

For Your Ears Only Autumn 2006

Welcome to the Autumn issue of **For Your Ears Only**. From the letters and comments we have received you seem to like the new look, so we have worked hard to ensure that this edition maintains the standard we have set for ourselves.

We have enclosed an order form which you can use, if you wish, to add any of the books mentioned in this edition to your reading list. You can also telephone or e-mail us with the numbers of the books you would like.

For Your Ears Only is available in large print, on cassette, on CD, by e-mail or on our website, www.calibre.org.uk.

Happy reading from the Editorial Team

Christine Ronaldson, Linda Downey & Elizabeth Twining

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Who writes like... Agatha Christie

According to the Guinness Book of Records, **Agatha Christie** is the best selling fiction author of all time, with over two billion copies of her work sold. Her books are popular world-wide and have been translated into more than forty-five foreign languages.

She was born in Torquay in 1890, and married her first husband in 1914, but divorced him in 1928. In 1930 on a visit to Baghdad she met Max Mallowan, an archaeologist, who she later married. For over thirty years she accompanied him on his digs, and became one of the most informed women in the archaeological field.

In all her books she wrote about the world she knew, drawing on her experiences and observations in England, and whilst travelling, for her plots, locations and characters. She herself said that whilst her characters were fictitious, her settings were always real. Her two main protagonists are household names. Her first book featured Hercule Poirot, the Belgian detective, whose 'little grey cells' always ensure that he triumphs over devious criminals, and he managed to appear in over thirty novels. Her other famous sleuth, the shrewdly inquisitive Miss Jane Marple of St. Mary Mead, appeared in twelve novels.

In the interwar years Agatha Christie was one of several authors writing novels in a certain style that has come to be described as the Golden Age of English Crime Writing. These writers shared the conventions and snobberies of the day, and usually have the crime taking place in a 'closed' group of influential people. Although many novels are set in the 1930s, the Depression has little impact, and working-class people do not exist, unless as humble and loyal servants and tradesmen.

Agatha Christie's books are very popular with members of Calibre and we have over thirty titles in the library including:

BLACK COFFEE 5544

FIVE LITTLE PIGS 5323

MRS MCGINTY'S DEAD 6077

A MURDER IS ANNOUNCED 5442

Dorothy L Sayers is another writer from this Golden Age. Born in 1893 in Oxford, she was raised in Huntingdonshire and educated by a French Governess until she was sent to boarding school in her teens. She won a scholarship to Oxford University where she obtained a First Class Honours Degree, and she is often credited with being the most intelligent of all the Golden Age authors. Her plots are ingenious and intricate and she uses technical detail with great skill, especially her faultless descriptions of motorbikes – riding motorcycles was a passion of hers.

Her personal life was turbulent and unhappy, and it is frequently said that when she created her main character, Lord Peter Wimsey, she was in fact giving him the characteristics of her perfect man, an intelligent partner and passionate lover! When she gradually introduced Harriet Vane into her books it is generally believed the Harriet was Dorothy's alter ego. In 1948 she announced that she would write no further 'Wimsey' novels, but she did relent as the couple appear in some short stories. On her death an unfinished 'Wimsey' manuscript, 'Thrones, Dominations', was discovered and it was completed, many years later by Jill Paton Walsh.

From this time she concentrated on her more academic writings, and she is remembered for her skilled translations of medieval French and Italian works.

Like Agatha Christie she also wrote several stage and radio plays. We have a selection of her detective stories in the library, including

HAVE HIS CARCASE 5435
IN THE TEETH OF THE EVIDENCE 2457
THRONES, DOMINATIONS 5056

Ngaio Marsh is another writer from the Golden Age. She is considered an exponent of the English mystery novel, even though she was actually born in New Zealand in 1895. Initially she trained as an artist and was very successful. She then developed a life-long passion for theatre, where she worked as a writer, director and producer. Writing novels was almost a third career for her.

She first visited England in 1928, and was to move between England and New Zealand for most of her life. She created Detective Inspector Roderick Alleyn, who with his wife, Troy, solves the crimes of the upper classes. She did in fact set four of the Alleyn novels in New Zealand, although they are still written in the style of the English Mystery. Here are a selection of novels by Ngaio Marsh that have been recorded for Calibre.

BLACK AS HE'S PAINTED 5443
OPENING NIGHT 4385
SCALES OF JUSTICE 4222

Another writer from this era is **Margery Allingham**, born in Ealing in 1904. Allingham's parents and aunt were all writers, journalists, editors and publishers. She earned her first fees when she was eight when her aunt published one of her stories, and she continued to write stories and plays throughout her schooldays. At college she studied speech and drama, and continued writing plays as she had at school.

