

# Californiana Collection

Produced by the Braille and  
Talking Book Library, Sacramento CA



Revised 2023



# About the Californiana Collection

The Californiana Collection is a supplemental collection of audio books for patrons of the Braille and Talking Book Library. This collection seeks to reproduce material of local interest: books by California authors and/or books about California history, geography, politics, culture, people, information, humor, folklore. In short, the Californiana collection includes fiction or nonfiction that has anything to do with California. It may also include materials on events or people that have been marginalized or historically underrepresented. In rare instances, exceptions to the California-centric requirement may be granted for materials about blindness and related disabilities, Braille, and assistive technology. All books are also available for download from BARD. You may order any of the books in this catalog by contacting the library by phone, email, letter, or fax.

Books from the Californiana Collection are recorded by volunteers in BTBL's recording studio. BTBL is grateful for all the hard work and dedication of our studio volunteers. Without them, this Californiana Collection would not exist.

Patrons, volunteers, and other interested stakeholders are encouraged to send requests for books to add to the Californiana Collection, as long as they follow the parameters mentioned above.

Email: [btbl@library.ca.gov](mailto:btbl@library.ca.gov)

Phone: (800) 952-5666 (toll free in CA) or (916) 654-0640 and, if unable to reach a BTBL librarian directly, leave a message in the Reference voice mailbox.

Important: Please do not overwhelm BTBL librarians with frequent, multiple, or repetitive requests; we prefer a few title requests at a time from a single party no more than once per week.

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## Fiction Books

### Classics

**Sweet Thursday** by John Steinbeck

**DBC19502** 9 hours, 41 minutes

Narrated by: Bill Rosenfeld

In this sequel to *Cannery Row*, Steinbeck's colorful characters of post-World War II Monterey try to help Doc out of his loneliness, often with comic results. Explicit descriptions of sex and strong language. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19502)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19502>

### Family

**Bloodvine: a Novel** by Aris Janigian

**DBC16730** 10 hours, 44 minutes

Narrated by: Walter Phelps

One man resolves to learn the secrets kept by his family, Armenians farming in the great central valley of California in the 1950s. Contains descriptions of violence. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16730)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16730>

**Ana of California** by Andi Teran

**DBC26695** 8 hours, 47 minutes

Narrated by: Andi Teran

In this modern retelling of *Anne of Green Gables*, fifteen-year-old orphan Ana has run through her last foster family, and it's off to a group home next, unless Ana is willing to make a drastic change.

Accepted as a trainee at a small family farm in East Los Angeles, Ana thrives in her new life, but not everyone in town believes that Ana deserves a second chance. Unrated. Commercial audio book.

[Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc26695)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc26695>

**The Lemon Orchard** by Luanne Rice

**DBC16722** 9 hours, 10 minutes

Narrated by: Caro Marks

Two people both suffering from loss of children find each other when Julia, whose daughter has died, travels to California to stay in the Pacific coast beach home of her family while they are away. The home has a lemon orchard, tended by Roberto. The two get closer and begin to search for Roberto's daughter who disappeared during a border-crossing attempt. Some explicit descriptions of sex and some strong language. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16722)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16722>

**To a God Unknown** by John Steinbeck

**DBC16466** 9 hours, 11 minutes

Narrated by: Walter Phelps

While fulfilling his dead father's dream of creating a prosperous farm in California, Joseph Wayne comes to believe that a magnificent tree on the farm embodies his father's spirit. His

brothers and their families share in Joseph's prosperity, and the farm flourishes--until one brother, frightened by Joseph's pagan belief, kills the tree, allowing disease and famine to descend on the farm. Introduction and notes by Robert DeMott. Descriptions of sex. 1933. [Download from BARD: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16466](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16466)

## **Fantasy**

**Frisco Pigeon Mambo** by C. D. Payne

**DBC16151** 5 hours, 44 minutes

Narrated by: Phil Torres

Lab experiment pigeons who think themselves human - or at least not pigeons - are kidnapped from their Berkeley laboratory and released into San Francisco. Hooked on their lab-induced addictions these swashbuckling outlaw refugees descend on bars, stick up liquor stores, spy on socialites, dodge murder raps and pull a miracle out of their hats while attempting to return home. Some strong language and some violence.

[Download from BARD: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16151](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16151)

## **General Fiction**

**The Anatomy of Dreams: a Novel** by Chloe Benjamin

**DBC16470** 10 hours, 49 minutes

Narrated by: Caro Marks

Classmate lovers Silvie and Gabe embark on an experiment that changes their lives and takes them across the country as they follow researcher Dr. Keller and help with his work on the therapeutic potential of lucid dreaming, but things are not always what they seem. Some descriptions of sex. Some strong language. [Download from BARD: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16470](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16470)

**The Other Side of Haight: a Novel** by James Fadiman

**DBC19504** 6 hours, 27 minutes

Narrated by: Walter Phelps

Anyone alive in the mid 1960s remembers the powerful appeal and fame of the San Francisco neighborhood known as Haight-Ashbury. This fictional account tells the story of Shadow Dancer and others who became "immersed in the sensual, mystical chaos of the Haight." Descriptions of sex. [Download from BARD: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19504](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19504)

**Youth in Revolt: the Journals of Nick Twisp** by C.D. Payne

**DBC16155** 22 hours, 25 minutes

Narrated by: Walter Phelps

The story covers six hectic months in the life of 14-year-old Oakland native and precocious diarist Nick Twisp - who struggles to make sense out of high school, deal with his divorced parents, and lose his virginity. In a series of bizarre

adventures, he is transformed from a computer-hacking, book-reading teen into a rebel with a libidinous cause. Nick relies increasingly on his tough alter ego, Francois Dillinger, creating an active fantasy life. For high school and adult. Descriptions of sex, strong language, and violence. 1995. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16155)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16155>

## Historical Fiction

**Whose Names are Unknown: a Novel** by Sanora Babb  
**DBC26699** 8 hours, 45 minutes  
Narrated by: Alyssa Bresnahan  
In the midst of the Dust Bowl, the poor but proud Dunne family is forced to leave their Oklahoma farm to survive. Upon arriving in California, the family quickly finds work on a farm, but are unable to make enough to feed themselves. Through their struggles, they awaken to the possibilities offered by the labor movement, and they urge their fellow workers to join them in protest. Commercial audio book. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.26699)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.26699>

