

Recommended Audiobooks



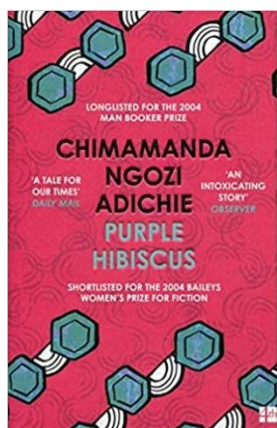
*= written for children

**= written for young adults

Most other books are suitable for KS4/5 students, though it depends on the student

In red = my top 30 listening recommendations (available on Audible). Subject to change!

Stay With Me by Ayobami Adebayo (narrated by Adjoa Andoh, 8 hours 5 minutes)



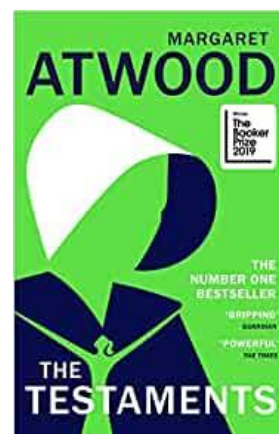
Purple Hibiscus by Chimimanda Ngozi Adichie (narrated by Adjoa Andoh, 6 hours 55 minutes)

Things We Never Said by Nick Alexander (narrated by Imogen Church, 11 hours 3 minutes)

Djinn Patrol on the Purple Line by Deepa Anappara (narrated by Indira Varma, Himesh Patel, Antonio Aakeel, 9 hours 40 minutes)

Life After Life by Kate Atkinson (narrated by Fenella Woolgar, 15 hours 28 minutes). Great, but don't lose your place for this one!

The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood (narrated by Joanna David, 10 hours 23 minutes); **The Testaments** by Margaret Atwood (narrated by Dowd, Howard, Whitman, Jacobi, Cardinal, Atwood, 13 hours 18 minutes)



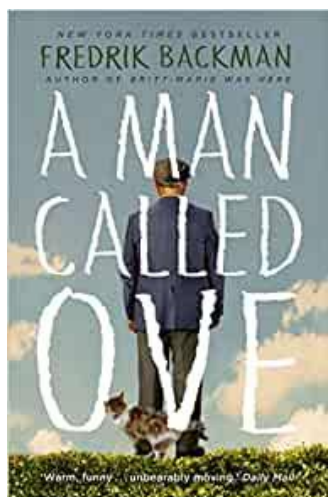
The Jane Austen BBC Radio Drama Collection by Jane Austen (narrated by David Tennant, Benedict Cumberbatch, Julie McKenzie, 14 hours 27 minutes)

A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman (narrated by Joan Walker, 9 hours 12 minutes)

Three Daughters by Consuelo Saah Baehr (narrated by Karen Peakes, 23 hours 3 minutes)

Boy Underwater* by Adam Baron (narrated by Rafe Spall, 4 hours 40 minutes)

Days Without End by Sebastian Barry (narrated by Aidan Kelly, 7 hours 58 minutes)



All books curated by

KINGALFRED'S
ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE TOGETHER

The Heart's Invisible Furies by John Boyne (narrated by Stephen Hogan, 21 hours 21 minutes)

My Sister, the Serial Killer by Oyinkan Braithwaite (narrated by Weruche Opia, 4 hours 30 minutes)

Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte (narrated by Thandie Newton, 19 hours 10 minutes)

World War Z by Max Brooks (narrated by Ragland, Farley, Pilkington, Woodward, Thorpe, Sims, Slade 13 hours 56 minutes)

A Walk in the Woods by Bill Bryson (narrated by William Roberts, 9 hours 43 minutes). Non-fiction with Bryson's escapades on the

Appalachian Trail. Anything by Bryson is great!

Junk** by Melvin Burgess (narrated by Katrina Baylis, 8 hours 8 minutes)

Lost For Words by Stephanie Butland (narrated by Imogen Church, 9 hours 3 minutes)

Playing the Enemy by John Carlin (narrated by Saul Reichlan, 9 hours 50 minutes). Non-fiction story of Rugby World Cup in South Africa & Nelson Mandela.

