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Since the 1960s the very best of the BBC's spoken word output has been available to own. Today, BBC Audiobooks continues to publish a wide range of entertainment drawn from recent radio programming and the BBC archive. The BBC Audiobooks team is part of the Penguin Random House Audio department working independently to create timeless collections of non-fiction, drama and comedy titles from the BBC. The catalogue of BBC radio shows includes: full-cast adaptations of works ranging from Neil Gaiman's *Anansi Boys* to Terry Pratchett's Discworld novels; the works of Jane Austen and the plays of Noël Coward; contemporary crime and thrillers including *Tracks*, *The Inspector Chen Mysteries* and *Stone*; brand new comedy from Joe Lycett, Susan Calman and Bridget Christie; as well as classic listener favourites such as *Poirot's Finest Cases*, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* and *I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue*, in addition to history, science and culture epics, such as *A History of the World in 100 Objects*.



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The Dylan Thomas BBC Radio Collection

Plays, poems and prose by the great Welsh writer



Publishing 25 January 2024

ISBN: 9781529188363 | Price £16.00

Available to listen to from December

Matthew Rhys – who played Dylan Thomas in *The Edge of Love* – presents this collection of radio works by the great Welsh writer, featuring archive recordings of Dylan Thomas reading his own work.

Dylan Thomas was the 20th century's first rock star author, famed for his dazzling imaginative poetry and chaotic personal life. Best known for *Under Milk Wood*, he also wrote numerous poems, short stories and screenplays, and made regular BBC broadcasts. A legend in his own lifetime, he remained hugely popular after his death at the age of 39, influencing cultural icons from Bob Dylan to The Beatles.

This anthology publishes **70 years to the day** that Thomas's masterpiece radio play, *Under Milk Wood*, was first broadcast by the BBC. Starring **Richard Burton**, this lyrical 'play for voices' focuses on one day in the life of a Welsh fishing village.

Moreover, **hear from Thomas in his own words** in *Holiday Memory*, *Quite Early One Morning*, *A Return Journey to Swansea*, *A Visit to America*, and in *The Voice of Dylan Thomas*, introduced by Douglas Cleverdon, in which he reads a choice selection of his favourite works.



The Young Ones: The Complete BBC TV Soundtracks

Rediscover the iconic 80s sitcom by Rik Mayall, Ben Elton & Lise Mayer



Publishing 7 March 2024

ISBN: 9781529128529 | Price £14.00

Available to listen to from February

The complete television soundtracks of all 12 episodes of the legendary sitcom about degenerate students living in a squalid North London houseshare in the 1980s.

Ground-breaking, satirical and anarchic, *The Young Ones* introduced alternative comedy to mainstream TV, winning a host of devoted fans and a BAFTA Award for its second series. The show centred around four students sharing a house in London: hippy Neil (**Nigel Planer**), right-on Rick (**Rik Mayall**), Mike 'TheCoolPerson' (**Chris Ryan**) and punk psycho Vyvyan (**Ade Edmondson**). Guest stars included **Alexei Sayle, Dawn French, Jennifer Saunders, Stephen Fry, Hugh Laurie, Robbie Coltrane, Emma Thompson** and series co-writer **Ben Elton**.

Collected here are all the dysfunctional foursome's manic adventures - from playing host to the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse, to representing Scumbag College on *University Challenge*. Now you can hear from your favourite characters once again, and listen to their iconic one-liners, inventive insults and fabulously funny quotes.



Alone: The Complete Series 1-4

Angus Deayton stars in this comedy about love, life and everything in between



Publishing 8 February 2024
ISBN: 9781529143270 | Price £14.00
Available to listen to from December

A group of middle-aged neighbours in North London navigate their careers, love lives and family dramas in this charming all-star sitcom full of heart.

Mitch, played by **Angus Deayton**, is a widower and part-time therapist looking to put his life back together. He has temporarily moved in with Will, his younger, more volatile and unhappily divorced half-brother. Elsewhere in the building are shy schoolteacher Ellie, as well as the overly honest actress Louisa, and socially inept IT nerd Morris. Follow the hilarious highs and lows as these strangers connect and their lives become entwined, for better or worse...

Starring **Angus Deayton** (*Have I Got News For You*, *One Foot in the Grave*) as Mitch, **Pearce Quigley** (*The Detectorists*) as Will, plus **Abigail Cruttenden** (*Sharpe*, *Not Going Out*), **Katie Issit** (*Coupling*), and stand-up comedian **Bennett Arnon**. Listen to all four series of this hugely popular show in this brand-new collection.