Her first mystery was an essay published in The Daily Express. Early in her novels she introduces her protagonist, Detective Albert Campion, an aristocratic 'silly ass'. Over the next forty years Campion matures into an intelligent, veteran investigator. She also introduces and develops the characters of Campion's sidekicks, Lugg, a reformed cat-burglar who is now his manservant, and Stanislaus Oates, the ever dependable policeman. We have some Margery Allingham novels in the library and these include:

CRIME AT BLACK DUDLEY 3727

POLICE AT THE FUNERAL 3797

SWEET DANGER 4354

Elizabeth Ferrars and **Patricia Wentworth** were also prolific crime writers of this period, and both were born in parts of the British Empire. **Elizabeth Ferrars** was born in 1907 in Rangoon, Burma. With over seventy crime novels to her credit she was a founder member of the Crime Writers' Association. Her main character is amateur detective Toby Dyke. Suggestions for her books are:

A CHOICE OF EVILS 4221

THE LYING VOICES 4316

MILK OF HUMAN KINDNESS 4200

Patricia Wentworth, born in India in 1878, is the creator of the sleuth Miss Silver. We do not have many books by Patricia Wentworth in the library, but we do have

MISS SILVER COMES TO STAY 4473

I hope that you are tempted to read, or read again, some of the books by Agatha Christie and her fellow crime novelists as they all offer well written mystery stories designed to entertain.

Christine Ronaldson

The Home Front

Unlike earlier international conflicts the Second World War had an enormous impact on the everyday lives of all civilians. Much of what has been written about the war, fiction and non-fiction, has concentrated on politics and diplomacy; military campaigns on land, sea and air; fighting and bravery in action; prisoners of war and their suffering; espionage and counter-espionage, etc. Rather less has been written portraying the lives of the civilians left behind.

We know there were hardships and shortages of all kinds to be endured. With many men away at war, women had to take on jobs they had never tackled before. For the first time civilians were personally exposed to the devastation, death and injury of war as a result of German bombing campaigns.

I am a child of the 1950s and only know about this from my parents and grandparents, but I am sure that many of you will be only too familiar with life on the Home Front. For some of you these books will recall familiar times, but for others, like myself, they will be an education. I have also included fiction set in this period for your entertainment. Whilst I was looking for material on 1939-1945, I have found one book that I had to include on civilian life in The Great War.

6584 ALL QUIET ON THE HOME FRONT

by Richard Van Emden & Steven Humphries

Whilst we hear and read much about the suffering of those at the Front during the First World War, we rarely realise the pain and stress suffered by those left at home. Here some of the oldest survivors share their memories of four years of hardship, terror, loss and a bittersweet victory.

6434 1939: THE LAST SEASON

by Anne de Courcy

As war clouds gathered over Europe there was nothing to do but wait, and dance. 1939 may have been the last season of peace, but it was also the last flutter of Thirties Society, marked by balls, house parties, and the pop of champagne corks.

6340 THE BLUE NOTE

by Charlotte Bingham

Three young wartime evacuees are sent to live in the country with two unmarried sisters. It is an idyllic time for them until they are cruelly split up. By chance they are reunited after the war, when hearts will be broken and mended.

6361 BRIGHT DAY, DARK NIGHT

by Mary Jane Staples

In the Devon village of Ashleigh, David Adams meets Kate Trimble, an orphan who lives with her aunt. Their friendship develops over the summer, and David is able to help Kate after an incident which shocks everyone and emphasises the darker side of war.

3021 X THE CAMOMILE LAWN

by Mary Wesley

World War 2 changes lives of young relatives in Cornwall. Strong language and explicit sex

15542 CARRIE'S WAR

by Nina Bawden

When Carrie returns to Wales where she was evacuated as a child in World War II, her children learn about the fascinating people she knew and her life as an evacuee.

5013 THE FEW

by Philip Kaplan & Richard Collier

The Battle of Britain and war-time England recalled through the memories of people who lived through the events of 1940.

5953 FIVE BOYS
by Mick Jackson

Bobby is exposed to greater dangers as an evacuee in Devon than in the London Blitz. This includes the bullying of the Five Boys who mistook him for a Nazi spy; the deserter in the woods; the US soldiers preparing for D-Day and the eccentric Bee King!

5174 GOODNIGHT MISTER TOM
by Michelle Magorian

At the start of World War Two, young Will is evacuated to the country and is billeted with Tom Oakley a gruff widower. Very gradually a deep bond develops between the two which has a dramatic effect on both their lives.

4856 THE GRASS COW
by Barbara Poynter

Author runs a farm while her husband is away during World War 2 and tells the story with great humour.

5002 LAND GIRLS
by Angela Huth

Three very different girls join the Womens' Land Army in the West Country. They build lifelong friendships and find life on the land has its drama.

4232 LONDON AT WAR
by Philip Ziegler

How Londoners lived through World War 2, evacuation and the Blitz.

4094 MAIDEN'S VOYAGE
by Emma Smith

The experiences based on fact of three young women working on the Grand Union Canal during World War 2.