And Then There Were None by Agatha Christie (narrated by Hugh Fraser)

Stolen** by Lucy Christopher (narrated by Emily Gray, 8 hours 35 minutes)

Nothing to Envy: Ordinary Lives in North Korea by Barbara Demick (narrated by Karen White, 12 hours 29 minutes). Prize-winning non-fiction story of life in North Korea, following the lives of six citizens over 15 years.

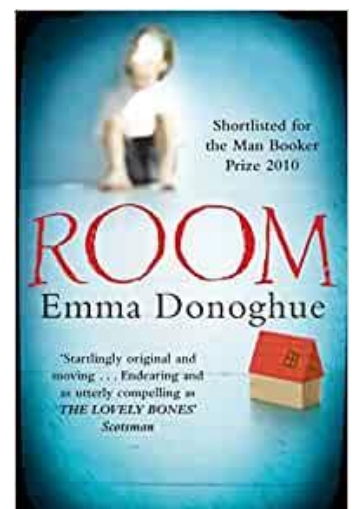
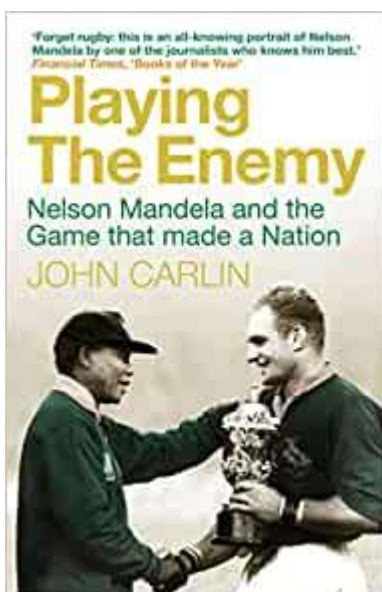
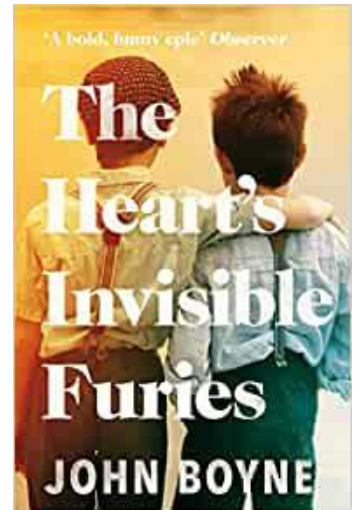
David Copperfield by Charles Dickens (narrated by Richard Armitage, 36 hours 30 minutes)

Revolution** by Jennifer Donnelly (narrated by Emily Card and Emma Bering, 15 hours 3 minutes)

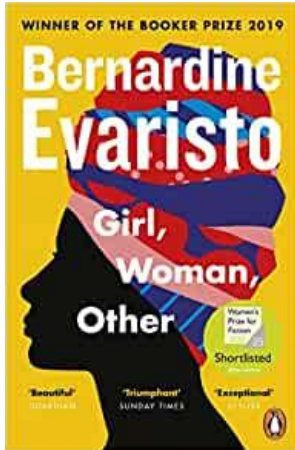
Room by Emma Donoghue (narrated by Michal Friedman, Ellen Archer, Suzanne Toren, Robert Petkoff, 10 hours 45 minutes)

The Storm Keeper's Island* by Catherine Doyle (narrated by Patrick Moy, 6 hours 43 minutes)

The Rabbit Girls by Anna Ellory (narrated by Gemma Arterton & Simon Callow, 12 hours 22 minutes)



Ordinary People by Diana Evans (narrated by Jennifer Saayeng, 11 hours 46 minutes)



Girl, Woman, Other by Bernadine Evaristo (narrated by Anna-Marie Nabirye, 11 hours 7 minutes)