**Copy Boy: a Novel** by Shelley Blanton-Stroud  
**DBC26681** 9 hours, 20 minutes  
Narrated by: April Doty  
In the midst of the Great Depression, Jane Benjamin

escapes her murderous father by fleeing to San Francisco, changing her identity, and getting a job selling newspapers as a copy boy. But when a girl resembling Jane is beaten into a coma only one block from the newspaper offices, Jane fears that her father has caught up with her, and she'll do anything to avoid detection. Unrated. Commercial audio book. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.26681)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.26681>

**Run River** by Joan Didion  
**DBC16725** 8 hours, 4 minutes  
Narrated by: Linda Goman  
Set in the Sacramento River delta, the author's first novel portrays marriages gone wrong, a murder, and betrayals that offer a consideration of the lifestyle of the heirs to California pioneer families in the years after World War II. 1994. Descriptions of sex, some strong language, and some violence. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16725)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16725>

**The Green Age of Asher Witherow** by M. Allen Cunningham  
**DBC19012** 9 hours, 40 minutes  
Narrated by: Bill Rosenfeld  
In nineteenth-century Nortonville, CA, the Black Diamond Mines produces the majority of coal for the region. Asher, the son of Welsh immigrants, comes of age in this gritty and dangerous



company town at the foot of Mount Diablo. Contains descriptions of sex and violence. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19012)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19012>

**The Homesteader: a Novel** by Oscar Micheaux  
**DBC20163** 18 hours, 32 minutes  
Narrated by: Jonathan Graham Powles  
Set in South Dakota in the early twentieth century, black homesteader Jean Baptiste represses his feelings for Agnes, who is white, and enters a loveless but socially acceptable marriage. Betrayal, cruelty, and a plot for murder ensue until the marriage ends tragically, and Jean is forced to flee to Chicago.  
[Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.20163)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.20163>

**Southland** by Nina Revoyr  
**DBC26697** 13 hours, 35 minutes  
Narrated by: Karen Chilton  
A young Japanese American woman, Jackie Ishida, is in her last semester at UCLA when her grandfather, Frank Sakai, dies unexpectedly. While trying to fulfill a request from his will, Jackie discovers that during the Watts Riots of 1965, four African American boys were killed in the store that Frank owned. As Jackie tries to piece together what happened that night, she unearths long-buried secrets from her family

history. Unrated. Commercial audio book. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.26697)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.26697>

**Second Growth** by Wallace Stegner  
**DBC19539** 8 hours, 1 minute  
Narrated by: Carla Hoffman  
A young Jewish tailor sets up his business in a small summer retreat for professors. He meets and marries one of the summer tourists and, as outsiders together, they struggle to make a life in the rather closed society of the village.  
[Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19539)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19539>

**Mystery**  
**At What Cost a Detective Penley Mystery** by James L'Etoile  
**DBC16158** 9 hours 26 minutes  
Narrated by: Phil Torres  
West Sacramento Police Department Detective John Penley, and his partner, Paula Newberry, lead an investigation of a local serial killer who has killed three people in six weeks and discarded the bodies minus their internal organs. Then the killer tempts Penley whose own son needs a kidney transplant. Some strong language and violence. 2016. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16158)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16158>

**Bury the Past: a Detective Penley Mystery** by James L'Etoile  
**DBC16159** 10 hours, 9 minutes  
Narrated by: Phil Torres  
Detective John Penley and partner Paula Newberry investigate the trafficking of street drugs by corrupt cops working the Sacramento area in this sequel to *At What Cost* (DBC16158). Strong language and violence. 2017.  
[Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16159)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16159>

**Woman of Ill Fame** by Erika Mailman  
**DBC26684** 11 hours, 55 minutes  
Narrated by: Tiffany Morgan  
Nora Simms, a young prostitute working out of a shipyard in Boston, longs for a better life. When the Gold Rush hits, she escapes to California, planning to reinvent herself as a parlor girl in a high-class bordello. But when someone begins stalking and murdering the prostitutes of San Francisco, Nora must use her street smarts to figure out who is targeting these soiled doves before she is the next victim. Unrated. Commercial audio book.  
[Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.26684)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.26684>

**Salem's Cipher** by Jess Lourey  
**DBC26696** 12 hours, 14 minutes  
Narrated by: Christine Delaine  
Salem Wiley is a genius cryptanalyst, courted by the

world's top security agencies ever since her quantum computing breakthrough. She's also an agoraphobe shackled to a narrow routine since her father's suicide. When her intelligence work unexpectedly exposes a sinister plot to assassinate the country's first viable female presidential candidate, Salem finds herself both target and detective in a modern-day witch hunt. Unrated. Commercial audio book.  
[Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.26696)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.26696>

**Blood Double** by Neil McMahon  
**DBC19018** 8 hours, 13 minutes  
Narrated by: Bill Rosenfeld  
This fast-paced thriller (sequel to *Twice Dying* DBC 19513) continues the adventures of Dr. Carroll Monks, an emergency room physician caught up in a mystery with high stakes in the scientific world of genetic engineering. Descriptions of sex.  
[Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19018)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19018>

**Twice Dying** by Neil McMahon  
**DBC19513** 6 hours, 45 minutes  
Narrated by: Bill Rosenfeld  
Near San Francisco, several violent sociopaths who have been sent back to society are mysteriously missing. A doctor and a beautiful psychologist are caught up in a dangerous attempt to discover what happened to all

of them. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19513)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19513>

**Pacific Homicide: a Mystery** by Patricia Smiley  
**DBC19020** 9 hours, 30 minutes  
Narrated by: Phil Torres  
LAPD Detective Davie Richards is placed under formal investigation for shooting a suspect during a routine police call. While her case is being decided, she's called to investigate a gruesome homicide. Solving the murder will take Detective Richards into some of the darkest corners of Los Angeles, until it's not only her job that's at risk, but her life. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19020)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19020>