Featuring exclusive behind-the-scenes interviews with the cast and with show creator Moray Hunter.



Unmade Movies: The Collection

A collection of seven unproduced movies scripted by major 20th Century writers



Publishing 22 February 2024

ISBN: 9781529928846 | Price £14.00

Available to listen to from mid-January

Seven legendary unproduced screenplays by Harold Pinter, Arthur Miller, Alfred Hitchcock and more, resurrected and reinvented for BBC Radio 4.

Moving, suspenseful and terrifying, these forgotten gems by major 20th Century writers have been brought to life for the first time, fully realised as cinematic radio productions with stellar casts and richly evocative, atmospheric soundtracks.

Collected here are: **Harold Pinter's** *Victory* and *The Dreaming Child*; **Arthur Miller's** *The Hook*; **Alfred Hitchcock's** *The Blind Man*, completed by **Mark Gatiss**; Hammer Horror's *The Unquenchable Thirst of Dracula*; Dennis Potter's *The White Hotel*; and Alexander Mackendrick's *Mary Queen of Scots*.

Stellar casts include **Hugh Laurie, Bertie Carvel, Rose Leslie, Bill Paterson, Ellie Bamber, Tim Pigott-Smith, Rebecca Front, Anne-Marie Duff, Meera Syal, Vanessa Kirby** and **Mark Strong**. Setting the scene and providing the original stage directions from the screenplays are narrators **Simon Russell Beale, Anne Reid, David Suchet, Peter Serafinowicz, Michael Sheen, Simon McBurney** and **Glenda Jackson**.



The Good, the Bad and the Unexpected

Mark Nelson and celebrity guests separate the good from the bad



Publishing 22 February 2024

ISBN: 9781529917376 | Price £16.00

Available to listen to from mid-January

Hosted by Mark Nelson, this lively show sees a panel of celebrities competing to share the best, worst and most hilarious anecdotes from their daily lives.

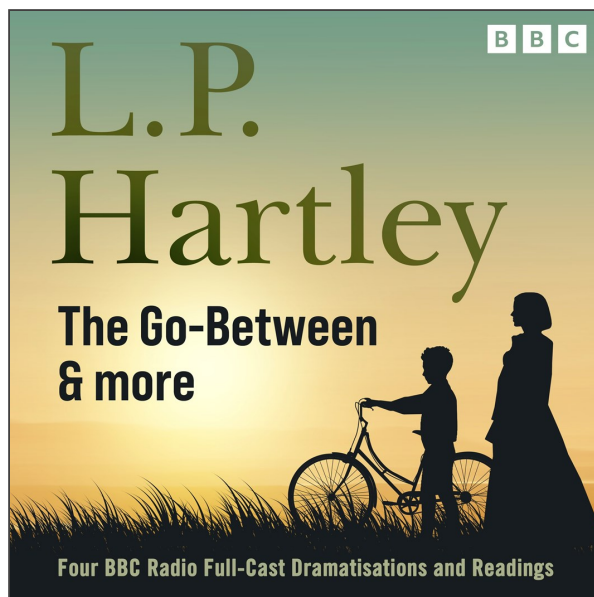
Collected here are 39 of the finest episodes, featuring a fantastic mix of talent from across Scotland and beyond. The stellar line-up includes **Rory Bremner**, **Kirsty Wark**, **Gyles Brandreth**, **Tony Hadley**, **Kerry Katona**, **Toyah Willcox**, **Phil Hammond**, and **Carol Smillie**.

Lorraine Kelly unveils her inner geek, **Shaparak Khorsandi** recalls her family's favourite and most disgusting story, **Janey Godley** shares her tale of landing at the feet of George Clooney and **Les Dennis** reveals the best and the worst things about his celebrity lifestyle. Laugh along with them all as they share their moments of joy, tales of peril, personal failings and funniest confessions in this joke-packed panel show.



L. P. Hartley: The Go-Between & More

Four of L. P. Hartley's finest novels and short stories adapted for radio



Publishing 18 January 2024

ISBN: 9781529905113 | Price £14.00

Available to listen to from December

Full-cast dramatisations of four of L. P. Hartley's finest novels, plus five short stories.

The Go-Between - Twelve-year-old Leo Colston is spending the summer with his friend Marcus at his family estate, Brandham Hall, when he sets in motion a tragedy that will haunt him forever. Starring **Clive Swift, Joe Brothwell, Lisa Kay** and **Robert Glenister**.