6589 OUR STREET
by Gilda O'Neill

Sequel to 'My East End'. Wartime in the East End of London was marked by poverty, overcrowding, food rationing , gas masks and the constant threat of German bombers. Gilda O'Neill focuses on the personal stories of ordinary East Londoners to record how they lived through the six years of the Second World War.

5014 THEY FOUGHT IN THE FIELDS
by Nicola Tyrer

The Women's Land Army played a major role in helping to feed the nation in World War 2. The achievements of many of these women is told through personal reminiscences.

6313 UNDER AN ENGLISH HEAVEN
by Robert Radcliffe

In Suffolk 1943, once sleepy villages are now home to scores of bomber bases, manned by thousands of US airmen. For evacuee Billy Street this offers the opportunity to be accepted into a community, but for his teacher, Heather Garrett, and Lt. John Hooper the American invasion brings only upheaval and uncertainty!

6396 THE WAR AND UNCLE WALTER
by Walter Musto

The wartime diaries of an eccentric, sixty year old civil servant, who, in 1939, was looking forward to retirement but found himself involved in the suburban war effort.

4689 WHAT DID YOU DO IN THE WAR MUMMY?
By Mavis Nicholson

A unique collection of interviews with women from different walks of life who lived & worked during World War 2.

Christine Ronaldson

In the name of Faith

Pick up any newspaper, turn on the radio or television and the main reports at the moment are about terrorism and conflicts in different parts of the world. But what is the cause of most of these conflicts? Often it appears to be a difference in faith, beliefs, and value systems, where one group believes that theirs is the one true faith, and followers of other, or no, religions should not be tolerated and should be 'converted'.

Throughout history conflict and faith have gone hand in hand. Many of the major conflicts throughout the world ostensibly have a difference in faith as their root cause. The Crusades, the Spanish Inquisition, the Partition of India, the Irish Troubles to name but a few, have all been caused by one group trying to impose their beliefs on another group, or fighting in the name of their faith.

We have quite a number of books in the library about faith and religion and it might be interesting to look at some of these. If you are looking for a more comprehensive selection of Christian writings, and recordings of the Bible, you may wish to contact the Torch Trust, who specialise in this material. Their telephone number is 0870 7700 272.

2359 BUDDHISTS AND BUDDHISM

by Martha Patrick

A brief look at the teachings of Buddha and Buddhism.

2361 JEWS AND JUDAISM

by Leonard F Hobley

An outline of the Jewish religion.

2362 SIKHS AND SIKHISM

by S S Kapoor

Explaining Sikhism.

- 3327 THE KORAN**
translated into English by N I Dawood
Islam's Holy Book translated into English with explanatory introduction.
- 3365 THE CASE AGAINST GOD**
by Gerald Priestland
The late Gerald Priestland, broadcaster and writer, plays the devil's advocate and presses the case against the existence of God.
- 3517 BENEDICTINE TAPESTRY**
by Dame Felicitas Corrigan
Delightful stories of the history, events and personalities which provided the foundation of the monastic life.
- 3683 BUDDHISM**
by Christmas Humphreys
An understanding of Buddha, his teachings, religion and philosophy.
- 3774 MOSLEMS AND ISLAM**
by Leonard F Hobley
The story of a religion which began among Arab tribesmen and spread all over the world.
- 4215 THE AMAZING FACT OF QUAKER WORSHIP**
by George Gorman
Author writes with insight and an understanding of the spirituality of the Quaker worship.
- 4633 THE PROPHET**
by Kahlil Gibran
The advice and teachings of a prophet in Beirut.
- 4634 THE EYE OF THE PROPHET**
by Kahlil Gibran
Sequel to: 'The Prophet' (4633). The sayings and preachings of a Beirut prophet.

4635 THE VOICE OF THE MASTER

by Kahlil Gibran

Sequel to: 'The Eye of the Prophet'. The teaching of a Beirut prophet.

4674 FAITH IN THE FUTURE

by Jonathan Sacks

The Chief Rabbi addresses some of the major themes of our time and asks how we can construct a humane social order.

4915 A HISTORY OF JERUSALEM

by Karen Armstrong

An absorbing history from early biblical times to the present day of a city celebrated and revered for centuries by Jews, Christians and Muslims.

5019 THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO WOMEN

by Karen Armstrong

The author provides a passionate and provocative interpretation of the history of women in Christianity.

5077 MY AFFAIR WITH CHRISTIANITY

by Lionel Blue

As always Lionel Blue manages to combine serious questions with lightness & humour in this entertaining account of his spiritual journey.

5095 LIVES OF JESUS

by Mark Tully

A fascinating portrait of Jesus and four different interpretations of his life.

5096 MAKING MEN WHOLE

by J B Phillips

A vigorous and searching appraisal of the place of both Christian and non-Christian in the modern world and of their part of God's purpose.