## Psychological Fiction

**This Body: a Novel** by Laurel Doud  
**DBC19005** 9 hours, 54 minutes  
Narrated by: Sandra Swafford  
Katharine Ashley, a middle-aged wife and mother of two, finds herself in a strange predicament after her death. She discovers that she is alive again, this time in the body of a young, slim single woman. This body's life is quite different than the one Katharine led, and she struggles to find a way to live in her new body and life. Contains explicit descriptions of sex. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19005)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19005>

## Romance

**Fire and Ice** by Janet Dailey  
**DBC07163** 5 hours, 5 minutes  
Narrated by: Sandra Swafford  
Alisa has no time for romance and she doesn't like or trust men. Yet if she is to be granted custody of her 7-year old half-sister, something she very much desires, she must be married at least one year. At a baccarat table in Las Vegas she meets Zachary Stuart a Napa Valley wine maker who she has heard needs money to expand his winery. She offers him that money in exchange for a years marriage in-name-only. And then their life in California takes a surprising turn. This book is one of the Harlequin Americana series. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.07163)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.07163>

## Science Fiction

**Soon I Will be Invincible** by Austin Grossman  
**DBC19548** 10 hours, 56 minutes  
Narrated by: Linda Gorman  
An original, sometimes satirical, and humorous superhero novel as largely told by supervillain Dr. Impossible who has tried, and failed, to take over the world twelve times. His most recent escape has him crossing paths with Fatale, a chronically unemployed cyborg and the

newest member of the superhero alliance, the Champions.

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<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19548>

**Ecotopia the Notebooks and reports of William Weston** by Ernest Callenbach

**DBC16462** 8 hours, 10 minutes

Narrated by: Linda Goman

Science fiction work about a utopian society composed of residents of northern California, Oregon and Washington who have seceded from the United States to form a new nation, Ecotopia.

Reporter Will Weston's investigative dispatches describe the society twenty years after it formed. 2014. Some descriptions of sex, some strong language, and some violence. [Download from BARD:](#)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16462>

## Short Stories

**Arranged Marriage** by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni

**DBC1671** 10 hours, 14 minutes

Narrated by: Cathy Carlson

Collection of stories around the theme of Indian-born girls and women in America, their coming of age and the transformations forced on them by the two cultures as they immigrate. 1995. Some descriptions of sex. Violence.

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<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16721>

**Great California Stories** edited by A. Grove Day

**DBC19550** 10 hours, 4 minutes

Narrated by: David Michener

Collection of twenty-one short stories reflecting a variety of historical periods, diverse characters, and California locales. Includes well-known authors such as Mark Twain, Jack London, John Steinbeck, Raymond Chandler, and Wallace Stegner.

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<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19550>

**Bret Harte's Gold Rush: Outcasts of Poker Flat, The Luck of Roaring Camp, Tennessee's Partner, and Other Favorites** by Bret Harte

**DBC16732** 7 hours, 34 minutes

Narrated by: Gerald Swafford

An entertaining collection of fifteen of Bret Harte's best gold rush stories, which bring to life "a boisterous assemblage of rough-clad miners, pistol-packing preachers, iron-willed women, and philosophical gamblers. [Download from BARD:](#)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16732>

**The Great Tejon Club Jubilee** by Gerald W. Haslam

**DBC19545** 4 hours, 37 minutes

Narrated by: David Michener

Collection of short stories about the colorful adventures of a group of men who gather together in a bar in California's Central Valley. Thirteen short stories featuring the patrons of the Tejon Club, a bar just outside of Bakersfield, California. Patronized primarily by union men, the bar gains a reputation as a place to blow off steam, tell tall tales, pull pranks, and share life stories. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19545)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19545>

**Unfinished Message: Selected Works of Toshio Mori** by Toshi Mori

**DBC19008** 3 hours, 52 minutes  
Narrated by: Kel Munger  
Fifteen short stories, a novella, and personal letters touching on the theme of a life interrupted. The author, whose writing career lost traction when he was forced to resettle from his home in Oakland to a Japanese internment camp in Utah during World War II, shares stories of how the Japanese-American community coped with everyday life inside the camps. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19008)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19008>

**The Women on the Wall** by Wallace Stegner

**DBC20153** 8 hours, 10 minutes  
Narrated by: David Michener  
Written during and immediately after World War II, this book

features eighteen short stories about women living through wartime. As their husbands, fathers, and sons enlist, women seek support through female friendships and forge new identities as farmers, factory workers, and mechanics.

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<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.20153>

## Westerns

**The Lawman** by Lyle Brandt  
**DBC16723** 8 hours, 12 minutes

Narrated by: Phil Torres  
Roving gambler Jack Slade discovers that his identical twin brother, a western territory Oklahoma rancher whom he had not seen for several years, has died or been killed. Jack sets off to discover the parties responsible and along the way becomes acquainted with his brother's fiancée who now runs the ranch. Explicit descriptions of sex and some violence. 2007. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16723)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16723>

**A Daring Man** by Leigh Greenwood

**DBC26680** 12 hours, 4 minutes  
Narrated by: Tieran Wilder  
Zac Randolph is a gambling man. One of seven infamous brothers, he kicked the Texas dust off his boots and found his new home in the Little Corner of Heaven Saloon

in San Francisco's notorious Barbary Coast. Running a saloon is exactly the kind of work he is best suited for, and he's happiest keeping the rough men who frequent his halls in line. But then a figure from his past comes calling, and his whole world is flipped upside down. Unrated. Commercial audio book.

[Download from BARD:  
http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.26680](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.26680)

**An Ordinary Woman: a  
Dramatized Biography of Nancy  
Kelsey** by Cecelia Holland

**DBC07161** 7 hours, 41 minutes

Narrated by: Sandra Swafford

A fictional rendering of the story of 18-year-old Nancy Kelsey who traveled to California in 1841 by wagon and horseback with her young husband, infant daughter and small group of friends and family. They accomplished this seemingly impossible feat crossing trackless wilderness, a desert and two mountain ranges without maps, guides or even a trail. 1999. [Download from BARD:  
http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.07161](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.07161)

## Nonfiction Books

### Biographies and Autobiographies

**Black Sun of the Miwok** by Jack Burrows

**DBC19516** 6 hours 12 minutes  
Narrated by: Bill Rosenfeld  
The author, who grew up in the Sierra Nevada foothills of Murphys, California, writes about six Miwok Indians he knew there in the 1920s and 1930s. His sympathetic portraits describe the devastation suffered for decades by the Miwoks, beginning with the gold rush, which nearly destroyed their culture. Descriptions of sex, strong language and violence.

[Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19516)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19516>

### **Ishi in Two Worlds: a Biography of the Last Wild Indian in North America**

by Theodora Kroeber  
**DBC20158** 9 hours 45 minutes  
Narrated by: Mary Lovell  
In 1911, Ishi, the lone survivor of the Yahi people, was found outside of a slaughterhouse in Oroville, California. Starving, exhausted, and speaking no English, Ishi had abandoned his tribal home in the foothills in the Sierra Nevada to survive. This is an account of his life – before he was found, and afterward, where he lived out the rest of his life in a museum, under the guardianship of an anthropologist. [Download](#)

from BARD:  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.20158>

**Steinbeck Remembered** by Audry Lynch

**DBC16728** 3 hours, 15 minutes  
Narrated by: Davida Feder  
Fascinating memories collected from Steinbeck's friends recall his charisma, colorful and difficult personality, and love of life.

[Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16728)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16728>

### **Indian Summer: Traditional Life Among the Choinumne Indians of California's San Joaquin Valley**

by Thomas Jefferson Mayfield  
**DBC19534** 3 hours, 50 minutes  
Narrated by: Ray Flinn  
Mayfield, adopted as a boy by the Choinumne Yokuts of California's San Joaquin Valley, spent several years with them in the 1850's. This book describes in wonderful detail the rich life and natural beauty he shared with them in that time and place. [Download from BARD:](#)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19534>

**Almost Americans: a Quest for Dignity** by Patricia Justiniani McReynolds

**DBC16468** 11 hours, 25 minutes  
A memoir on race in the early twentieth century, written by the daughter of immigrants. Born in

1926 to a Filipino father and a Norwegian mother, the author recounts how her parents struggled with anti-Asian laws, were denied citizenship, and could only work as domestic servants. As an adult, the author searches for acceptance but encounters discrimination at college and anti-miscegenation laws that prevent her from marrying in California.

[Download from BARD:](#)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16468>

**The Lost Landscape a Writer's Coming of Age** by Joyce Carol Oates

**DBC26698** 11 hours, 25 minutes

Narrated by: Cassandra Campbell

A memoir recounting how an impoverished childhood on a rural farm in New York helped the author grow into the famous writer that she would become. From an early age, the author coped with the harsh realities of daily life by making up stories about what she encountered in her surroundings, whether it be relatives, neighbors, livestock, or landscape. Unrated. Commercial audio book.

[Download from BARD:](#)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc26698>

**Nimitz** by E.B. Potter

**DBC19540** 25 hours, 10 minutes

Narrated by: Gerald Swafford

A biography of Admiral Chester Nimitz, who was a key figure in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Over the course of his career, Nimitz established the submarine base at Pearl Harbor, developed engineering techniques that allowed for multiple naval victories, and served as Commander of the Pacific Fleet, overseeing thousands of ships and millions of sailors. Details the story of his life, from his childhood in Texas, to his eventual retirement in Berkeley, California.

[Download from BARD:](#)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19540>

**Burro Bill and Me: Death Valley to Grand Canyon by Burro via the Arizona Strip** by Edna Calkins Price

**DBC16154** 6 hours, 36 minutes

Narrated by: Michael Strange

A memoir by Williamsburg, Virginia native and nurse Edna, wife of Burro Bill recounting the hardest experiences as the happiest times during their life roaming the deserts of Arizona and California in the 1930s. She reminisces about their wandering on foot across deserts, plains, and badlands, sleeping under the stars, hobnobbing with miners, Indians, shepherders, and bindlestiffs. 1993. [Download from](#)



[BARD:](#)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16154>

**John Charles Frémont: Character as Destiny** by Andrew Rolle

**DBC20152** 18 hours, 45 minutes

Narrated by: John Swanson

John Charles Frémont led five expeditions exploring the American West, spent time as the territorial governor of Arizona and political leader in California's liberation from Mexico, served as a Major General in the Civil War, was elected one of California's first U.S. Senators and the first presidential candidate of the Republican party. This comprehensive biography carefully examines the historical record of "The Pathfinder" with a psychobiographical approach that explores the rash rebelliousness of Frémont's character. [Download from BARD:](#)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.20152>

**Garbage: the Saga of a Boss Scavenger in San Francisco** by

Leonard Dominic Stefanelli

**DBC16733** 9 hours, 45 minutes

Memoir of Lenny Stefanelli, one of San Francisco's "scavengers," as he works his way up from hauling trash in barrels to being the president of a major waste management corporation. The complexity of San Francisco's unique environmental challenges is revealed along with background

on the life of a third-generation Italian-American in a close-knit family business. Strong language.

[Download from BARD:](#)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16733>

**Ishi's Brain: in Search of America's Last "Wild" Indian** by Orin Starn

**DBC19002** 13 hours, 53 minutes

Narrated by: Walter Phelps

The book chronicles the recent campaign of modern-day Native Americans to find and rebury the body of the last Yahi Indian. The anthropologist author recounts a mysterious cross-country trail of lost letters, secrets shared and concealed, and a missing body part tracked at last to a strange steel vat at the Smithsonian Institution. Contains violence.

