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Moonlight in Vermont

Karen Perry

Old Dominion University

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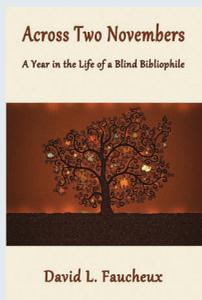


David Fauchoux, *LJ's* Audiobook Reviewer of the Year 2018, describes his self-published memoir, *Across Two Novembers: A Year in the Life of a Blind Bibliophile*, as “a love letter, a valentine, to books.” Fauchoux knows firsthand how important audiobooks are to visually impaired individuals, as well as how enjoyable they can be for all listeners, and he recently released an audio edition of his book. For more information, please visit bit.ly/Fauchoux.

Why did you choose to write your memoir over the course of a year?

As I read my friend Kathie Schneider's book, *Occupying Aging: Delights, Disabilities, and Daily Life*, it occurred to me that the journal format she employed might be a workable framework for me to use in order to create something that might be publishable.

I had tried unsuccessfully to write short stories about my time at a residential school and an historic fiction novel about an overlooked French empress. I hoped by publishing a journal/memoir to add my voice and experiences to the growing number of memoirs and autobiographies written by blind authors to offer yet another perspective, another voice, another



glimpse into a world sighted people rarely get to visit.

Why did you decide to produce an audio version of your book? Did your work as an *LJ* audiobook reviewer inform any of your decisions about your audiobook?

I decided to produce an audio version of my journal/memoir after attending an online conference hosted by Stephanie Chandler of the Nonfiction Authors Association. I learned that audiobooks were incredibly popular and that this medium sold well. As a reviewer for *Library Journal*, I have listened to and reviewed 95 audiobooks since 2006 and know personally how enjoyable these books can be. I thought I'd add my book to the ever-growing number

Kirk, Shannon. *Gretchen*. 10 CDs. Brilliance Audio. Jul. 2019. 12:23 hrs. ISBN 9781721334056. \$25.99. f

Long-kept secrets unspool agonizingly slowly as both mother and daughter narrate this story of running, hiding, and moving on. Fifteen-year-old Lucy has grown weary of the short stays and middle-of-the-night moves. Lucy longs to have real friends and a place to call home, but her mom warns her that if she relinquishes her guard, she might be recognized and whisked off to a place where she would have no freedom. On the second to last day of school, Lucy inadvertently makes eye contact with a stranger who thought he recognized her violet eyes, forcing mom and daughter to pack up and leave before Lucy's final exam. As fate would have it, they moved to the stranger's hometown in New Hampshire. Adding to the fear of identification, Lucy's new friend, Gretchen, daughter of their landlord, is more than a nerdy puzzle freak. Gretchen is a brilliant psychopath whose latest ambition is to control Lucy. Parallel stories converge, as Lucy's true identity becomes clear, as well as the lies her mom has told her. Two women who were once summer camp friends both claim to be Lucy's mother. Though their hatred for one another is palpable, they must unite

of audiobooks out there. After listening to several samples, I chose Adam Barr as the narrator because he reads with expression. I decided not to read the book myself because I did not have the experience to record and edit my work. I did, however, record the preface to the audio edition myself. I wanted readers to at least get a sample of my vocal style.

Can you tell us a little about the process of abridging the work? Do you have any more writing projects on the horizon?

While attending a telephone conference run by career coach Barbara Sher, I described my recently published book and asked for suggestions from the group on how to promote the book. Patty Newbold, Sher's executive assistant, suggested abridging the book as a way to make it more accessible to people who prefer a shorter read. It was this shorter version that seemed best to produce as an audiobook. I removed the bibliography and some of the daily journal entries. This brought the book's length down from 510 pages to 267 pages. I hope to start a podcast in the late fall to discuss books old, books new, a bit of trivia, and favorite blogs and podcasts too. I want the podcast to run no more than 15 minutes and appear bimonthly.—**Stephanie Klose, *Library Journal***

excellent addition to historical fiction audio collections.—**Beth Farrell, Cleveland State Univ. Law Lib.**

Cross, Kacy. *Moonlight in Vermont*. 5 CDs. Dreamscape Audio. Apr. 2019. 601p. ISBN 9781974944538. \$24.99. f

Emily Woo Zeller provides an exceptionally smooth narration for this audiobook based on a Hallmark movie. The plot is a “happily ever after” story where girl meets boy in an unlikely place and he wins her heart. Zeller gives the main character, Fiona, zest and vigor as a restless city real estate agent. She is on the outs with her father who has sold the family's New York apartment and moved to Vermont to run an inn. Fiona takes her best friend Angela and goes to visit the inn after her boyfriend Nate dumps her. Fiona literally runs into Derek, the chef for the inn, and complains bitterly about him. But when ex-boyfriend Nate shows up with another girl for the weekend, Fiona concocts a plan to use the chef to make Nate jealous. The plan backfires and Fiona falls for the chef in true romance fashion. A recipe from the story is included. **VERDICT** Recommended for romance collections at public libraries.—**Karen Perry, Old Dominion Univ, Norfolk, VA**

to free Lucy from Gretchen's imprisonment. Following the twists and turns of the story, the listener will be rewarded with a satisfying ending. Narrators Allyson Ryan and Rebecca Soler perform skillfully as Lucy and her two mothers. **VERDICT** This thriller will be enjoyed by both teen and adult listeners.—**Ann Weber, Bellarmine Coll. Prep., San Jose, CA**

Littlejohn, Emily. *Inherit the Bones*. digital download. Vibrance. May 2019. 11:24 hrs. ISBN 9781624616587. \$19.95. f

Detective Gemma Monroe works for a small-town police department in Colorado. Being a by-the-book cop, staying on task is usually not a problem, but these days, six months pregnant, she struggles with food cravings, finding a uniform that fits, getting enough sleep, and keeping track of her fiancé, who is on his second and last chance, after having previously betrayed her. Detective Monroe's current case—a gruesome, seemingly random murder—presents many questions and few answers. The victim worked for a traveling circus, but when it's revealed that he was the mayor's son, who was presumed dead three years before in a hiking accident, Gemma finds she has more local suspects than she knows what to do with. Gemma is haunted by dreams