Alone in Berlin by Hans Fallada (translated by Michael Hofmann, narrated by John Telfer, 20 hours 16 minutes)

Birdsong by Sebastian Faulks (narrated by Peter Firth, 15 hours 19 minutes)

The Narrow Road to the Deep North by Richard Flanagan (narrated by Richard Flanagan, 15 hours 5 minutes)

The Bone Sparrow* by Zana Fraillon (narrated by Gareth Locke, 4 hours 27 minutes)

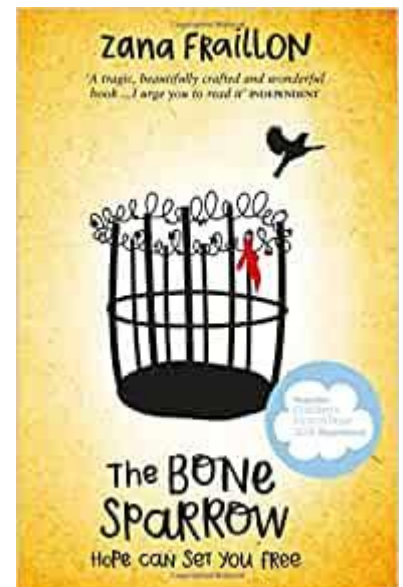
The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman (narrated by Neil Gaiman); **Coraline*** by Neil Gaiman (narrated by Dawn French, 3 hours 34 minutes); **American Gods** by Neil Gaiman (narrated by Gaiman, Boutsikaris, Oreskes, McLarty, Jones, 19 hours 36 minutes – adult listeners)

The Last Tudor by Philippa Gregory (narrated by Bianca Amato, 19 hours 10 minutes); **A Respectable Trade** by Philippa Gregory (narrated by Adjoa Andoh, 17 hours 25 minutes)

When All Is Said by Anne Griffin (narrated by Niall Buggy, 8 hours 4 minutes)

Homegoing by Yaa Gyasi (narrated by Dominic Hoffman, 13 hours 11 minutes)

How to Stop Time by Matt Haig (narrated by Mark Meadows, 10 hours 37 minutes)



The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah (narrated by Polly Stone, 17 hours 19 minutes)

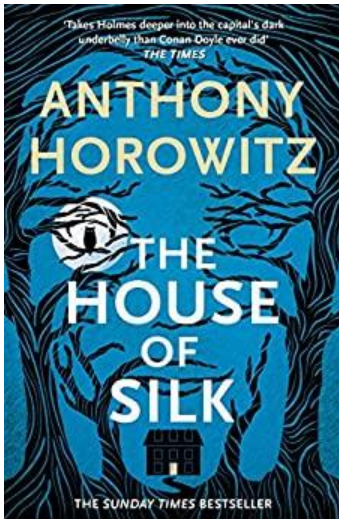
Far From the Madding Crowd by Thomas Hardy (narrated by Jamie Parker, 14 hours 52 minutes)

An Officer and a Spy by Robert Harris (narrated by David Rintoul, 16 hours 4 minutes); **Imperium** by Robert Harris (narrated by Bill Wallis, 13 hours 51 minutes)

After the Fire** by Will Hill (narrated by Amy Finegan, 13 hours 7 minutes)

Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine by Gail Honeyman (narrated by Cathleen McCaroon, 11 hours 36 minutes)





The House of Silk by Anthony Horowitz (narrated by Sir Derek Jacobi, 10 hours 23 minutes); ***I Know What You Did Last Wednesday**** by Anthony Horowitz (narrated by Nickolas Grace, 1 hour 37 minutes)

Close to Home by Cara Hunter (narrated by Emma Cunniffe and Lee Ingleby, 9 hours 34 minutes)

Yellow Crocus by Laila Ibrahim (narrated by Bahni Turpin, 8 hours 21 minutes)

A Prayer for Owen Meany by John Irving (narrated by Joe Barrett, 27 hours 19 minutes)

The Librarian of Auschwitz by Antonio Iturbe and Lilit Thwaites (narrated by Marisa Calin, 13 hours 39 minutes)