[Download from BARD:](#)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19002>

**God's Hotel: a Doctor, a Hospital, and a Pilgrimage to the Heart of Medicine** by Victoria Sweet

**DBC16160** 16 hours, 7 minutes

Narrated by: Sandra Swafford

This autobiographical account chronicles the compassionate practice of "slow medicine" offered to the disenfranchised at San Francisco's Laguna Honda Hospital, the last alms house in the U.S. Stories from this off-the-grid institution encapsulate how inefficiencies were actually quite

efficient when one's metric was healing patients, until a consulting firm over 20 years forced the painful transition from the practice of medicine to the delivery of health care and brought about suffering for patients and caregivers alike. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16160)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16160>

**Slow Medicine: the Way to Healing** by Victoria Sweet.  
**DBC19019** 11 hours, 49 minutes  
Narrated by: Sandra Swafford  
The author of *God's Hotel* (DBC 16160) expands upon her life and career with further stories that reveal the fallacies of modern healthcare, which she calls *Fast Medicine*. Throughout the text, she develops her ideas of what personalized and meaningful medicine should be.  
[Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19019)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19019>

**To the Stars: the Autobiography of Star Trek's Mr. Sulu** by George Takei  
**DBC26683** 3 hours  
Narrated by: George Takei  
A biography of George Takei, one of the first Asian-American actors to win a starring role in television in the 1960s. Opening with the story of his family's internment during World War II, George recounts stories of his childhood at the Tule Lake War Relocation

Center in California, his early career in Hollywood, and the behind-the-scenes difficulties and discrimination he faced in his role as the helmsman of the *Starship Enterprise* in *Star Trek*. Unrated. Commercial audio book.  
[Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.26683)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.26683>

**More than Petticoats. Remarkable California Women** by Erin H. Turner  
**DBC16153** 4 hours, 9 minutes  
Narrated by: Cathy Carlson  
Ten women, each with California ties and born before 1900, who are examples of women performing work and supporting causes that were not typical for women of the day, are given short historical biographies. Individual chapters cover a diverse group including early film actress Mary Pickford, Florence Hutchings for whom Mount Florence in Yosemite National Park is named, and Tye Leung Schulze, the first Chinese-American woman to vote in an election. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16153)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16153>

**Mark Twain in Virginia City, Nevada** by Mark Twain  
**DBC07165** 5 hours, 41 minutes  
Narrated by: Walter Phelps  
Reprints selections from Twain's, *Roughing It* describing 1860's characters and events in Nevada during what Twain calls "the silver

mining fever." Includes a fire he inadvertently set in Lake Tahoe, an excursion by boat to Mono Lake, and how difficult it was to write an editorial every day while he substituted as editor of the Virginia City Territorial Enterprise.

[Download from BARD:](#)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.07165>

### **Inside the Oy Quong Laundry** by Kathleen Kong Wing

**DBC19515** 5 hours, 26 minutes

Narrated by: Barbara Reider

A collection of stories, passed from mother to daughter, about what it was like to grow up as a Chinese immigrant in Central California in the 1920's and 1930's. Speaking no English and running a hand-wash laundry, the author's mother endeavors to maintain her traditional Chinese values, even as her American neighbors react with hostility and prejudice.

[Download from BARD:](#)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19515>

## **Business**

### **Humboldt: Life on America's Marijuana Frontier** by Emily Brady

Brady

**DBC07159** 7 hours, 14 minutes

Narrated by: Walter Phelps

In 2010 journalist Brady lived for a year in the Northern California area known as the Emerald Triangle, located primarily in southern Humboldt County. She

reports on a time of transition for its secretive and cash-based underground industry of marijuana production. Her nonfiction narrative chronicles the lives of four very different residents as the hidden economy and subculture of the region begins to adapt to the noticeable rise in public tolerance of cannabis use and the changes legalization could bring. Some descriptions of violence and some strong language. 2013.

[Download from BARD:](#)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.07159>

## **Cooking**

### **Wine Country: a Literary Companion** edited by Benjamin Russack

**DBC19501** 8 hours, 28 minutes

Narrated by: Elinor Bell

A collection of short historical pieces, poetry, and stories that focus on the world-famous Napa and Sonoma wine-producing regions. Going beyond a focus on wine, the writings celebrate the beauty of the land and its diverse history.

[Download from BARD:](#)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19501>

## **Diet and Nutrition**

### **Mark Twain: an Appreciation of His Pioneer Writings on Fasting**

**and Health** by George Wharton James

**DBC20197** 30 minutes

Narrated by: John Swanson

Originally appearing in "Physical Culture" magazine in 1919, this essay explores Mark Twain's personal philosophy and practice on the subject of fasting. As an early advocate for fasting, he related success stories in which fasting, or the "appetite cure" as he called it, restored the health of various men and women when other remedies had failed.

[Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.20197)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.20197>

## History

**Badge and Buckshot:**

**Lawlessness in Old California**

by John Boessenecker

**DBC19536** 11 hours, 27 minutes

Narrated by: David Michener

A historical account of notorious California outlaws and sheriffs spanning from the Gold Rush to early 1900's. Featuring stories of feuds, vendettas, manhunts, holdups, and shoot-outs, this book tells original stories of famous characters such as The Gates Boys, Kid Thompson, Bill Miner, and Doc Standley. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19536)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19536>

**Only What We Could Carry: the Japanese American Internment**

**Experience** by Lawson Fusao Inada

**DBC19010** 20 hours, 53 minutes

Narrated by: Cathy Carlson

Edited by poet laureate and internee Lawson Fusao Inada, this anthology captures the experience of Japanese Americans interned during World War II. The variety of personal firsthand accounts and historical documents provides a picture of the atmosphere of distrust and xenophobia that afflicted the United States.

[Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19010)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19010>

**Rush for Riches: Gold Fever and the Making of California** by

J. S. Holliday

**DBC19522** 18 hours, 37 minutes

Narrated by: Sandra Swafford

The birth of modern California, framed between the gold rush years and the 1890s, is grandly told in this important book. Many factors contributed to California's early image as a rough, careless, risk-taking place, populated by adventurers of every sort. Inevitably, there were conflicts, particularly between miners and the farmers who settled in the state, leading to a dramatic legal battle over hydraulic mining in 1884. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19522)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19522>

**Life in a California Mission: Monterey in 1786: the Journals**

**of Jean François de la Pérouse**

by Jean-François de Galaup La Pérouse

**DBC16727** 4 hours, 11 minutes

Narrated by: Barbara Reider

The first foreign expedition to visit Spain's California colonies arrived in Monterey in 1786. La Perouse, commander of this expedition, wrote about mission life, the people he met there, the wildlife and the land he saw. His observations provide a unique portrait of the beautiful places he visited and of the isolated life of its inhabitants. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16727)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16727>