The Collections - Ambrose and Edwina possess exquisite collections of objets d'art, but need to dispose of them; Barbara owns a stately home, but has had to sell off the contents. Joining forces seems like the ideal solution - until a thief comes along...
Starring **Richard Pearson, Siân Phillips** and **Eva Stuart**.

The Brickfield and its sequel, ***The Betrayal*** – Elderly novelist Richard Mardick finds himself confiding a long-held secret from his youth: his adolescent romance with the beautiful Lucy, and its tragic conclusion... Starring **Martin Jarvis** and **Denys Blakelock**.

Plus, **Robert Lang** reads five creepy tales by the celebrated author.



The Mark Steel Solution

Mark Steel uses his unique logic to propose radical solutions to society's problems



Publishing 22 February 2024
ISBN: 9781529916058 | Price £14.00
Available to listen to from mid-January

What if the Royal Family was chosen by weekly lottery? Why should giving to charity be illegal? Could government economic policy be decided by sport?

Award-winning writer and comedian Mark Steel puts the world to rights in these 15 episodes, as he comes up with radical proposals to improve our lives and sort out our social ills.

Whatever the issue, Mark's got the answer – whether it's dealing with immigration by deporting everyone born in England, or healing religious divisions by making everyone change their faith every Monday. Lend him your ears and he'll convince you of anything, as he sets about proving that the ridiculous is really very sensible indeed – and that changing the world is easy, if you're willing to listen to his advice...

Written and performed by **Mark Steel** and *Spitting Image* writer **Pete Sinclair**, this funny, thought-provoking series also features **Maria McErlane** and **Kim Wall**.

Also look out for ***The Mark Steel Revolution***, which takes a sideways look at some of the most tumultuous moments in history, from the French to the Russian Revolution, holding up a mirror to our own age.



The Mark Steel Lectures

Radical comedian Mark Steel profiles sixteen historical figures who shaped their era



Publishing 22 February 2024
ISBN: 9781529916072 | Price £14.00
Available to listen to from mid-January

From Oliver Cromwell to Beethoven, award-winning satirist Mark Steel takes us through the life stories of some of his favourite historical characters.

Among the inspirational people he profiles are Mary Shelley, a radical's daughter who invented science fiction; Che Guevara, a left-wing hero despite chronic asthma; and Aristotle, who deserves to be remembered for more than a line in a *Monty Python* song.

In addition, he delves into the lives of Carthaginian elephant-wrangler and scourge of the Romans, Hannibal; and jazz singer Billie Holiday, whose song 'Strange Fruit' was so inflammatory that Columbia refused to record it.

These hugely entertaining lectures are illustrated with sketches featuring **Melanie Hudson, Martin Hyder, Kim Wall, Carla Mendonça, Femi Elufowoju Junior** and **Debbie Isitt**.

Also look out for ***The Mark Steel Revolution***, which takes a sideways look at some of the most tumultuous moments in history, from the French to the Russian Revolution, holding up a mirror to our own age.



Nick Payne: Constellations, Elegy & More

Nick Payne's finest works brought together in audio for the first time



Publishing 15 February 2024
ISBN: 9781529917062 | Price £14.00
Available to listen to from mid-January

BBC Radio adaptations of world-renowned playwright Nick Payne's finest works, including *Constellations* and *Elegy*, with new introductions by Nick Payne himself.

Constellations stars **Gugu Mbatha-Raw** and **George MacKay**. Originally performed on Broadway with Jake Gyllenhaal, it won the *Evening Standard* Award for Best Play. Marianne and Roland meet at a party, hit it off, and go for a drink. Does their love story unfold, or is it tragically cut short? In a quantum multiverse, even the smallest change can significantly alter the course we take...

Elegy stars **Juliet Stevenson**, **Deborah Findlay** and **Marilyn Nnadebe**. Lorna and Carrie met in later life and got married. But now they are facing the possibility of their relationship disintegrating in the most painful way, and Carrie must make a devastating choice between love and survival.

Also included are three dramas specially written for BBC Radio: *The Day We Caught the Train* starring Academy Award-winner **Olivia Colman**; *Being Alone Doesn't Have to Mean Being Lonely* starring **Stuart McLoughlin** and **Alex Tregear**; and *Happiness* starring **Clare Corbett** and **Bryan Dick**.



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