

Beloit Daily News
March 2017

I belong to a book club with several other women here in Beloit. Or, as our husbands like to say, we belong to a wine club that occasionally discusses books. From non-fiction and Young Adult novels to historical fiction and memoirs, we pride ourselves on reading a wide range of books. Sometimes we all love the book, sometimes we hate it and sometimes we agree to disagree.

The most recent book we read was *Me Talk Pretty One Day* by David Sedaris. I've got to admit, I had a really hard time getting into this one. It felt disjointed, and to be honest, not very appealing. Another person in my book club felt the same way, but a third person, Alyssa, defended the book. She thought it was hilarious and had laugh-out loud moments as she was listening to it. Wait, did she say she listened to it? Yep, instead of reading it, she had checked out the audiobook from the library. The audiobook was narrated by Sedaris and his delivery and performance, more so than the story itself, were what Alyssa found so compelling and funny.

Audiobooks are entertaining and engaging, teachers and parents will be glad to know they help with pronunciation, enunciation and retention, and they are great for multi-tasking (really, it is easier to drink a glass of wine while listening to a book than it is while holding a book!)

If you love audiobooks, or you just want to learn more about them, come to the Beloit Public Library on Saturday April 1st from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for AudioCon! Engage the power and fun of audiobooks and the spoken word with activities and professional audiobook narrators Dion Graham and Jayne Entwistle. Young Adult librarian Deb Taylor will also be on hand to present *Reading with Your Ears*.

For more information on this event and many more, visit www.beloitlibrary.org, like us on Facebook, or call 364-2905. In the meantime, be sure to check out these audiobooks available at your Beloit Public Library:

Thrice the Brinded Cat Hath Mew'd written by Alan Bradley and narrated by Jayne Entwistle. In spite of being ejected from Miss Bodycote's Female Academy in Canada, 12-year-old Flavia de Luce is excited to be sailing home to England. But instead of a joyous homecoming, she is greeted on the docks with unfortunate news: Her father has fallen ill, and a hospital visit will have to wait while he rests. (Audiobook description)

Two Friends: Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass written by Dean Robbins and narrated by Dion Graham. Two friends, Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass, get together for tea and conversation. They recount their similar stories fighting to win rights for women and African Americans. (Book description)

Year of No Clutter written by Eve O. Schaub and narrated by Callie Beaulieu. Everyone has their own hell room, and Eve's battle with her clutter, along with her eventual self-clarity, encourages everyone to dig into their past to declutter their future. Year of No Clutter is a deeply inspiring - and frequently hilarious - examination of why we keep stuff in the first place, and how to let it all go. (Audiobook description)