**Bitter Melon: Stories from the Last Rural Chinese Town in America**

by Jeff Gillenkirk

**DBC25111** 6 hours, 12 minutes

Narrated by: John Cherry

Locke, a rural town nestled against the Sacramento River, was inhabited exclusively by a Chinese population before the passage of the Chinese Exclusion Act in 1882. Presented are thirteen oral histories from modern descendants that occupy the houses and businesses of this all-Chinese town. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.25111)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.25111>

**The Natural World of the**

**California Indians** by Robert F.

Heizer & Albert B. Elsasser

**DBC25117** 9 hours, 11 minutes

Narrated by: Mary McGeorge

A history of Native American cultures in California. Describes the different tribes, their territories, languages, food sources, and religious beliefs. Explores the ways in which geography influenced a tribe's diet, tools, trading abilities, and migration patterns. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.25117)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.25117>

**The Jews in the California Gold**

**Rush** by Robert E. Levinson

**DBC25116** 7 hours, 41 minutes

Narrated by: Jack Krieger

A history of Jewish culture and community in California from 1849 to 1880. When news of the Gold Rush broke, recent immigrants from Central Europe arrived in the port of San Francisco, including thousands of Jews. As they branched out throughout Northern California, they built synagogues and cemeteries, set up businesses and schools, established benevolent societies, and created close-knit communities that brought economic stability and social benefits to mining camps and rural towns. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.25116)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.25116>

**They Saw the Elephant: Women in the California Gold Rush** by

Jo Ann Levy

**DBC19509** 8 hours, 30 minutes

Narrated by: JoAnn Levy

Approximately ten-percent of the Gold Rush forty-niners were female. Overlooked by historians, this volume tells the stories of the wives, mothers, sisters, and daughters who took the overland trail, mined for gold, and settled in San Francisco, Sacramento, and Nevada City afterwards. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19509)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19509>

**California Gold Rush Glimpses II: Amazing Tales of People, Life & Times** by Craig and Franklin MacDonald

**DBC07164** 2 hours, 40 minutes

Narrated by: Alice Corley

In this collection of 23 short articles originally published in Sierra Heritage Magazine, the authors recount true stories, both historical and humorous, about life in the mining camps and towns during California's Gold Rush in the 1840s and 1850s.

[Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.07164)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.07164>

**Fool's Paradise: a Carey McWilliams Reader** by Carey McWilliams

**DBC16467** 11 hours, 26 minutes

Narrated by: Walter Phelps

With a sampling of the historian journalist's writings dating from the late 1930s to the early 1960s, this book features California's political and labor history. Contains accounts from a Progressive viewpoint of the Wobblies union efforts, Japanese internment during WWII and essays on candidates for governor including Nixon and Reagan. Some violence and strong language. 2001.

[Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16467)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16467>

**Colony and Empire: the Capitalist Transformation of the American West** by William G. Robbins

**DBC16469** 11 hours, 4 minutes

Narrated by: Sandra Swafford  
A series of discrete essays, each addressing questions that are important to understanding the process and direction of change in the American West during the last century and a half. Explores effects of mining, lumbering, ranching, railroading, and water management on the economy and culture.

[Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16469)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16469>

**Endangered Dreams: the Great Depression in California** by Kevin Starr

**DBC19542** 24 hours, 4 minutes

Narrated by: Carl Holmes

The 4th volume of the author's Americans and the California

Dream series focuses on the precursors and experiences of the 1930s. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19542)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19542>

## Literature

**Unfolding Beauty: Celebrating California's Landscapes** edited by Terry Beers

**DBC16736** 17 hours, 39 minutes

Narrated by: Bill Rosenfeld

Anthology of excerpts pertaining to California reveal the “magnificent diversity of landscapes in this patched-together state” and the cultural diversity of the past 200 years. Includes selections from Joan Didion, Jack Kerouac, John Muir, and John Steinbeck.

[Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16736)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16736>

**Writing Home: Award-Winning Literature From the New West**

edited by Brian Bouldrey

**DBC19512** 10 hours, 15 minutes

Narrated by: Bill Rosenfeld

The stories, essays and poems in this collection are all prizewinners of either the prestigious Jackson or Phelan awards, given annually to talented young writers. This book reflects the multicultural diversity of its authors, their fierce individuality, and "celebrates the chaos of the West."

[Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19512)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19512>

**Many Californias: Literature from the Golden State** edited by Gerald W. Haslam

**DBC20155** 13 hours, 3 minutes

Haslam has collected short prose excerpts and poems which

illustrate the variety of experiences in the lives of Californians. Strong language. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.20155)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.20155>

**The Other California: the Great Central Valley in Life and**

**Letters** by Gerald W. Haslam

**DBC19528** 4 hours

Narrated by: Bill Rosenfeld

Haslam's essays on the landscape, literature and life in the Central Valley of California offer a rich portrait of this little-known part of the state. [Download from](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19528)

[BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19528)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19528>

**Giants in the Earth: the**

**California Redwoods** edited with an introduction by Peter

Johnstone

**DBC16738** 9 hours, 53 minutes

Narrated by: David Michener

Literary anthology of stories, poems, natural history compositions, and articles selected from three hundred years of writing about the California redwoods. Authors Walt Whitman, John Muir, Jack London, Tom Wolfe, Armistead Maupin, and others who visited the groves felt inspired to write about their

experiences and feelings.  
[Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16738)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16738>

**California Classics: the Creative Literature of the Golden State : Essays on the Books and Their Writers** by Lawrence Clark Powell  
**DBC25114** 15 hours, 37 minutes  
Narrated by: John Swanson  
Thirty-one selections about California, ranging from fiction, to literary criticism, to biography, history, and geography. Selections are loosely based on the theme of expedition, touching on travels through the desert, the mountains, the Bay Area and on to the coastal valleys. Includes well-known authors such as Mark Twain, John Steinbeck, Robert Louis Stevenson, Upton Sinclair, John Muir, and Helen Hunt Jackson. For high school and adult readers.  
[Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.25114)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.25114>

