



BBC Radio International Book at Bedtime Catalogue

From modern classics, new works by leading writers and world literature, the Radio International Book at Bedtime catalogue features a wealth of superb adaptations, from best-sellers such as Donna Tartt's *The Goldfinch* to classics such as Graham Greene's *The Third Man* and Karen Blixen's *Babette's Feast*.

These unique serial adaptations are broken down into 15-minute episodes, and are read by such leading actors as Juliet Stevenson, Samuel West and Simon Russell Beale, among others.

The books can be licenced as stand alone, or as a package of twelve books. The total duration of the 12 books package is 26 hours.

Book at Bedtime

The Music Shop (10 x 15') RE220

Frank sells vinyl and if he listens very carefully, can hear what record you need. But then a mysterious woman changes everything. *The Music Shop*, a love story and journey through music, is written, abridged and read by Rachel Joyce.

1. 1988: Frank only sells vinyl, and he is never going to change. But then, everything does.
2. Frank cannot stop thinking about the mysterious woman in the green coat.
3. As another business on Unity Street closes, Ilse Brauchmann has an unexpected proposal for Frank.
4. Frank gives Ilse her first music lesson - Beethoven and sex.
5. Frank begins refurbishing the music shop.
6. Frank's latest music lesson causes Ilse to reveal a painful secret.
7. Maud makes a shocking discovery about Ilse Brauchmann's past.
8. Frank confronts Ilse about her past, just as tragedy strikes Unity Street.
9. 2009: Unity Street is abandoned and Frank is missing.
10. Ilse hatches a plan to save Frank.

Babette's Feast (5 x 15') RE213

Karen Blixen's classic story first published in 1958 and further popularised in 1987 by Gabriel Axel's Oscar-winning film adaptation. Two ascetic Norwegian spinsters have harboured their maid Babette since she fled the Paris Commune. When she comes into money, all Babette wants to do is create a special meal in gratitude. Read by Sylvestra Le Touzel.

1. In their small Norwegian village, pious spinsters Martine and Philippa have secrets of their own.
2. The sisters are astonished when a woman arrives on their doorstep, but before long the new arrival has quietly transformed their lives.
3. Babette's excitement grows as she makes detailed preparations for her special meal.
4. The members of Martine and Philippa's church are joined by the sophisticated figure of General Loewenhielm as they meet for Babette's special meal.
5. As the exquisite food and wine are consumed, old fractures are healed and broken friendships mended. But the true cost of the feast also becomes clear.

The Parrots (10 x 15') RE209

Filippo Bologna's hugely successful satire on the murky world of literary awards. Three men prepare to battle it out for a coveted Italian literary Prize. Each will do anything to win, but the day of the

Prize ceremony takes on a far darker significance than they could ever have imagined. With readers Sam Rix (Beginner), Anthony Head (Writer) and Oliver Ford Davies (Master).

1. As the contestants prepare for the run-up to the Prize, one of them realises it will be his last chance for glory.
2. The Master makes a revelation.
3. As rumours spread about which author is ahead in the votes, the Writer's dark secret takes on even greater significance...
4. While the Master is sensing his own mortality, and the Beginner looks back on an infidelity, the Writer's publisher has a sinister proposal...
5. As the Beginner struggles with the fallout from his infidelity, the Writer is still contemplating just how far he will go to win the Prize...
6. The Beginner finds he has a lot to lose, and the parrot makes an unexpected contribution.
7. The Writer signs in blood.
8. The Beginner, bent on winning back his girlfriend, is hatching a plan....
9. The Master goes behind enemy lines.
10. A victory without victors - the final reckoning.

The Third Man (5 x 15') RE206

Samuel West reads from Graham Greene's classic novella *The Third Man*, the thriller which inspired one of the most acclaimed films of all time, starring Orson Welles.

1. Snow is falling in post-war Vienna, but where is Harry Lime?
2. Harry Lime is dead. But why do the circumstances surrounding his death seem so suspicious?
3. Who is the mysterious 'third man' said to have been present at Harry's death?
4. Harry Lime has one more surprise up his sleeve.
5. It's finally time to confront the elusive Harry Lime.

Jonathan Unleashed (10 x 15') RE205

Jonathan Trefoil arrives in New York ready to take on the world - though without a map to navigate the responsibilities of adulthood. Meg Rosoff's new novel is read by Rhashan Stone.