The House We Grew Up In by Lisa Jewell (narrated by Karina Fernandez, 13 hours 25 minutes)

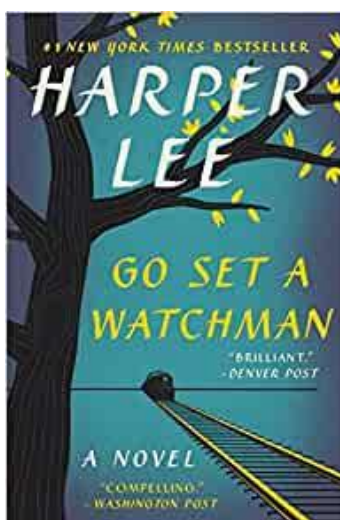
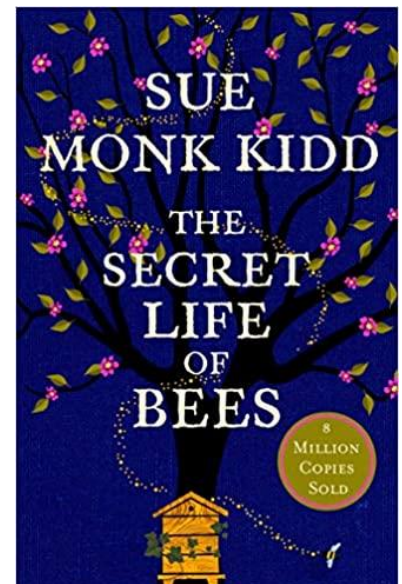
An American Marriage by Tayari Jones (narrated by Eisa Davis, Sean Crisden, 8 hours 59 minutes)

The Hundred-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out of the Window and Disappeared by Jonas Jonasson (narrated by Peter Kenny, 10 hours 59 minutes)

This is Going to Hurt by Adam Kay (narrated by Adam Kay, 6 hours 17 minutes). Memoir about the experiences of a junior doctor.

The Poison Tree by Erin Kelly (narrated by Alison Reid, 11 hours 46 minutes)

The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd (narrated by Jenna Lamia, 9 hours 54 minutes)



Orphan, Monster, Spy** by Matt Killeen (narrated by Rebecca Hamilton, 10 hours 8 minutes)***Reading With Patrick*** by Michelle Kuo (narrated by Michelle Kuo, 8 hours 29 minutes). Non-fiction book exploring the power of literature to overcome obstacles, including racism and inequality).

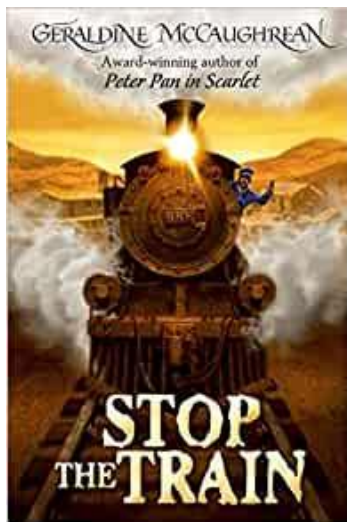
Skulduggery Pleasant* by Derek Landy (narrated by Rupert Degas, 7 hours 9 minutes)

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee (narrated by Sissy Spacek, 12 hours 17 minutes); ***Go Set a Watchman*** by Harper Lee (narrated by Reese Witherspoon, 6 hours 57 minutes)

The Beekeeper of Aleppo by Christy Lefteri (narrated by Art Malik, 8 hours 37 minutes)

Scarlet Ibis* by Gill Lewis (narrated by Pippa Bennet-Warner, 3 hours 53 minutes)

Bluebird, Bluebird by Attica Locke (narrated by JD Jackson, 9 hours 25 minutes)



The Railway Man by Eric Lomax (narrated by Bill Paterson, 8 hours 24 minutes)

Stop the Train* and **Pull Out All the Stops*** by Geraldine McCaughrean (not available on Audible but *Stop the Train*, our all time family favourite listen, is on Epic! and elsewhere)