**America and Americans, and Selected Nonfiction** by John Steinbeck  
**DBC16461** 18 hours, 17 minutes  
Narrated by: Bill Rosenfeld  
Celebrating John Steinbeck's centennial, this book brings together representative nonfiction articles, essays and columns from his role as journalist and commentator, in addition to a previously unpublished chapter of "Travels with Charley" ("L'Envoi")

and the title book "America and Americans." 2003. [Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16461)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16461>

**Mark Twain's San Francisco** by Mark Twain  
**DBC16729** 9 hours, 17 minutes  
Narrated by: Walter Phelps  
This collection of brief, often humorous writings includes commentary, poems, anecdotes, letters and notes about Twain's experiences in San Francisco between 1863 and 1866.  
[Download from BARD:](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16729)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16729>

**Highway 99: a Literary Journey Through California's Great Central Valley** edited by Stan Yogi  
**DBC20156** 16 hours, 10 minutes  
Narrated by: Sandra Swafford  
This multicultural anthology contains essays, fiction, poetry and drama showcasing seventy writers living along the length of Highway 99--the main artery through California's Central Valley. Explores how the agricultural opportunities of the region attract people from many walks of life: African American migrants, Oklahoma refugees, Filipino laborers, Chinese pioneers, Mexican workers, and Laotian immigrants. [Download from](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.20156)



[BARD:  
http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.20156](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.20156)

## **Music**

**Kiss the Sky: My Weekend in Monterey at the Greatest Rock Concert Ever** by Dusty Baker  
**DBC16724** 3 hours, 17 minutes

Narrated by: Caro Marks

A collection of memories from California native Dusty Baker begins with a description of how his mom financed his trip to the first Monterey Music Festival and goes on from there to reminisce about his life in professional baseball and how it was intertwined with and influenced by his music interests. 2015.

[Download from BARD:  
http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16724](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16724)

**The Bakersfield Sound: How a Generation of Displaced Okies Revolutionized American Music**

by Robert E. Price

**DBC16152** 9 hours, 10 minutes

Narrated by: Phil Torres

Journalist Price reveals rich stories of the personalities that populated the dustbowl town of Bakersfield, California, a stop north of Los Angeles that developed a twangier, rockier, stylistic counterweight to Nashville's sweet, string-laden pop country music in the 1950s, '60s and '70s. Through the lives of hit makers such as Buck Owens and

Merle Haggard, the author discusses the history of America from the early 1900s to today, highlighting the crossroads of commerce and culture that sparked the alternative country music scene. 2015. [Download from BARD:  
http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16152](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16152)

## **Nature and the Environment**

**History of the Sierra Nevada** by

Francis P. Farquhar

**DBC25119** 9 hours, 51 minutes

Narrated by: Sandra Swafford

A history of the Sierra Nevada, beginning with Spanish exploration in the sixteenth century and concluding in the mid-twentieth century with the latest activities from the Sierra Club. Examines how different explorers such as Jedediah Smith, the Donner Party, John Charles Frémont, Clarence King, and John Muir interacted with the mountain range. [Download from BARD:  
http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.25119](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.25119)

## **Death Valley: Geology, Ecology, Archaeology**

by Charles B. Hunt

**DBC25118** 5 hours, 26 minutes

Narrated by: Sandra Swafford

A comprehensive overview of Death Valley, a desert valley in Eastern California and one of the hottest places on Earth. Covers the landscape, sources of water, geology, mines, as well as the

plants, animals, and people that live in Death Valley. Includes a chapter on Native American history in Death Valley; the area served as a base and trading camp for the migrating tribes of Shoshone, Southern Paiute, and Kawaiisu. [Download from BARD: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.25118](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.25118)

**Outposts of Eden: a Curmudgeon at Large in the American West** by Page Stegner  
**DBC25122** 7 hours, 31 minutes  
Narrated by: Jack Kreiger  
A series of essays from a self-described “grump environmentalist.” The author journeys from Mono Lake to the Mojave Desert, through the Humboldt National Forest, and across the Grand Canyon, recording his observations as he goes. Descriptions of the natural beauty are interlaced with sharp criticisms of the state and federal agencies responsible for preserving public lands, water, and forests. For high school and adult readers. [Download from BARD: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.25122](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.25122)

## Religion

**A Winter Walk** by Tolbert McCarroll  
**DBC07157** 4 hours 19 minutes  
Narrated by: Walter Phelps  
Thirty-two essays by Brother Toby, a monk in the Starcross

community in Sonoma County, California, lead the reader through the short days and long nights of winter. Selections include "Santa Lucia," "Ramadan," "Advent Wreath," and "Chanukah Stories" which are all on winter themes. 2006. [Download from BARD: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.07157](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.07157)

## Social Sciences

**Bitter Harvest, a History of California Farmworkers, 1870-1941** by Cletus E. Daniel  
**DBC25128** 12 hours, 7 minutes  
Narrated by: Sandra Swafford  
A history of farmworkers in California from the late nineteenth century through the Great Depression. Explores how small family farms were gradually replaced by industrial scale farming, which required large sources of cheap labor to make it profitable. Native Americans and the Chinese were forcibly pressed into service, while poor whites were attracted by misleading advertisements of high wages and false claims of land ownership. These labor injustices, which persisted for decades, led to high profile unionization efforts by the AFL-CIO (American Federation of Labor and the Committee for the Industrial Organization.) [Download from BARD: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.25128](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.25128)

**Highly Respectable Families:  
the Cornish of Grass Valley,  
California, 1854-1954** by Shirley  
Ewart

**DBC16737** 5 hours, 45 minutes

Narrated by: Walter Phelps

Emigrating from Cornwall to the  
United States, Cornish miners  
formed a tight-knit community in  
Grass Valley, California.

Interviews with several founding  
families detail their community  
leadership, work ethic, religious  
devotion, musical prowess, life  
histories and their favorite foods.  
Several recipes included.