5165 AN INTELLIGENT PERSONS GUIDE TO ETHICS

by Mary Warnock

The author explains how to distinguish right from wrong in areas ranging from euthanasia to abortion, Down's Syndrome, education and genetic engineering.

5257 THE ENGLISH COUNTRY PARSON: A FIELD GUIDE

by Thomas Hinde

A quick A to Z of parish clergymen, from the saintly to the wildly eccentric.

5433 ANCIENT WISDOM, MODERN WORLD

by The Dalai Lama

With wit and insight the Dalai Lama shows how ancient truths can help us to live happy and fulfilled lives at a time when science and technology have taken over from religious belief.

5631 OBERAMMERGAU

by James Shapiro

A fascinating portrait of a German village and its controversial Passion Play, which has been held every ten years since the seventeenth century.

5768 NAUGHT FOR YOUR COMFORT

by Trevor Huddleston

When this book was originally published, Trevor Huddleston was one of the first people to speak out against the South African government and make the world aware of the injustice of apartheid.

5948 COME HOLY SPIRIT HELP US TO PRAY

by Benedict Heron

A guide to prayer that is practical and realistic from a Benedictine monk.

6039 THE GREAT DIVORCE

by C S Lewis

In a dream, the narrator finds himself on a bus which travels between Heaven and Hell. This is the starting point for a meditation upon good and evil!

6040 SURPRISED BY JOY

by C S Lewis

Part autobiography and part spiritual journey. Here the author discusses the spiritual crisis from which he re-discovered his Christian faith.

6097 HONEST TO GOD

by John A T Robinson

First published in 1963 this book became the centre of a theological storm. It offered a passionate debate about the nature of Christian belief at a time when established doctrines were being challenged by revolutionary ideas.

6282 THINK

by Simon Blackburn

A lively and approachable introduction to philosophy and the big questions in life about God, Truth, Goodness and Fate. This book is for those who believe that the big questions are out there and want answers to them.

6770 GOD HAS A DREAM

by Desmond Tutu

Nobel Laureate Desmond Tutu is admired worldwide for his heroism and grace through South Africa's struggle for human rights. In his soul-searching book he shares the spiritual message that guided him through those troubled times.

Christine Ronaldson

Recent additions to the library

X denotes - Sex, Violence or Strong Language

Time - Maximum listening time

MP3 - Also available on MP3

EU - Available in the European Union

UK – Only available in the UK

Fiction

General Fiction

6810 WHITE

Arrow 2001

By Rosie Thomas

Reader Nancy Clegg

Al and Sam are men driven by their own demons, and Finch is a woman with a dream of her own. With Everest towering in the background, a passionate relationship is being played out between them, with tragic consequences.

Cassettes 11

Time 16hrs 0mins

EU

6841 X THE UNFORTUNATES

Fourth Estate 2002

By Laurie Graham

Reader Judy Le Besque

Despite their fortune Dora Minkel despairs of ever finding a husband for her fun-loving, eccentric daughter Poppy. World War I opens up new horizons for Poppy, who invents her own life in step with the times she is living through.

Cassettes 8

Time 11hrs 15mins

EU

6881 PERFECT DAY

Black Swan 2002

By Imogen Parker

Reader Rosemary Cross

On a perfect spring day Alexander catches an early train to London, but he doesn't go to work. Instead he spends the day with Kate, a waitress he met the day before. He day-dreams about leaving his old life and starting afresh with Kate, and a twist of fate gives him the opportunity!

Cassettes 8

Time 11hrs 45mins

EU

6882 INTRIGUE IN THE VILLAGE By Rebecca Shaw
Orion 2004 **Reader Stephanie Joy**

When the villagers of Turnham Malpas are invited to the Big House by Craddock Fitch, they are expecting to celebrate his thriving business. Instead they discover it is an extravagant wedding reception for two surprising people.

Cassettes 7 Time 9hrs 30mins EU

6883 FATIMA'S GOOD FORTUNE By J & G Dryansky
Hutchinson 2004 **Reader Pauline Beale**

Fatima Monsour leaves her home in Tunisia and comes to work for the Countess Palais du Roc in Paris. Challenged by the simplest tasks, she gradually acquires new skills and the courage to survive. Then her unique gifts begin to change the lives of those around her.

Cassettes 7 Time 9hrs 15mins EU

6887 THE MIRACLES OF SANTO FICO By D L Smith
Time Warner 2003 **Reader Tony Lister**

After a long absence, Leo Fizzola returns to the tiny Tuscan village of Santo Fico. His one true love Marta is not welcoming, Topo his once best friend wary, and Father Elio, the village priest undergoing a spiritual crisis. A bus load of English tourists cause Leo and Topo to fall back on old habits, creating man-made miracles.

