



Audio Publishers Association

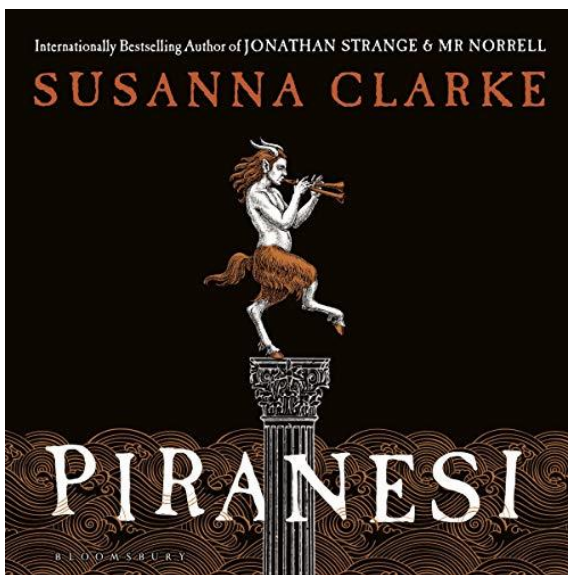
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**Susanna Clarke's *PIRANESI*, read by Chiwetel Ejiofor,
named the 2021 Audiobook of the Year**

**Elizabeth Acevedo's *Clap When You Land*,
read by the author and Melania-Luisa Marte, wins
the 2021 Young Adult Audie Award®**



The 26th Audie Awards® recognized the best in audiobook and spoken word entertainment via virtual ceremony hosted by John Leguizamo

(New York, NY—March 23, 2021) The Audio Publishers Association (APA) announced the 2021 Audie Award® winners at the 26th Audie Awards® Gala, which was staged virtually last evening. *Piranesi* by Susanna Clarke, narrated by Chiwetel Ejiofor and published by Bloomsbury PLC, was named the **2021 Audiobook of the Year**. *Clap When You Land* by Elizabeth Acevedo, narrated by Elizabeth Acevedo and Melania-Luisa Marte, published by HarperAudio, won the **2021 Young Adult Audie Award®**. Winners were announced in 25 categories total.



Susanna Clarke, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Elizabeth Acevedo, and Melania-Luisa Marte

Author judges **Jennifer Egan**, **Tommy Orange**, and **David Sedaris** named *Piranesi* the Audiobook of the Year for several notable reasons. “The reading is a triumph of tone... one of the best readings of contemporary literature that I have ever listened to,” said Egan. “I have already recommended it to several people, including my 18-year-old son and 82-year-old mother.” Sedaris noted: “I think the reading perfectly complements the author's intent. The characterization is complex, and Chiwetel Ejiofor's voice is appropriately naive and full of wonder. The novel is a bit confusing at first, and Ejiofor masterfully pulls us through the fog.” Orange stated: “When the book got darker and more thrilling, and as the mystery at the center of the novel was revealed, Chiwetel Ejiofor moved the story along beautifully.”

2021 Young Adult Audie Award® winner, *Clap When You Land*, was widely praised by Young Adult author judges **Jerry Craft**, **Melissa de la Cruz**, and **V.E. Schwab**. “The narration of this title brought the story to life in a rich and luscious manner,” noted Melissa de la Cruz. V.E. Schwab commented: “The dual narration was powerful, as was the execution of the novel-in-verse component, which could be felt in the pacing and choices made by the two narrators. It was a perfect balance of writing and narration, with the voices breathing life into the poetry on

the page.” Jerry Craft stated: “I had the biggest emotional attachment to this book and its characters. Obviously, no one knows the characters like the author, but fortunately Elizabeth Acevedo has the skills to say the lines exactly as she had written them. I would definitely recommend this title. It flows so well.”



John Leguizamo, 2021 Audie Awards emcee

John Leguizamo was a hilariously funny and engaging emcee for the evening and commented in his opening monologue: “I’m proud to host this show. The diversity that I see among our nominees: women, the LGBTQ community, my Latinx brothers and sisters, and overall, so, so many people of color. The audiobook industry has achieved a level of inclusivity and representation that other industries can only aspire to.”

The award ceremony was preceded by the Audies’ first “virtual” red carpet event, hosted by **PJ Ochlan** and **Suzanne Elise Freeman**, and featured appearances by **Marin Ireland**, **Holly Palance**, **Alicia D. Williams**, **Robert Bathurst**, **Jane Santos**, **Vikas Adam**, **Scott Brick** and other audio industry insiders.

Full list of winners below. Select images with credit [HERE](#).