[Download from BARD:](#)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16737>

**The Harvest Gypsies: on the  
Road to the Grapes of Wrath** by  
John Steinbeck

**DBC16465** 1 hour, 50 minutes

Narrated by: Phil Torres

Here is the power of Steinbeck's  
pen employed journalistically in a  
set of seven articles on migrant  
farm workers' lives in squatters'  
camps as they eke out an  
existence in depression-era  
California. These news reports  
formed the basis for Steinbeck's  
understanding of migrant laborers'  
working and living conditions when  
he set out to write his  
masterpiece, "The Grapes of  
Wrath." 1936. [Download from](#)

[BARD:](#)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16465>

**Sports**

**Indian Running: Native  
American History & Tradition** by  
Peter Nabokov

**DBC25113** 6 hours, 22 minutes

Narrated by: Mary McGeorge

In 1980, a group of Pueblo Indians  
gathered in Taos, New Mexico, for  
the Tricentennial Run, a

reenactment of a 1680 run in  
which the Pueblo Indians sent  
messengers to the Hopi villages  
300 miles away in a coordinated  
attempt to overthrow Spanish rule.

The author chronicles the events  
of this six-day run, while  
explaining the cooperative nature  
of Native American running, as  
opposed to the more competitive  
attitude found in Western-style  
athletics. For high school and  
adult readers. [Download from](#)

[BARD:](#)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.25113>

**Travel**

**What I Saw in California** by  
Edwin Bryant

**DBC20154** 20 hours, 54 minutes

Narrated by: Carl Holmes

A journalist's account of his  
overland journey from  
Independence, Missouri to San  
Francisco and his further  
explorations of the West in 1846 to  
1847. This book provided valuable  
travel tips for Gold Rush 49ers  
traveling by way of the California  
Trail a few years later. [Download](#)

[from BARD:  
http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.20154](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.20154)

**Hillinger's California: Stories From All 58 Counties** by Charles Hillinger

**DBC19001** 10 hours  
Narrated by: David Michener  
Colorful stories from each of California's counties give the reader a sense of how unique and interesting each local area is, with its own history and character.

[Download from BARD:  
http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19001](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.19001)

**An Afghanistan Picture Show, or, How I Saved the World** by William T. Vollmann

**DBC20199** 8 hours, 15 minutes  
An American's account of the Soviet war in Afghanistan. In 1982, the author purchased a camera and traveled to Afghanistan, by way of Pakistan, to learn more about the war and offer aid. His memoir, written in the third person and in which he refers to himself as 'Young Man' to convey his naivety, explores his experiences in refugee camps, his burgeoning friendships, his growing political awareness, and his feelings of helplessness in the face of so much suffering.

[Download from BARD:  
http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.20199](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.20199)

## **True Crime**

**Reminiscences of a Ranger: Early Times in Southern California** by Horace Bell

**DBC20190** 18 hours, 43 minutes  
Narrated by: Sid Piper  
Los Angeles in the mid-nineteenth century was a small, Spanish-American town with a big problem: organized gangs of outlaws controlled the territory through raids, bribes, and violence. In response, an all-volunteer militia called the Los Angeles Rangers was formed to restore law and order. In this adventurous, first-person account, ranger Major Horace Bell recalls a criminal cast of characters and the troop members who brought them to justice. [Download from BARD:  
http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.20190](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.20190)

**Badges, Bears, and Eagles: the True-Life Adventures of a California Fish and Game Warden** by Steven T. Callan

**DBC16463** 11 hours  
Narrated by: Vance McCausland  
True crime tales with tails. Long-time wildlife conservation warden with California Department of Fish and Game shares cases from his career. Bears and eagles, along with salmon, catfish, doves, snakes, deer, elk and swans come under the watchful eyes of the author and his partner Dave Szody as they aim to stop

poachers. Some strong language.  
Some violence.

[Download from BARD:](#)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16463>

**Chasing Aphrodite: the Hunt for  
Looted Antiquities at the  
World's Richest Museum** by

Jason Felch and Ralph

Frammolino

**DBC07156** 12 hours, 40 minutes

Narrated by: Walter Phelps

In 2005, the art world was rocked  
by scandal when news broke that  
the prestigious J. Paul Getty  
Museum had a long history of  
purchasing looted antiquities.

Beginning in the 1960's with  
Getty's purchase of questionable  
European statues, this story  
chronicles the rise of the world's  
richest museum, and documents  
how the museum's curators  
knowingly purchased stolen art  
until 2000, when a Rome  
magistrate sued for the return of  
Italian statues. California Book  
Award winner. Some strong

language. [Download from BARD:](#)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.07156>

## Books for Children

### Children's Fiction

**Patty Reed's Doll: the Story of the Donner Party** by Rachel K. Laurgaard

**DBC16156** 2 hours, 41 minutes

Narrated by: Elinor Bell

Based on actual happenings in the fateful Donner Party crossing in 1846, this is the story told through the eyes of a small wooden doll who traveled from Illinois to California in young Patty Reed's pocket. The doll recounts the life aboard a Conestoga wagon train as the party's first successful weeks out of Independence are followed later by mishaps, violence, and tragedy on the journey to Sutter's Fort in Sacramento. For grades 4-7.

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<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.16156>

**The Balloon Boy of San Francisco** by Dorothy Kupcha Leland

**DBC07160** 3 hours, 21 minutes

Narrated by: Sandra Swafford  
1853, San Francisco. Newsboy Ready Gates is ready for anything whether it's shouting the latest

headlines from a street corner, sneaking onto a river boat to avoid paying the fare, or tracking down a missing miner. But when he crosses the bay to watch a balloon ascension, his adventures suddenly take an unexpected turn. Based on a true story, this book paints a colorful picture of daily life in San Francisco five years after the discovery of gold in California. It's drawn from newspapers, letters, and diaries and many other historical documents. Award winner. For grades 3-6. 2005.

[Download from BARD:](#)

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.07160>

**Sallie Fox: the Story of a Pioneer Girl** by Dorothy Kupcha Leland

**DBC07162** 4 hours, 20 minutes

Narrated by: Alice Corley

Describes in vivid detail the excitement, tragedy and searing heat faced by 12-year-old Sallie and her family as they traveled by wagon train from Iowa to California along the Santa Fe Trail in 1858. Based on a true story. For grades 3-6. [Download from BARD:](#)  
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.07162>

