**Nov Dec Selections from TBT Nonfiction**

**Biography**

**The Friday Afternoon Club: A Family Memoir**

**DB122154** 12 hours 21 minutes, by Griffin Dunne, read by Griffin Dunne

“A memoir and coming-of-age story chronicling the successes and disappointments, wit and wildness of Dunne and his multigenerational family of larger-than-life characters.” — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. Bestseller. 2024.

**Chasing Hope: A Reporter’s Life**

**DB122322** 17 hours 5 minutes, by Nicholas D. Kristof, read by Nicholas D. Kristof

“Since 1984, Nicholas Kristof has worked almost continuously for The New York Times as a reporter, foreign correspondent, bureau chief, and now columnist, becoming one of the foremost reporters of his generation. Here, he recounts his event-filled path from a small-town farm in Oregon to every corner of the world. Kristof writes about some of the great members of his profession and introduces us to extraordinary people he has met, such as the dissident whom he helped escape from China and a Catholic nun who browbeat a warlord into releasing schoolgirls he had kidnapped. These are the people, the heroes, who have allowed Kristof to remain optimistic. Side by side with the worst of humanity, you always see the best. This is a candid memoir of vulnerability and courage, humility and purpose, mistakes and learning-a singular tale of the trials, tribulations, and hope to be found in a life dedicated to the pursuit of truth.” — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2024.

**Vision: A Memoir of Blindness and Justice**

**DB122023** 10 hours 22 minutes, by David S. Tatel, read by David S. Tatel

“A memoir by one of America’s most accomplished public servants and legal thinkers—who spent years denying and working around his blindness, before finally embracing it as an essential part of his identity. David Tatel has served nearly 30 years on America’s second highest court, the United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, where many of our most crucial cases are resolved—or teed up for the Supreme Court. He has championed equal justice for his entire adult life; decided landmark environmental and voting cases; and embodied the ideal of what a great judge should be. Yet he has been blind for the past 50 of his 80-plus years. Initially, he depended upon aides to read texts to him, and more recently, a suite of hi-tech solutions has allowed him to listen to reams of documents at high speeds. At first, he tried to hide his deteriorating vision, and for years, he denied that it had any impact on his career. Only recently, partly thanks to his first-ever guide dog, Vixen, has he come to fully accept his blindness and the role it’s played in his personal and professional lives. His story of fighting for justice over many decades, with and without eyesight, is an inspiration to us all.” — Provided by Goodreads. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2024.

**US History**

**God Save Benedict Arnold: The True Story of America’s Most Hated Man**

**DB122599** 8 hours 42 minutes, by Jack Kelly, read by Jim Seybert

“A gripping exploration of the intense psychology and character of Benedict Arnold, arguing that he was essential to victory before he was a traitor. Benedict Arnold committed treason — for more than two centuries, that’s all that most Americans have known about him. Yet Arnold was much more than a turncoat — his achievements during the early years of the Revolutionary War defined him as the most successful soldier of the era. His capture of Fort Ticonderoga, his Maine mountain expedition to attack Quebec, the famous artillery brawl at Valcour Island, the turning-point battle at Saratoga -- laid the groundwork for our independence. Arnold was a superb leader, a brilliant tactician, a supremely courageous military officer. He was also imperfect, disloyal, villainous. One of the most paradoxical characters in American history, and one of the most interesting. In the process, the book offers a fresh perspective on the reasons for Arnold’s momentous change of heart.” — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2023.

**Railroaded: The Transcontinentals and the Making of Modern America**

**DB121468** 23 hours 9 minutes, by Richard White, read by Paul Woodson

“A history of the transcontinental railroads and how they transformed America in the decades after the Civil War. The transcontinental railroads of the late nineteenth century were the first corporate behemoths. Their attempts to generate profits from proliferating debt sparked devastating panics in the U.S. economy. Their dependence on public largess drew them into the corridors of power, initiating new forms of corruption. Their operations rearranged space and time, and remade the landscape of the West. But the triumphal myths of the golden spike, robber barons larger than life, and an innovative capitalism all die here. Instead we have a new vision of the Gilded Age, often darkly funny, that shows history to be rooted in failure as well as success.” — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2018.