2021 Audie Award® WINNERS

AUDIOBOOK OF THE YEAR

Piranesi, by Susanna Clarke, narrated by Chiwetel Ejiofor, published by Bloomsbury PLC

AUDIO DRAMA

Doctor Who - Stranded 1, by Matt Fitton, David K Barnes, Lisa McMullin, and John Dorney, performed by Paul McGann, Nicola Walker, Hattie Morahan, Rebecca Root, Tom Price, and Tom Baker, published by Big Finish Productions

AUTOBIOGRAPHY/MEMOIR

The Autobiography of Malcolm X: As Told to Alex Haley, by Malcolm X as told to Alex Haley, narrated by Laurence Fishburne, published by Audible, Inc.

BEST FEMALE NARRATOR

The City We Became, by N. K. Jemisin, narrated by Robin Miles, published by Hachette Audio

BEST MALE NARRATOR

The Autobiography of Malcolm X: As Told to Alex Haley by Malcolm X as told to Alex Haley, narrated by Laurence Fishburne, published by Audible, Inc.

BUSINESS/PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Gift: 12 Lessons to Save Your Life, by Dr. Edith Eva Eger, narrated by Tovah Feldshuh, published by Simon & Schuster Audio

FAITH-BASED FICTION & NON-FICTION

Fierce, Free, and Full of Fire, written and narrated by Jen Hatmaker, published by Thomas Nelson

FANTASY

The City We Became, by N. K. Jemisin, narrated by Robin Miles, published by Hachette Audio

FICTION

Such a Fun Age, by Kiley Reid, narrated by Nicole Lewis, published by Penguin Random House Audio

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY

His Truth Is Marching On: John Lewis and the Power of Hope, by Jon Meacham, with an afterword by John Lewis, narrated by JD Jackson, published by Penguin Random House Audio

HUMOR

A Very Punchable Face, written and narrated by Colin Jost, published by Penguin Random House Audio

LITERARY FICTION & CLASSICS

The Death of Vivek Oji, by Akwaeke Emezi, narrated by Yetide Badaki and Chukwudi Iwuji, published by Penguin Random House Audio

MIDDLE GRADE

The Good Hawk, by Joseph Elliott, narrated by Fiona Hardingham and Gary Furlong, published by Brilliance Publishing

MULTI-VOICED PERFORMANCE

Clap When You Land, by Elizabeth Acevedo, narrated by Elizabeth Acevedo and Melania-Luisa Marte, published by HarperAudio

MYSTERY

Fair Warning, by Michael Connelly, narrated by Peter Giles and Zach Villa, published by Hachette Audio

NARRATION BY AUTHOR OR AUTHORS

More Myself, written and narrated by Alicia Keys, published by Macmillan Audio

NON-FICTION

Fire in Paradise, by Alastair Gee and Dani Anguiano, narrated by T. Ryder Smith, published by Recorded Books

ORIGINAL WORK

When You Finish Saving the World, by Jesse Eisenberg, narrated by Finn Wolfhard, Kaitlyn Dever, and Jesse Eisenberg, published by Audible Originals

ROMANCE

Dirty Letters, by Vi Keeland and Penelope Ward, narrated by Andi Arndt and Jacob Morgan, published by Brilliance Publishing

SCIENCE FICTION

The Deep, by Rivers Solomon, with Daveed Diggs, William Hutson, and Jonathan Snipes, narrated by Daveed Diggs, published by Simon & Schuster Audio

SHORT STORIES/COLLECTIONS

The Chekhov Collection of Short Stories, by Anton Chekhov, narrated by Richard Armitage, published by Audible Studios

SPANISH LANGUAGE

El laberinto del fauno, by Guillermo del Toro and Cornelia Funke, narrated by Luis Ávila, published by Penguin Random House Grupo Editorial México

THRILLER/SUSPENSE

When No One Is Watching, by Alyssa Cole, narrated by Susan Dalian and Jay Aaseng, published by HarperAudio

YOUNG ADULT

Clap When You Land, by Elizabeth Acevedo, narrated by Elizabeth Acevedo and Melania-Luisa Marte, published by HarperAudio

YOUNG LISTENERS

The Overground Railroad, by Lesa Cline-Ransome, narrated by Shayna Small and Dion Graham, published by Live Oak Media

Additional information can be found at www.theaudies.com

AUDIE AWARDS® The Audie Awards® is the premier awards program in the United States recognizing distinction in audiobooks and spoken-word entertainment. Publishers and rights holders enter titles in various categories for recognition of achievement. Finalists are selected, and from that group of finalists one winner is awarded. The Audie Awards® is a registered trademark of the Audio Publishers Association.

ABOUT THE 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.

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