



The Audies®

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**APA HONORS THE YEAR'S BEST AUDIOBOOKS AT
14th ANNUAL AUDIES GALA IN NEW YORK CITY**

*The Graveyard Book Is Named Audiobook of the Year and Curse of the Blue Tattoo
Receives the Newly-Created Distinguished Achievement in Production Award*

New York, NY – May 29, 2009 – The Audio Publishers Association (APA) announced the winners of the 2009 Audies® at a formal Gala at the New-York Historical Society on May 29th in New York City. The Audies are the only awards program in the United States honoring spoken word entertainment.

Recognizing audio's most engaging and innovative audiobooks of the 2008 publishing year, APA kicked off the celebration with Broadway and television star Tony Roberts, who played host to this year's Audies gala. APA recognized the year's best titles across a variety of genres.

Newbery Medal winner, *The Graveyard Book*, written and read by Neil Gaiman, beat its contenders, *Brisingsr* by Christopher Paolini and *A Wolf at the Table: A Memoir of My Father* by Augusten Burroughs, for the coveted Audiobook of the Year award. The title earned this recognition for its combination of original musical composition, superb production and effective social media marketing. *Curse of the Blue Tattoo: Being an Account of the Misadventures of Jacky Faber, Midshipman and Fine Lady*, written by L.A. Meyer and read by Katherine Kellgren, received the newly-created Distinguished Achievement in Production award for its excellent production quality. This new award recognizes a production that represents the best the format has to offer in listening excellence.

"Despite current economic conditions, our industry continues to band together to provide some of the best audiobooks ever," said Anthony Goff, President of APA. "We thank the entrants for their continued support of the Audies and for their ground-breaking contributions and dedication to the industry."

APA also honored R. Michael Snodgrass, President, Publisher and Founder of Brilliance Audio and Eileen Hutton, Associate Publisher, Editorial Director and Co-Owner of Brilliance Audio with Special Achievement Awards. These audio-industry veterans have pioneered new ways to promote audiobooks, grow listenership and expand the industry's reach over the past 25 years, most recently making news with their company's sale to Amazon.

APA and *AudioFile* magazine have partnered to provide an interactive way to listen to this year's Audie winners. The website, www.theaudies.com, allows listeners to read a review about the winning audiobook, as well as listen to a sample. Earshot! podcasts with excerpts from each title and candid *AudioFile* reviews are also available at www.audiofilemagazine.com/audiopolis.

The 2009 Audie winners by category:

Audiobook of the Year

The Graveyard Book

Author and Narrator: Neil Gaiman

Publisher: HarperChildren's Audio

Executive Producer/Producer/Director: Michael Conroy

Distinguished Achievement in Production

Curse of the Blue Tattoo: Being an Account of the Misadventures of Jacky Faber, Midshipman and Fine Lady

By: L.A. Meyer

Read by: Katherine Kellgren

Publisher: Listen & Live Audio

Executive Producers: Alisa Weberman and Alfred Martino

Director: Alisa Weberman

Audiobook Adaptation

English Majors: A Comedy Collection for the Highly Literate

By: Garrison Keillor

Read by: Garrison Keillor and cast, with special guests Billy Collins, Roy Blount Jr., Robert Bly, Donald Hall, Allen Ginsberg, and Calvin Trillin

Publisher: HighBridge Audio

Executive Producer: Tiffany Hanssen

Assistant Producer: Katrina Cicala

Audio Drama

The Odyssey

By: Homer

Read by: Tim McInnerny, Amanda Redman, and a full cast

Publisher: BBC Audiobooks America

Producer/Director: Janet Whitaker

Biography/Memoir

The Last Lecture

By: Randy Pausch with Jeffrey Zaslow

Read by: Erik Singer

Publisher: Hyperion Audiobooks

Executive Producer: Rick Harris

Producer/Director: Karen DiMattia

Business/Educational

The Little Red Book of Selling

Author and Narrator: Jeffrey Gitomer

Publisher: Simon & Schuster Audio

Children's Titles for Ages Up To 8

James Herriot's Treasury for Children

By: James Herriot

Read by: Jim Dale

Publisher: Macmillan Audio

Producers: Laura Wilson and Robert Van Kolken

Children's Titles For Ages 8-12

The Graveyard Book

Author and Narrator: Neil Gaiman

Publisher: HarperChildren's Audio

Executive Producer/Producer/Director: Michael Conroy

Classic

Great Expectations

By: Charles Dickens

Read by: Simon Vance

Publisher: Tantor Audio

Executive Producer: Ron Formica

Fiction (tie)

The Duma Key

By: Stephen King

Read by: John Slattery

Publisher: Simon & Schuster Audio

Executive Producer: Carol Shapiro

The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society

By: Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows

Read by: Paul Boehmer, Susan Duerden, Rosalyn Landor, John Lee, and Juliet Mills

Publisher: Books on Tape

Executive Producers: Dan Musselman and Kelly Gildea

Producer/Director: Kelly Gildea

Production Supervisor: Dan Musselman

History

Gandhi and Churchill

By: Arthur Herman

Read by: John Curless

Publisher: Recorded Books

Executive Producer: Claudia Howard

Director: Jeffrey Brick

Production Supervisor: Amber Cleveland

Humor

The Learners

By: Chip Kidd

Read by: Bronson Pinchot

Publisher: Blackstone Audio

Executive Producer: Josh Stanton

Director: Andrew Barnes

Inspirational / Faith-Based Fiction

Prague Counterpoint

By: Bodie and Brock Thoene

Read by: Sean Barrett

Publisher: FamilyAudioLibrary.com

Executive Producer: Shiloh Light Foundation

Producer: Luke Thoene

Director: Anne Rosenfeld

Inspirational / Faith-Based Non-Fiction

The Word of Promise®: Next Generation—New Testament

By: ICB Translation

Read by: Sean Astin and cast

Publisher: Thomas Nelson Inc.

