## OLIVETTI

*Allie Millington, read by Christopher Gebauer, Simon Vance*  
(Recorded Books)



## TREE. TABLE. BOOK.

*Lois Lowry, read by Hope Newhouse*  
(Harper Audio)



*Christopher Gebauer, co-narrator of Olivetti*



*Maria Liatis, narrator of The Beautiful Game*

Christopher Gebauer photo by Leslie Hassler, Maria Liatis photo by Chase Anderson Photography

# BEST OF YOUNG ADULT



## CANTO CONTIGO

Jonny Garza Villa,  
read by Alejandro Antonio Ruiz  
(Macmillan Audio)

## A CRANE AMONG WOLVES

June Hur, read by Greg Chun, Michelle H. Lee  
(Listening Library)

## HOW THE BOOGEYMAN BECAME A POET

Tony Keith, Jr., read by Tony Keith, Jr.  
(Harper Audio)

## JUPITER RISING

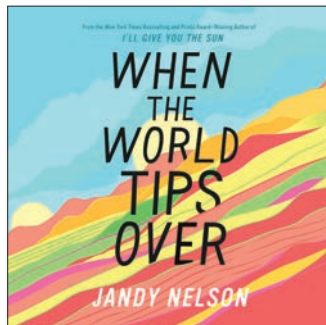
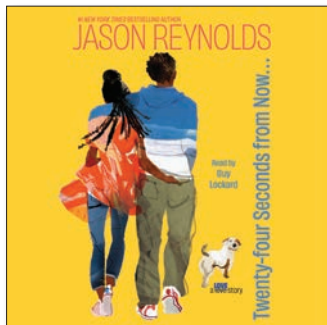
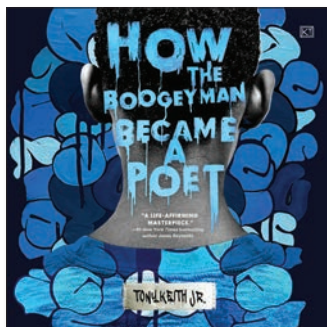
Gary D. Schmidt, read by Christopher Gebauer  
(Harper Audio)

## TWENTY-FOUR SECONDS FROM NOW...

Jason Reynolds, read by Guy Lockard  
(Simon & Schuster Audio)

## WHEN THE WORLD TIPS OVER

Jandy Nelson, read by Michael Crouch, Alex McKenna,  
Briggon Snow, Caitlin Kinnunen, Julia Whelan  
(Listening Library)



Michael Crouch, co-narrator of  
When the World Tips Over



Alejandro Antonio Ruiz, narrator of  
Canto Contigo

# BEST OF ROMANCE

## AVENGING ANGEL

Kristen Ashley, read by Stella Bloom  
(Audible, Inc.)

## THE BREAK-UP PACT

Emma Lord, read by Natalie Naudus  
(Macmillan Audio)

## JUST FOR THE SUMMER

Abby Jimenez, read by Christine Lakin, Zachary Webber  
(Hachette Audio)

## LOVE AT FIRST BOOK

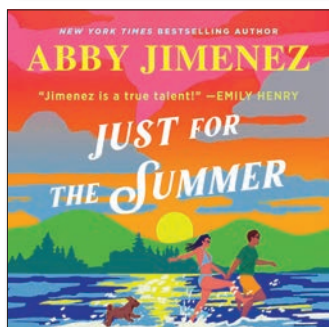
Jenn McKinlay, read by Brittany Pressley  
(Penguin Audio)

## THE ORNITHOLOGIST'S FIELD GUIDE TO LOVE

India Holton, read by Elizabeth Knowelden  
(Penguin Audio)

## THE PAIRING

Casey McQuiston, read by Emma Galvin, Max Meyers  
(Macmillan Audio)



Christine Lakin, co-narrator of Just for the Summer



Max Meyers, co-narrator of The Pairing

Christine Lakin by Indra Reid, Max Meyers photo by Bianca Rogoff