The Company of Liars by Karen Maitland (narrated by David Thorpe, 18 hours 46 minutes); **The Owl Killers** by Karen Maitland (narrated by David Thorpe, 17 hours 45 minutes)

Bookworm by Lucy Mangan (narrated by Lucy Mangan, 7 hours 27 minutes). Non-fiction book revisiting writer's childhood reading and the impact it had on her

The Passengers by John Marrs (narrated by Atherton, McMillan, Corbett, Bateman, Tomlinson, Khan, 11 hours 40 minutes)

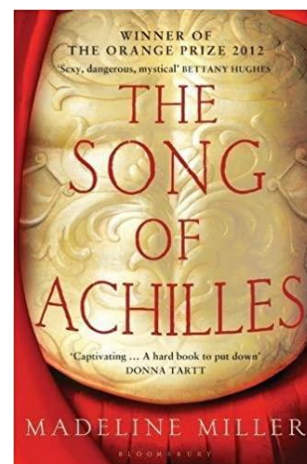
The Girl Who Fell From the Sky by Simon Mawer (narrated by Anna Bentinck, 11 hours 32 minutes)

The Song of Achilles by Madeline Miller (narrated by David Thorpe, 11 hours 31 minutes); **Circe** by Madeline Miller (narrated by Perdita Weeks, 12 hours 8 minutes)

The Monster Collection by Bram Stoker, Robert Louis Stevenson and Mary Shelley (narrated by Richard Armitage, Dan Stevens, Greg Wise, 30 hours 33 minutes)

What Alice Forgot by Liane Moriarty (narrated by Caroline Lee, 15 hours 34 minutes)

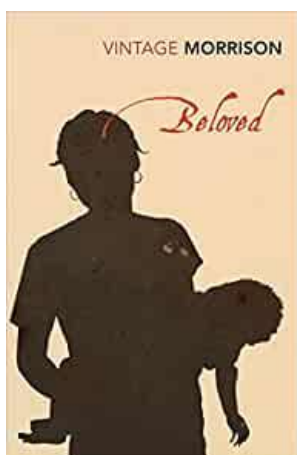
The Tattooist of Auschwitz by Heather Morris (narrated by Richard Armitage, 7 hours 26 minutes). Based on a true story.

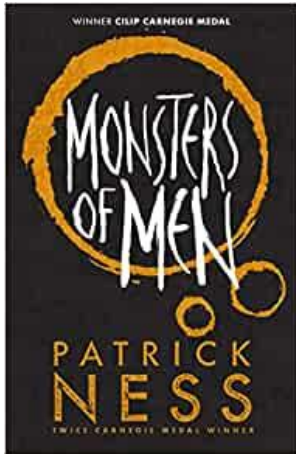


Beloved by Toni Morrison (narrated by Toni Morrison, 12 hours 3 minutes)

Me Before You by Jojo Moyes (narrated by Hall, Bentinck, Crossley, Treagar, Lindsay, Wincott, 16 hours 37 minutes); **The Ship of Brides** by Jojo Moyes (narrated by Nicolette McKenzie, 15 hours 35 minutes)

A History of the World in 21 Women by Jenni Murray (narrated by Jenni Murray, 8 hours 44 minutes). Non-fiction book about women who transformed history – one chapter for each woman, so easy to listen to in chunks).





The Knife of Never Letting Go** by Patrick Ness (narrated by Humphrey Bower, 12 hours 28 minutes); ***The Ask and the Answer***** by Patrick Ness (narrated by Humphrey Bower, 13 hours 44 minutes); ***Monsters of Men***** by Patrick Ness (narrated by Humphrey Bower, 15 hours 32 minutes)

Us by David Nicholls (narrated by Justin Salinger, 12 hours 40 minutes); ***Sweet Sorrow*** by David Nicholls (narrated by Rory Kinnear, 13 hours 5 minutes)

All the Bright Places** by Jennifer Niven (narrated by Ariadne Meyers, Kirby Heyborne 11 hours 4 minutes)