Cassettes 8 Time 11hrs 45mins EU

6905 NO PLACE FOR A MAN By Judy Astley
Black Swan 2001 **Reader Derina Dinkin**

In her newspaper column, Jess writes about the enviably cheery muddle of her family life. Things become less rosy when her son goes backpacking and husband Matt is made redundant. Writing the carefree articles becomes harder, but, of course, she could just tell her readers the truth.

Cassettes 6 Time 8hrs 45mins EU

6922 EVERY GOOD WOMAN DESERVES A LOVER

By Diana Appleyard

Isis Audio Books 2005

Reader Trudy Harris

Sasha is bored and dissatisfied with her life as a wife and mother. With two friends she takes up the challenge to walk the Inca Trail in Peru. There she embarks on a love affair, and takes back her life before it is too late.

Cassettes 6

Time 7hrs 30mins EU

6923 FEVER HILL

By Michelle Paver

Isis Audio Books 2004

Reader Anna Bentinck

After dreaming for three years, Sophie Munroe finally returns to Jamaica, her childhood home, in 1903. Sophie's sister is keeping something from her, and her childhood hero, Ben Kelly, is avoiding her. Soon Sophie is facing a clash of loyalties, and the prejudices of colonial society.

Cassettes 12

Time 16hrs 30mins EU

6924 HAVOC, IN ITS THIRD YEAR By Ronan Bennett

Bloomsbury 2004

Reader Nick Rawlinson

Set in England in the 1630's. John Brigge a respected local coroner prefers to spend his time with his family and working on his farm. He is called to investigate Katherine Shay, suspected of killing her baby. The investigation becomes a vicious power struggle as the Puritans demand her execution.

Cassettes 7

Time 9hrs 0mins EU

6926 UPON DARK WATERS

By Robert Radcliffe

Abacus 2004

Reader Jonathan Oliver

On December 31st 1942, an Atlantic convoy has reached the deadly 'gap', where it cannot be protected by aircraft. The white flash they see at midnight means only one thing - a German torpedo. That New Year is etched forever on the memories of the survivors.

Cassettes 10

Time 13hrs 30mins EU

- 6933 THE DIARY OF AN AMERICAN AU PAIR**
By Marjorie Leet Ford
Reader Pat Steadman
 Chatto 2001
 When Melissa is fired from a San Fransisco advertising agency she cancels her wedding to Ted and moves to Britain as an au pair to an eccentric aristocratic family. Whilst observing the family in their native habitat, she succumbs to the lure of lemon shortbread and the appeal of a lean and hungry Englishman.
 Cassettes 10 Time 14hrs 45mins
- 6935 LATE SEASON**
By Christobel Kent
Reader Jill Johnson
 Penguin 2004
 In an old Tuscan farmhouse five old friends gather with their families for a late, relaxing summer holiday. The year before had brought tragedy, and they are hoping to put past events behind them. But will they?
 Cassettes 9 Time 12hrs 30mins EU
- 6943 THE WEDDING**
By Nicholas Sparks
Reader Tony Lister
 Time Warner 2003
 Despite being married for thirty years, Wilson Lewis still has trouble expressing his emotions. He fears that he and his wife are growing apart, and needs help to win back the woman he adores.
 Cassettes 6 Time 8hrs 30mins EU
- 7034 LOOKING BACK**
By Belva Plain
Reader Kate Harper
 BBC Audio Books 2002
 Three unlikely friends, Cecile, Norma and Amanda meet at college. Behind the façade of happiness lie secrets that threaten to tear the friends apart
 Cassettes 8 Time 11hrs 08mins EU

Contemporary Fiction

6934 ADRIFT ON THE NILE

A U Cairo Press 1993

By Naguib Mahfouz

Reader Hugh Sullivan

In the Sixties, a group of middle-aged, middle-class offspring of the old bourgeoisie meet night after night on a houseboat on the Nile. They lament the social changes ushered in by Nasser, and try to re-create their cosy enchanted world. There are unforeseen consequences when, one night, art and reality collide.

Cassettes 6

Time 5hrs 35mins

EU

6936 DEAFENING

Sceptre 2004

By Frances Itani

Reader Grace Dives

Grania, deaf since the age of five, has grown up in a world of silence. She meets and marries Jim Lloyd, who after only two weeks is sent to the First World War battlefields. A story of contrasts, sounds and silence, life and death; a sensitive portrayal of love and war.

Cassettes 10

Time 14hrs 0mins

EU

7033 GLASS OF BLESSINGS

BBC Audio 1994

By Barbara Pym

Reader Susan Jameson

Wilmet Forsyth's interest in the Anglo-Catholic church leads her into the company of three unmarried priests, and Piers Longridge!