1. Jonathan arrives in New York from college and is ready for his life to begin.
2. Struggling with his job, Jonathan looks forward to being joined by girlfriend Julie.
3. Julie shocks Jonathan with a commercially sensible proposition.
4. Jonathan visits his parents and is surprised by their reaction to his big news.
5. As the wedding draws closer, Jonathan's sense of doom increases.
6. Jonathan is seriously stressed by his forthcoming nuptials, and a looming work deadline.
7. Jonathan's breakdown leaves him unable to form coherent sentences.
8. Jonathan and Julie's wedding day arrives.
9. Dante and Sissy come to Jonathan's rescue once again.
10. Jonathan looks to Greeley to help him decide what to do next.

True Grit (5 x 15') RE203

An adaptation by Doreen Estall of Charles Portis's 1968 novel about Mattie Ross, who recalls events many years earlier, when as a 14-year-old she undertook a quest to avenge her father's death. Read by Nancy Crane.

1. Mattie believes that the one-eyed, heavy-drinking, trigger-happy Rooster Cogburn has 'true grit' and is just the man to help her in her quest.
2. Mattie prepares to follow Tom Chaney, her father's murderer, into Indian Territory.
3. Mattie sets out, but are Cogburn and Texas Ranger La Beouf prepared to travel with her?

4. After a shoot-out with members of 'Lucky' Ned Pepper's gang, Mattie comes face to face with her father's killer.
5. Captured and left in the company of her father's killer, and seemingly deserted by Cogburn and La Beouf, can Mattie possibly escape?

Slade House (5 x 15') RE199

Behind a small door in a twisting alley lies Slade House, an eerie mansion that is somehow too large for the space it occupies. Every nine years a guest is summoned to the house - but why, and by whom? David Mitchell's chilling novel is abridged by Sian Preece.

1. *The Right Sort*, 1979 - Nathan Bishop is dragged to Slade House by his pianist mother, who is desperate to make the right impression on her potential patron, Lady Grayer. Read by James Anthony Pearson.
2. *Shining Armour*, 1988 - DI Gordon Edmonds reckons he's on a fool's errand, as he follows up the sighting of a missing mother and son nine years earlier. Read by Robin Laing.
3. *Oink, Oink*, 1997 - Sally Timms goes on her first university Paranormal Society field trip to Slade Alley. Read by Rebecca Hamilton.
4. *You Dark Horse You*, 2006 - Journalist Freya Timms arrives at the Fox and Hounds pub to meet a witness who claims to have information about her sister's disappearance nine years earlier. Read by Debra Baker.
5. *Astronauts*, 2015 - A shifty man in his early 20s waits near Slade Alley to greet psychiatrist Dr Iris Marinus-Fenby. Read by Amelia Lowdell.

The Truth and Other Lies (9 x 15') RE 194

A brilliant career, elegant wife, and grand house - novelist Henry Hayden has it all, or so it seems. One of Germany's most renowned screenwriters, Sascha Arango's sardonic and witty thriller is set in small-town Germany, where everyone has a secret. The reader is Jamie Parker.

1. Henry's editor Betty, who is also his mistress, has some news for him.
2. Henry prepares to meet his mistress on a remote clifftop.
3. After the incident on the cliff, Henry has a most unexpected visitor.
4. As the search for his wife Martha begins on the beach, Henry prepares to tell Betty what really happened.
5. Henry has an unexpected encounter on the way to the mortuary.
6. Henry tells Betty what he thinks happened on the cliffs that night.
7. Henry confesses to his friend Obradin, with shocking repercussions...
8. Suspicion falls on Henry after Betty's mysterious death.
9. After Martha's body is washed up, the suspicion mounts.

Go Set a Watchman (10 x 15') RE191

Fenella Woolgar reads Harper Lee's long-awaited follow-up to her now-classic 1960 novel *To Kill a Mockingbird*. The sequel (which was actually written first) tells the story of 26-year-old Jean Louise 'Scout' Finch's annual pilgrimage home to Maycomb, Alabama, from New York.