**World History**

**The Panzer Killers: The Untold Story of a Fighting General and His Spearhead Tank Division’s Charge into the Third Reich**

**DB121962** 13 hours 4 minutes, by Daniel P. Bolger, read by Stephen Mendel

“A general-turned-historian reveals the remarkable battlefield heroics of Major General Maurice Rose, the World War II tank commander whose 3rd Armored Division struck fear into the hearts of Hitler’s panzer crews.” — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2021.

**Left for Dead: Shipwreck, Treachery, and Survival at the Edge of the World**

**DB123083** 8 hours 3 minutes, by Eric Jay Dolin, read by L. J. Ganser

“The true story of five castaways abandoned on the Falkland Islands during the War of 1812—a tale of treachery, shipwreck, isolation, and the desperate struggle for survival. Fraught with misunderstandings and mistrust, the incident left three British sailors and two Americans, including the captain of the sealer, Charles H. Barnard, abandoned in the barren, windswept, and inhospitable Falklands for a year and a half. With deft narrative skill and unequaled knowledge of the very pith of the seafaring life, Dolin describes in vivid and harrowing detail the increasingly desperate existence of the castaways during their eighteen-month ordeal—an all-too-common fate in the Great Age of Sail…individuals in wartime under great duress acting both nobly and atrociously as they struggle to survive.” — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2024.

**The Shortest History of Italy: 3,000 Years from the Romans to the Renaissance to a Modern Republica Retelling for Our Times**

**DB121543** 6 hours 56 minutes, by Ross King, read by Liam Gerrard

“From a foremost author of historic Italy, this is a concise, star-studded retelling of the nation’s past, from Caesar and Augustus to da Vinci and Michelangelo, tracing the story of a country with prodigious global influence.” — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2024.

**Power and Glory: Elizabeth II and the Rebirth of Royalty**

**DB121348** 11 hours 11 minutes, by Alexander Larman, read by Alexander Larman

“When the Royal Family took to the balcony of Buckingham Palace on VE Day in 1945, they knew that the happiness and excitement of the day was illusory. Britain may have been victorious in a painful war, but the peace would be no easier. Between the abdication crisis, the death of King George VI, and the ascension of young Elizabeth II to the throne, the continued existence of the monarchy seemed uncertain. And the presence of the former Edward VIII, now the Duke of Windsor, conniving and sniping from the sidelines in an attempt to regain relevance, even down to writing a controversial and revelatory memoir, could only make matters worse. Through his chronicling of events like the Royal Wedding, George VI’s death and the discovery of the Duke of Windsor’s treacherous activities in WWII, Larman paints a vivid portrait of the end of one sovereign’s reign and the beginning of another’s that heralded a new Elizabethan Age which would bring power and glory back to a monarchy desperately in need of it.” — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2024.

**Queens of the Age of Chivalry**

**DB123084** 19 hours 24 minutes, by Alison Weir, read by Esther Wane

“Medieval queens were seen as mere dynastic trophies, yet many of the Plantagenet queens of the high middle ages dramatically broke away from the restrictions imposed on their sex, as Alison Weir shows in this gripping group biography of England’s fourteenth-century consorts. Using personal letters and wonderfully vivid sources, Alison Weir evokes the lives of five remarkable queens — Marguerite of France, Isabella of France, Philippa of Hainault, Anne of Bohemia and Isabella of Valois. The turbulent, brutal Age of Chivalry witnessed the Black Death, the Peasants’ Revolt, the Hundred Years’ War against France and savage baronial wars against the monarchy in which these queens were passionately involved. Queens of the Age of Chivalry brilliantly recreates this truly dramatic period of history through the lives of five extraordinary women.” — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2023.

**The Outline of History: Being a Plain History of Life and Mankind**

**DB122106** 44 hours 34 minutes, by H.G. Wells, read by Bernard Mayes

“The Outline of History, subtitled either ‘The Whole Story of Man’ or ‘Being a Plain History of Life and Mankind,” is a work by H.G. Wells chronicling the history of the world from the origin of the Earth to the First World War.” — Provided by Goodreads. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2010.