Cassettes 8

Time 10hrs 30mins

EU

Detective & Mystery Stories

6814 ISLE OF DOGS

Little, Brown 2001

By Patricia D Cornwell

Reader Christine Fewings

When the governor of Virginia orders the installation of speed traps on the nearby island of Tangier, the eccentric residents are up in arms. They threaten to secede and set up their own state. It is up to the new superintendent of police, Judy Hammer, to solve the crisis, with the help of state trooper Andy Brazil.

Cassettes 11

Time 16hrs 15mins

6879 DEATH IN THE SETTING SUN By Deryn Lake
Allison & Busby 2004 **Reader Jim Swingler**

Apothecary John Rawlings is happy and content with his life and family. But one evening, when at a party at Gunnesbury Hall, he is accused of murder and goes into hiding. John and his close friends attempt to uncover the truth, while trying to come to terms with their own grief.

Cassettes 7 Time 10hrs 0mins EU

6939 THE MOOR By Laurie R King
HarperCollins 2002 **Reader Jill Hetherington**

Sherlock Holmes is summoned back to Dartmoor because a body has been found surrounded by large paw-prints. Can the Hound of the Baskervilles have returned? Holmes and Mary Russell investigate, finding that the true explanation is scarier than devilish local myths.

Cassettes 9 Time 12hrs 45mins EU

Family Stories

6857 BEST OF FRIENDS By Cathy Kelly
HarperCollins 2003 **Reader Pat Steadman**

This book follows Abby, Jess, Lizzie and Erin who are happily enjoying their lives. Then a tragedy occurs which affects them all, making them realise just how precious life is.

Cassettes 19 Time 27hrs 15mins EU

6878 THE SOLDIER'S WIFE By Rachel Moore
Pocket Books 2004 **Reader Patricia Mumford**

Set in Cornwall, the story of four women who have supported each other through the long war time years. With mixed emotions they await the return of their husbands at the end of WWII. Shirley and Gwen have guilty secrets to hide, Velma plans to ask for a divorce, while Carrie eagerly wants to restart her married life with POW husband Archie.

Cassettes 8 Time 11hrs 0mins EU

6925 THE MOON AT MIDNIGHT By Charlotte Bingham

Isis Audio Books 2004

Reader Judy Bennett

In 1962 the threat of atomic war is very real, which bewilders many of the older generation who believed they had sacrificed everything in WW2 to avoid such threats. At the same time a group of friends in Sussex are facing a personal crisis brought about by their teenage children.

Cassettes 10

Time 13hrs 30mins

EU

6928 A CHANGE OF FORTUNE By Beryl Matthews

Soundings Audio Books 2005

Reader Julia Franklin

When he loses his fortune in the Wall Street Crash, Eugenie Winford's father commits suicide, leaving Eugenie and her mother ruined. She changes her name and goes into hiding as a housemaid. When her identity is revealed, she flees again, ending up with a poor family in Lambeth, with whom she faces the hardships of the Depression.

Cassettes 9

Time 12hrs 0mins

EU

6938 LOVERS AND LIARS By Josephine Cox

HarperCollins 2003

Reader Brenda Usherwood

Emily and John, childhood sweethearts, were secretly planning a life together, but were cruelly forced apart. They each try to forget the other, and their lives take very different paths, but when history threatens to repeat itself, Emily is forced to put the past behind her.

Cassettes 7

Time 10hrs 30mins

EU

7021 X THE CAPTIVE HEART

By Jessica Stirling

BBC Audio 2004

Reader Kara Wilson

Although World War I ended well for the Franklins, prosperous Clydeside shipbuilders, trouble is brewing behind their respectable façade. As the slump begins to bite in 1920's Glasgow, their lives are invaded by personal and financial troubles.

Cassettes 10

Time 13hrs 30mins

EU

7023 ANNIE'S GIRL **By Audrey Howard**
BBC Audio 2001 **Reader Carole Boyd**

The story of a passionate young woman whose headstrong determination to make a life for herself leads to tragedy.

Cassettes 12 Time 16hrs 30mins EU

7024 TRY A LITTLE TENDERNESS **By Joan Jonker**
BBC Audio 1998 **Reader Clare Higgins**

Jenny and Laura Nightingale are as different as chalk and cheese, Jenny being pretty with a lively sense of humour whilst Laura is spoilt and moody. When Jenny is pursued by the local boys Laura's resentment begins to build.

Cassettes 12 Time 16hrs 30mins EU

7026 CORNISH HARVEST **By Rosemary Aitken**
BBC Audio 1998 **Reader June Barrie**

Lizzie Treloweth is from a large family, who have to struggle to run their father's butcher's shop in Penzance, when he enlists in the army at the start of WW1. When Lizzie trains as a nurse she meets and befriends Tamsin Beswetherick, the daughter of the local gentry.