Executive Producer/Co-Producer: Dan Lynch

Producer: Carl Amari

Directors: John Kirby and Jeff Lupetin

Production Supervisor: Brenda Noel

Literary Fiction

Elmer Gantry

By: Sinclair Lewis

Read by: Anthony Heald

Publisher: Blackstone Audio

Executive Producer: Josh Stanton

Multi-Voiced Performance

Mudbound

By: Hillary Jordan

Read by: Joey Collins, Peter Jay Fernandez, Kate Forbes, Ezra Knight, Brenda Pressley, and Tom Stechschulte

Publisher: Recorded Books

Executive Producer: Claudia Howard

Director: T.J. Reynolds

Production Supervisor: Amber Cleveland

Mystery

Voice of the Violin

By: Andrea Camilleri

Read by: Grover Gardner

Publisher: Blackstone Audio

Executive Producer: Josh Stanton

Narration by the Author or Authors

Author and Narrator: David Sedaris

For: *When You Are Engulfed in Flames*

Publisher: Hachette Audio

Executive Producer/Producer/Director/Production Supervisor: Maja Thomas

Non-Fiction

Hot, Flat, and Crowded

By: Thomas Friedman

Read by: Oliver Wyman

Publisher: Macmillan Audio

Producer: Laura Wilson

Original Work

Louis Vuitton Soundwalk: Beijing

By: Stephan Crasneanski

Read by: Gong Li

Publisher: Louis Vuitton/Soundwalk

Executive Producer/Director: Stephan Crasneanski

Producer/Production Supervisor: Clementine Duzer

Package Design

Founding Fathers

By: Arthur M. Schlesinger

Publisher: Macmillan Audio

Designed by: Margo Goody

Personal Development

You Staying Young

By: Michael F. Roizen, M.D., and Mehmet C. Oz, M.D.

Read by: Johnny Heller

Publisher: Recorded Books

Executive Producer: Claudia Howard

Director: Marc J. Avila

Production Supervisor: Amber Cleveland

Politics – Judges' Award

Hot, Flat, and Crowded

By: Thomas Friedman

Read by: Oliver Wyman

Publisher: Macmillan Audio

Producer: Laura Wilson

Romance

The Dark Highlander

By: Karen Marie Moning

Read by: Phil Gigante

Publisher: Brilliance Audio

Executive Producer: Colleen Rockey

Director: Laura Grafton

Production Supervisor: Brian Pepera

Science Fiction/Fantasy

Calculating God

By: Robert J. Sawyer

Read by: Jonathan Davis

Publisher: Audible

Executive Producers: Steve Feldberg and Mike Charzuk
Producer: Gayle Hendrix
Director: Keith Reynolds

Short Stories/Collections

Armageddon in Retrospect

By: Kurt Vonnegut
Read by: Rip Torn and Mark Vonnegut
Publisher: Penguin Audio
Executive Producer: Patti Pirooz
Producer/Director: Kevin Thomsen

Solo Narration – Female

Katherine Kellgren

For: *Curse of the Blue Tattoo: Being an Account of the Misadventures of Jacky Faber, Midshipman and Fine Lady*

By: L.A. Meyer
Publisher: Listen & Live Audio
Executive Producers: Alisa Weberman and Alfred Martino
Director: Alisa Weberman

Solo Narration – Male

John Lee

For: *The Count of Monte Cristo*
By: Alexandre Dumas
Publisher: Blackstone Audio
Executive Producer: Josh Stanton

Spanish Language

Por Un Dia Mas

By: Mitch Albom
Read by: Jose Manuel Vieira
Publisher: FonoLibro
Executive Producer/Producer: Arquimedes Rivero
Director: Jorge A. Rivero

Teens

Curse of the Blue Tattoo: Being an Account of the Misadventures of Jacky Faber, Midshipman and Fine Lady

By: L.A. Meyer
Read by: Katherine Kellgren
Publisher: Listen & Live Audio
Executive Producers: Alisa Weberman and Alfred Martino
Director: Alisa Weberman

Thriller / Suspense

Child 44

By: Tom Rob Smith
Read by: Dennis Boutsikaris
Publisher: Hachette Audio
Executive Producer: Michele McGonigle

Producer/Director: Robert Kessler

Production Supervisors: Jon Klemm and Michele McGonigle

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About Audio Publishers Association (APA)

The Audio Publishers Association (APA) is a not-for-profit trade organization whose primary goals are to promote awareness of the audiobook industry, gather and disseminate industry statistics, encourage high production standards, and represent the interests of audiobook publishers. Since 1986, the APA has worked to bring audio publishers together to increase interest in audiobooks. Please visit www.audiopub.org for more information.