Dreams From My Father by Barack Obama (narrated by Barack Obama, 7 hours 8 minutes); ***The Audacity of Hope*** by Barack Obama (narrated by Barack Obama, 6 hours 10 minutes)

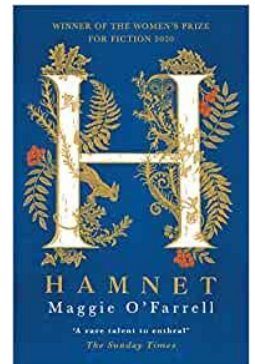
Becoming by Michelle Obama (narrated by Michelle Obama, 19 hours 3 minutes)

An Utterly Impartial History of Britain by John O'Farrell (narrated by John O'Farrell, 16 hours minutes). Non-fiction hilarious take on British history

Hamnet by Maggie O'Farrell (narrated by Daisy Donovan, 10 hours 31 minutes)

Wonder* by RJ Palacio (narrated by Kate Rudd, Nick Podehl, Diana Steele, 8 hours 5 minutes)

The Dutch House by Ann Patchett (narrated by Tom Hanks, 9 hours 53 minutes)



Small Great Things by Jodi Picoult (narrated by Noma Dumezweni, Jeff Harding, Jennifer Woodward, 16 hours 41 minutes); ***Leaving Time*** by Jodi Picoult (narrated by Lowman, Revasch, Mazur, Deakins, 15 hours 11 minutes); ***Lone Wolf*** (no longer available on Audible).

The Last Hero by Terry Pratchett (narrated by Stephen Briggs, 4 hours 24 minutes); ***Mort: Discworld, Book 4*** by Terry Pratchett (narrated by Tony Robinson, 3 hours 2 minutes)

Grimm Tales for Young and Old** by Phillip Pullman (narrated by Samuel West, 10 hours 24 minutes); ***Northern Lights***** by Philip Pullman (narrated by Philip Pullman & full cast, 10 hours 45 minutes); ***The Subtle Knife*** & *Amber Spyglass***** are also excellent.

Shelter in Place by Nora Roberts (narrated by January LaVoy, 15 hours 22 minutes)

Divergent** by Veronica Roth (narrated by Emma Galvin, 11 hours 11 minutes) & sequels

Eleanor & Park** by Rainbow Rowell (narrated by Sunil Malhotra and Rebecca Lowman, 9 hours)

Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* by JK Rowling (narrated by Stephen Fry, 9 hours 33 minutes) + the rest of the Harry Potter series, all narrated Stephen Fry.

The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy (narrated by Aysha Kala, 12 hours 26 minutes)

Blood & Sugar by Laura Sheperd-Robinson (narrated by Ben Onwukwe, 13 hours 11 minutes)

A Tale For the Time Being by Ruth Oseki (narrated by Ruth Oseki, 14 hours, 43 minutes)

The Mandibles: A Family 2029-2047 by Lionel Shriver (narrated by George Newbern)

Scythe** by Neal Shusterman (narrated by Greg Tremblay, 10 hours 32 minutes) & sequels

A Town Like Alice by Nevil Shute (narrated by Robin Bailey, 10 hours 18 minutes)

Major Pettigrew's Last Stand by Helen Simonson (narrated by Bill Wallis, 14 hours 4 minutes)

The Rosie Project by Gaeme Simson (narrated by Dan O'Grady, 7 hours 30 minutes)

Forgotten Voices of the Holocaust by Lyn Smith (narrated by Andrew Sachs, 5 hours 10 minutes). Non-fiction vignettes on experiences of victims of the Holocaust- some are devastating and some are inspiring.

If Only They Didn't Speak English by Jon Sopel (narrated by Jon Sopel, 9 hours 52 minutes).

Non-fiction book by the BBC journalist Sopel with entertaining stories and insights into American life and politics.