Cassettes 10 Time 13hrs 30mins EU

7028 X SHAMROCK GREEN **By Jessica Stirling**
BBC Audio 2003 **Reader Rowena Cooper**

Sylvie and Gowry McCulloth's marriage was not a match made in heaven, and they have experienced some difficult times. They settle in Dublin with their beloved daughter, Maeve, when Francis Hegarty explodes into their lives.

Cassettes 12 Time 16hrs 30mins EU

7029 **NOT A BIRD WILL SING** **By Audrey Howard**
BBC Audio 1998 **Reader Carole Boyd**

In the 1870's a young girl is adopted by a farmer's wife, and later agrees to marry the son and heir of the family. After the marriage she falls in love with another man, thus causing heartache and tragedy.

Cassettes 12 Time 16hrs 30mins EU

7030 **STROLLING WITH THE ONE I LOVE**
By Joan Jonker
BBC Audio 2003 **Reader Maggie Ollerenshaw**

Although Kate Spencer and Monica Parry have enough to do running their homes and raising their boisterous families, they can't ignore the cry for help from a neighbour's teenage daughter.

Cassettes 12 Time 16hrs 30mins EU

7031 X **SIXPENNY GIRL** **By Meg Hutchinson**
BBC Audio 2004 **Reader Diana Bishop**

Saran Chandler's mother and sister are sold to a vicious businessman by her evil step-father. Saran herself benefits from an act of kindness and sets up a business in competition with the man who bought her mother and sister.

Cassettes 12 Time 16hrs 30mins EU

Historical Fiction

6876 **THE WHITE MARE** **By Jules Watson**
Orion 2004 **Reader Nancy Clegg**

The story of Rhiann, a beautiful Scottish princess, and Eremon, an Irish prince who needs to seek an alliance to regain his throne. The Roman Legions, under the leadership of Agricola, Governor of Britain, are marching into Alba the last unconquered territory.

Cassettes 17 Time 24hrs 45mins EU

6927 **VIKING: ODINN'S CHILD** **By Tim Severin**
Isis Audio Books 2005 **Reader Gordon Griffin**

In 1001, the toddler, Thorgils Leiffson, arrives in Greenland to be brought up by a foster mother, Gudrid. Having inherited the gift of second sight, his destiny lies far beyond his home. The young boy joins a doomed expedition to Vinland, but escaping the massacre, he embarks on a journey of discovery.

Cassettes 9 Time 12hrs 0mins EU

7032 **COTILLION** **By Georgette Heyer**
BBC Audio 2003 **Reader Elizabeth Bailey**

Kitty Charing will inherit a vast fortune from her great -uncle Matthew - if she marries one of her cousins. Her preferred choice is Jack Westruther who has no inclination to marry. So Kitty and another cousin devise a plan, designed to make Jack madly jealous!

Cassettes 10 Time 13hrs 30mins EU

Love stories

6921 **THE LINNET BIRD** **By Linda Holeman**
Headline 2004 **Reader Maggie Ollerenshaw**

Linny escaped a life of grinding poverty in Liverpool by transforming herself into a young lady and fleeing to India in the early days of the Raj. There she found love, heartache and also freedom but what did she have to sacrifice along the way?

Cassettes 14 Time 19hrs 30mins EU

7020 **LONE EAGLE** **By Danielle Steel**
BBC Audio 2001 **Reader Ron McLarty**

This is the story of an extraordinary man, the woman who loved him, and finding the courage to let someone you love fly free!

Cassettes 12 Time 16hrs 30mins EU

7022 DECEPTION **By Claire Lorrimer**
BBC Audio 2005 **Reader Ruth Sillers**
All Charlotte's dreams for her future are dashed when her father is imprisoned. Verity, her friend, rescues her, but will life on a country estate make up for the dreams that can never come true?
Cassettes 10 Time 13hrs 30mins EU

7027 THE WEDDING **By Danielle Steel**
BBC Audio 2001 **Reader J R Horne**
Allegra Steinberg, an attorney, represents the 'beautiful people' of Hollywood. Her parents' marriage seems to be perfect, but over a few whirlwind days she makes an unpleasant discovery about her father. This, and a chance encounter will change her life forever.
Cassettes 10 Time 13hrs 30mins EU

Short Stories & Anthologies

6880 GOING INTO A DARK HOUSE **By Jane Gardam**
Abacus 1995 **Reader Jill Johnson**
A collection of ten, mesmeric and beautifully written short stories.
Cassettes 5 Time 5hrs 0mins EU

Thrillers

6802 DARK JUSTICE **By Jack Higgins**
MP3 HarperCollins 2004 **Reader Sean Barrett**
The US President is having dinner with an old friend when a man in the opposite building tries to assassinate him. Blake Johnson and Sean Dillon, intelligence operatives, set out to trace the would-be assassin, but soon realise that he is just the tip of a far bigger conspiracy.
Cassettes 6 Time 7hrs 30mins EU

Non-fiction

Animals

6888 **TIMOTHY THE TORTOISE** **By Rory Knight Bruce**
Orion 2004 **Reader Jim Swingler**

The true life story of Timothy the Tortoise who lived for over a hundred years in the Rose Garden of Powderham Castle, home of the Courtenays, Earls of Devon. He died in 2004 aged more than 160. It is also the story of the evolution of the estate and the family of which he was a much loved member.