1. Jean Louise makes her annual pilgrimage home to Maycomb, Alabama.
2. Jean Louise is both delighted and infuriated by the proximity of her family.
3. Hank surprises Jean Louise with the extent of his plans for the future as the young couple inadvertently feed the town's rumour mill.
4. After two days relaxing into the rhythms of the South, the realities of life in 1950s Alabama are about to hit home.
5. Reeling from the revelations about those closest to her, Jean Louise seeks comfort from one of her oldest friends.
6. Shaken by her encounter with Calpurnia, Jean Louise has forgotten about Aunt Alexandra's coffee morning.
7. Jean Louise is distraught after catching Atticus and Hank at a racist meeting.
8. Jean Louise is waylaid and faces an awkward conversation.

9. A disillusioned Jean Louise reluctantly confronts Atticus.
10. Jean Louise finds her trust shattered before she is able to become her own woman.

The Children Act (10 x 15') RE183

Juliet Stevenson reads Ian McEwan's powerful and haunting novel about faith, love and the law, and what happens when public duty and private sorrows collide.

1. An ultimatum is given.
2. Other people's problems.
3. The lawyers state their case while the clock ticks.
4. Fiona hears from all sides and takes an unorthodox approach.
5. Will a meeting in a hospital room clarify Fiona's mind?
6. 'The welfare of the child - the court's paramount consideration'.
- 7: 'So many questions for you'.
8. 'All of life and love that lie ahead'.
9. 'Her kiss was the kiss of Judas'.
10. As Fiona prepares for the Christmas concert, the troubles of the year seem behind her...

The Goldfinch (15 x 15') RE172

Donna Tartt shot to fame with her first novel, *The Secret History*, an instant bestseller, which was followed in 2002 by *The Little Friend*. 2013 saw the publication of her eagerly awaited, much anticipated third novel, *The Goldfinch*. At the heart of the novel lies a masterwork by the Dutch painter Carel Fabritius, a picture of a small chained bird, The Goldfinch. This tiny painting becomes the only certainty for thirteen year old Theo Decker when his secure world with his devoted mother is shattered. Read by Jamie Parker.

1. Theo finds a treasure in the rubble at the museum.
2. Theo needs to make a new life, and trace the owner of the ring.
3. A new and rare friendship is found.
4. The reappearance of his father changes Theo's life again.
5. In Las Vegas, Theo's life becomes increasingly anarchic.
6. Boris offers a timely warning as life with his father becomes increasingly strained.
7. Theo knows he must leave Las Vegas and find his way to New York.
8. Theo's anxiety about the painting grows.
9. Fraudulent dealings lead him into a murkier art world.
10. Boris reveals a terrible truth that shakes Theo's world.
11. Theo finds that art and love can be bought, sold and used as collateral.
12. Pippa confirms Theo's feelings, while Boris offers a way out.
13. In Amsterdam, Boris is determined to return the painting to Theo.
14. Theo faces a future without the painting, Boris or freedom.
15. Loss proves bountiful in a perverse way.

The Book of Dust - Part One: La Belle Sauvage (10 x 15') RE227

Simon Russell Beale reads from the first volume of Philip Pullman's new trilogy *The Book of Dust*, set ten years before the events of *Northern Lights*, the first volume in the original triptych *His Dark Materials*. Abridged by Doreen Estall.

1. At the Trout Inn, potboy Malcolm Polstead meets three men who are searching for a very special baby girl.
2. As a witches' prophesy about a special child is uncovered, Dr Hannah Relf's studies with the alethiometer lead her to an unexpected new ally.
3. Malcolm is shaken by news of a missing academic and faces a new threat with the sinister arrival of the League of St Alexander.
4. A man with a beautiful snow leopard visits the Trout Inn with a dangerous request for Malcolm.
5. Malcolm discovers Bonneville and his terrifying hyena-daemon lurking round the priory.
6. Malcolm takes Alice's advice in a bid to identify Bonneville's accomplice.
7. Malcolm and Alice brave the flood in Malcolm's trusty canoe La Belle Sauvage, but a shadow follows closely behind them.

8. Malcolm and Alice find some respite with other survivors of the flood. But can these strangers be trusted?
9. Battered by the flood, Malcolm and Alice encounter a mysterious woman.
10. As the agents converge on them, Malcolm and Alice risk everything to escape the shadow following them.

END

Last updated 09/04/2018 LA)