With Our Blessing by Jo Spain (narrated by Aoife McMahon, 12 hours 50 minutes)

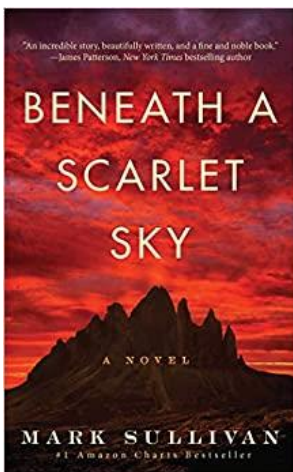
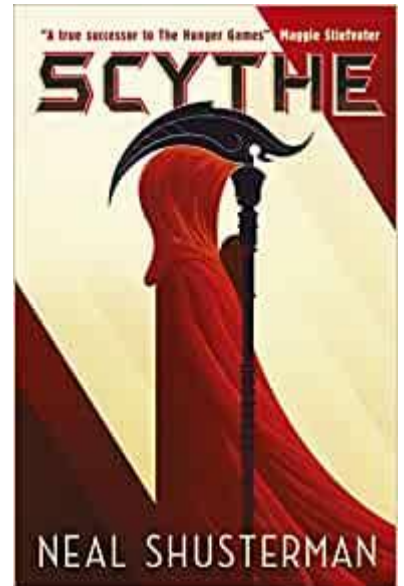
Beneath a Scarlett Sky by Mark Sullivan (narrated by Will Damron, 17 hours 43 minutes). Based on a true story.

Elephant Moon by John Sweeney (narrated by Helen Johns, 10 hours 18 minutes)

Mississippi Bridge* by Mildred D Taylor (narrated by Danny Gerard, 53 minutes)

Jolly Wicked, Actually by Tony Thorne (narrated by John Telfer, 9 hours 43 minutes). Non-fiction book exploring the origins of 100 words that define what it means to be British

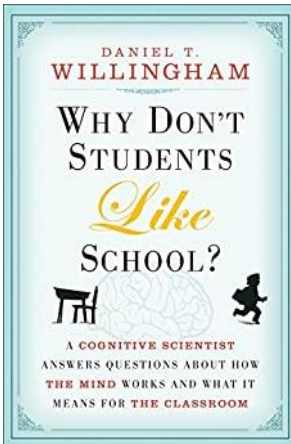
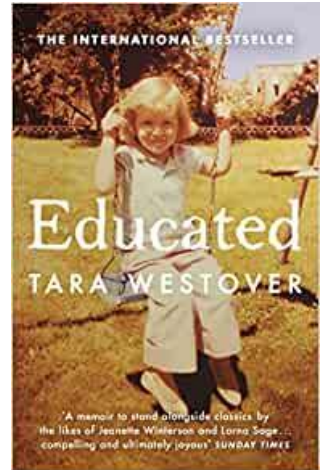
The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain (narrated by Elijah Wood, 10 hours 10 minutes)



Higher Institute of Villainous Education by Mark Walden (narrated by Jack Davenport, 6 hours 8 minutes)*

The Color Purple by Alice Walker (narrated by Alice Walker, 7 hours 54 minutes)

Educated by Tara Westover (narrated by Julia Whelan, 12 hours 10 minutes). Memoir about growing up in a radical and sometimes violent family.



Partials by Dan Wells (narrated by Julia Whelan, 14 hours 6 minutes)

Why Don't Students Like School by Daniel Willingham (narrated by Paul Costanzo). Non-fiction book applying cognitive psychology to education – one of the best education books ever written, and easy to listen to.

My Dear I Wanted to Tell You** by Louisa Young (narrated by Dan Stevens, 10 hours 48 minutes)

I Am Malala by Malala Yousafzai (narrated by Archie Panjabi, Malala Yousafzai, 9 hours 53 minutes). Non-fiction memoir of Malala's experiences.

The Shadow of the Wind by Carlos Ruiz Zafon (narrated by Daniel Philpott, 17 hours 33 minutes)*

The Book Thief by Marcus Zusak (narrated by Allan Corduner, 13 hours 55 minutes)