Cassettes 5 Time 5hrs 0mins EU

6930 **ANIMALS IN WAR** **By Jilly Cooper**
Corgi 1984 **Reader Nicola Down**

A tribute to the role of animals in wartime, including stories of dogs sniffing out mines in the Second World War, the medal winning pigeon G.I. Joe and the parachute jumping, SAS mongrel Rob.

Cassettes 6 Time 5hrs 15mins EU

7025 **BORN FREE - The Full Story** **By Joy Adamson**
BBC Audio 2001 **Reader Veronika Hyks**

This book contains 'Born Free', 'Living Free' & 'Forever Free', the story of the Adamson's work in the field of wildlife conservation.

Cassettes 12 Time 16hrs 30mins EU

Arts General

6941 **MASTER OF THE SEA: Charles Napier Hemy RA, RWS**
Alison Hodge 2004 **By Margaret Powell (nee Hemy)**
Reader Michael St. John

Charles Napier Hemy was acclaimed as 'the most accomplished marine painter of his day'. His grand-daughter uses his diaries to tell the story of his life.

Boxed with 'Selected Poems' see Poetry.

Cassettes 3 Time 2hrs 30mins EU

Biography & Autobiography - General

6885 **LILLA'S FEAST** **By Frances Osborne**
Transworld 2004 **Reader Cecilia Laughton**

Lilla Eckford was born in China, lived in India and ended her days in England at the age of a hundred and one. In WW2, when the Japanese invaded China, Lilla was interned in a civilian camp. To survive the camp and blot out the realities of war she compiled a book of recipes and household hints.

Cassettes 9 Time 13hrs 30mins EU

6932 **UNCLE TUNGSTEN: MEMORIES OF A CHEMICAL BOYHOOD** **By Oliver Sacks**
Picador 2001 **Reader Michael St. John**

The neurologist was brought up in wartime England, in a large family who fostered his early fascination with chemistry. He relates the story of his childhood with warmth and wit.

Cassettes 12 Time 17hrs 30mins EU

Biography & Autobiography - Historical

6942 **MARY SEACOLE** **By Jane Robinson**
Constable & Robinson 2005 **Reader Derina Dinkin**

Born in Jamaica in 1805, Mary Seacole became an independent doctress, combining herbal remedies with sound surgical techniques. At the outbreak of the Crimean War she arrived in London hoping to join Florence Nightingale. Deemed unsuitable, she made her own way to Balaklava, where she founded the successful British Hotel.

Cassettes 9 Time 8hrs 3mins EU

Biography & Autobiography - Sport

6937

**THE COMPLETE CENTRE FORWARD: The
Authorised Biography Of Tommy Lawton**

By David McVay

Sports Books 2000

Reader Jim Swingler

Tommy Lawton is hailed as possibly the greatest centre-forward ever produced by England. Whilst we will never know if this is so, he is still remembered by the fans who idolised him. This is the story of his football career, and his darker moments away from football.

Cassettes 13

Time 13hrs 0mins EU

History - General Social History

6950

EMPIRE

By Niall Ferguson

MP3

BBC Audio 2004

Reader Sean Barrett

Subtitled 'How Britain made the modern world', the book focuses on the reasons why the British Empire came into being and how it fell. The author emphasizes the pursuit of economic profit and military might.

Cassettes 11

Time 15hrs 0mins EU

Home & Garden

6931

LITTLE HISTORY OF BRITISH GARDENING

By Jenny Uglow

Chatto 2004

Reader Shirley Hall

Jenny Uglow has a love of gardens and plants, and she is curious about the evolution of gardens and gardening practices. Here she unpicks the history of British gardening from prehistoric times, in a light, pleasurable book.

Cassettes 9

Time 12hrs 15mins EU

Poetry

6940 **SELECTED POETRY** **By Gerard Manley Hopkins**
OUP 1998 **Reader Barry Wilsher**

An award-winning selection of poetry from Gerald Manley Hopkins, a major poet of striking originality.

Boxed with 'Master of the sea' see Arts general.

Cassettes 4 Time 6hrs 0mins EU

Travel - World

6884 **ISLANDS OF CONTRAST** **By Beryl Miles**
John Murray 1955 **Reader May Ballingall**

In the early 1950s, Beryl Miles was in Australia when she had the unexpected opportunity to travel around the two islands of New Zealand by truck. Knowing that New Zealand offers such a variety of physical features she snatched the chance and shares her experiences in this book.

Cassettes 9 Time 8hrs 30mins EU