

AUDIO REVIEWS

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Move On by Linda Ellerbee

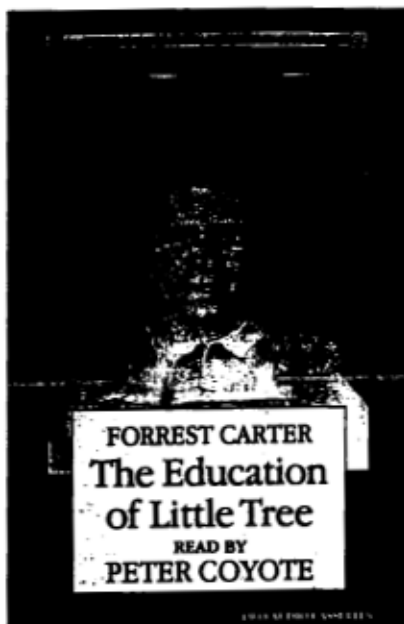
2 cassettes, abridged. 3 hrs. Harper-Audio, 10 E. 53rd St., New York, NY 10022; 800-982-4377. 1992. ISBN 1-55994-481-1. \$16. AUTOBIOG

The inevitability of change is a thread that runs throughout Ellerbee's memoir. She talks about children leaving home and not liking it when parents reclaim their bedrooms and discusses leaving Texas at 18 and going from wife to career woman to earth mother and, eventually, to TV journalist. As she claims, however, just because things change doesn't mean everything is different. She talks of teenagers—their anxiousness about sex and their thoughtlessness—and how the circle repeats itself from mother to daughter. She suggests that what people really need are old memories and young hopes. There is much folksy wisdom in this audiobook, including tidbits such as "change confuses the ones around you more than it confuses you" and "every change seems harder than the one before." Song titles are used for chapter headings, for "without music life would be a mistake." Ellerbee's words not only entertain, but are a testimony to the hardiness of the human spirit. Recommended.—*Denise A. Garofalo, Mid-Hudson Lib. System, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.*

Double Cross: The Explosive, Inside Story of the Mobster Who Controlled America by Sam & Chuck Giancana

2 cassettes, abridged. 3 hrs. Harper-Audio, 10 E. 53rd St., New York, NY 10022; 800-982-4377. 1992. ISBN 1-55994-647-4. \$17. CRIME

The rise and reign of Sam "Mooney" Giancana from a small-time criminal in Chicago to one of the most influential men in the Mafia is chronicled by his nephew and godson Sam, along with Sam's father and the elder Sam's brother Chuck. If this account is to be believed (and it is very convincing), the involvement of the Mafia (with help from the CIA) in American history over the past 70 years has included the Kennedy assassinations, Marilyn Monroe's murder, and the Bay of Pigs invasion, among other incidents. Jerry Orbach's reading of this audiobook is very effective, and his characterizations are well done. The result is an engrossing three hours suitable for general audiences. Recommended.—*Melody A. Moxley, Rowan P.L., Salisbury, N.C.*



The ultimate literary paradox? A white supremacist pseudonymously offers a poignant denunciation of racism

The Good Doctor and His Double by Bill Cook

1 cassette. 90 min. Out Group Audio Theatre, 7265 Mt. Zion Blvd., Jonesboro, GA 30236. 1991. \$9.95. DRAMA

Robert Louis Stevenson's *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* is one of the great stories of all time. Its durability has been proven time and again through the many adaptations it has weathered. As a classic allegory of good vs. evil, it has taken on mythic proportions in our culture. *The Good Doctor and His Double* is not quite an adaptation but a dramatization loosely based on the original. The plot follows the original, but this truncated four-character (two-actor) version is missing some of the suspense and macabre feeling that makes Stevenson's tale so riveting. This presentation is a bit amateurish, although Debra Morrison shines in the two female roles. William Badgett performs the dual roles of Jekyll and Hyde. Cook is the producer, writer, and director. Despite the shortcomings, it is all presented with a lot of energy and enthusiasm. Recommended for YAs.—*Jack McClelland, Brooklyn P.L.*

Bowdrie Rides a Cold Trail by Louis L'Amour

1 cassette, abridged. 60 min. Bantam Audio, 666 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10103; 800-223-5780. 1992. ISBN 0-553-47053-3. \$9.99.

This audiobook is a dramatization of L'Amour's short story of the same name. The story begins with Bowdrie's discovery of a long-dead rancher. Bowdrie pieces together the facts of the murder, finds a motive, and eventually discovers the killer. The story is very entertaining, and thanks to a cast of performers led by reader Timothy Nolan, it sounds like a radio drama. A minor problem with the production is that some of the sound effects are slightly distracting, which at times make it difficult to follow the narrative. Recommended for public libraries with a L'Amour following.—*Theresa Conners, Spring Hill Coll. Lib., Mobile, Ala.*

Call for the Dead by John le Carré

#1205.

A Murder of Quality by John le Carré

#1238.

ea. vol: 4 cassettes, unabridged. 6 hrs. Blackstone Audio Bks., PO Box 969, Ashland, OR 97520; 800-729-2665. 1992. \$25.95 (Rental: \$10.95).

Espionage as described by master storyteller le Carré is less glamour and derring-do than it is monotonous plodding through government bureaucracy and opposing intelligence networks. George Smiley is the protagonist in both of these short works. Smiley, bitter and weary, has seen too much and knows too much to be consigned to the retirement for which he yearns. Frederick Davidson's very British voice is most appropriate for the narration. However, this reviewer compared Davidson's versions to those narrated by Frank Muller (*Call for the Dead*, Recorded Bks., 1991) and Keith Lloyd (*A Murder of Quality*, Audio Reviews, LJ 4/1/91) and found Davidson's less compelling. Also, a potential problem for libraries with the Davidson version is that the title of the audiobook is not printed on each cassette, leaving open the possibility of mix-ups between programs by the same producer.—*Nann Blaine Hilyard, Auburn P.L., Me.*

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