**Religion**

**So Many Lions, So Few Daniels: Living without Compromise in a World in Need of Truth**

**DB122361** 4 hours 56 minutes, by Ray Comfort, read by Jim Denison

“Drawing inspiration from the biblical story of Daniel, bestselling author and evangelist shows you how to live fearlessly for Christ in the midst of adversity and opposition, boldly sharing the love of God with a world in desperate need of it.” — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2023.

**Einstein and the Rabbi: Searching for the Soul**

**DB122359** 10 hours 43 minutes, by Naomi Levy, read by Naomi Levy

“When Rabbi Levy came across a poignant letter by Einstein, it shook her to her core. She wondered what had elicited such spiritual wisdom from a man of science, and began a three-year search into the mystery of Einstein’s letter, and into the mystery of the human soul. Here Levy leads us on a breathtaking journey full of wisdom, empathy and humor, challenging us to wake up and heed the voice calling from within—a voice beckoning us to become who we were born be.” — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2017.

**Go Home for Dinner: Advice on How Faith Makes a Family and Family Makes a Life**

**DB121724** 7 hours 1 minute, by Mike Pence and Charlotte, read by Charlotte Pence Bond

“The former Vice President looks at the challenges of balancing the demands of life while maintaining a deep commitment to family and faith and how gathering around the dinner table every evening can help keep these principles intact.” — Provided by OCLC. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2023.

**Aristotle’s Children: How Christians, Muslims, and Jews Rediscovered Ancient Wisdom and Illuminated the Dark Ages**

**DB121997** 13 hours 39 minutes, by Richard E. Rubenstein, read by Nelson Runger

“In the late Middle Ages an intellectual explosion transformed Europe and coursed through the Western world, triggering student riots and heresy trials and setting the stage for today’s rift between reason and religion. The ideas came from Aristotle. His work, like the rest of Greek culture, had been lost in the centuries after the fall of Rome. But in the Muslim world, the wisdom of the Greeks was never lost and contributed to the flowering of Islamic culture. When scholars in the twelfth century collaborated on translating the ancient classics, they resurrected ideas that sparked fierce controversies in the universities and caused major changes in the Catholic Church.” — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2003.

**The Tibetan Book of the Dead: Liberation Through Understanding in the Between**

**DB122882** 10 hours 31 minutes, by Robert Thurman, read by Robert Thurman

“A classic of Buddhist wisdom, this book was composed in the eighth century to prepare souls for the afterworld, it has become influential in the West for its psychological insights into the processes of death and dying, and also of grieving.” — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2020.

**Why the Bible Began: An Alternative History of Scripture and Its Origins**

**DB120372** 24 hours 15 minutes, by Jacob L. Wright, read by J.P. Linton

Demonstrating how the Old Testament or Hebrew Bible represents the first, and one of the most elaborate, projects of peoplehood, Wright tells the dramatic story of the Bible’s origins in relation to 1, a longstanding political division between North and South (Israel and Judah) and 2 the traumatic experience of defeat.” — Provided by publisher. 2023.

**Science**

**The Day the Universe Changed: Pivotal Moments in Time That Radically Altered the Course of Human History**

**DB121942** 3 hours 4 minutes, by James Burke, read by James Burke

“Companion book to the PBS television series which examines the relationship of science, technology, history, and world change.” — Provided by OCLC. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2006.

**The Big Bang of Numbers: How to Build the Universe Using Only Math**

**DB121255** 8 hours 57 minutes, by Manil Suri, read by Eric Jason Martin

“An engaging and imaginative tour through the fundamental mathematical concepts-from arithmetic to infinity-that form the building blocks of our universe. Our universe has multiple origin stories, from religious creation myths to the Big Bang of scientists. But if we leave those behind and start from nothing-no matter, no cosmos, not even empty space-could we create a universe using only math? Offering both striking new perspectives for math aficionados and an accessible introduction for anyone daunted by calculation, The Big Bang of Numbers proves that we can all fall in love with math.” — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2022.

**Purpose: What Evolution and Human Nature Imply about the Meaning of Our Existence**

**DB120224** 11 hours 17 minutes, by Samuel T. Wilkinson, read by Mark Ashby

“Yale Professor Samuel Wilkinson integrates principles from various scientific disciplines to provide a framework for human evolution. He claims that there is an overarching purpose in our existence, and one of these purposes is to choose between the good and evil impulses that nature has created within us.” From Goodreads. 2024.