Robert Ludlum's The Bourne Deception: A New Jason Bourne Novel

Eric Van Lustbader, read by Jeremy Davidson. Hachette, abridged, 13 CDs, 15 hrs., $49.98 ISBN 978-1-60024-599-2

Lustbader resurrects Ludlum's hero in this thriller that fails to recapture the intensity of the original but still packs plenty of punches. This time around, Jason Bourne must track down his would-be assassin, but finds himself in the middle of an investigation that could trigger a new world war. Jeremy Davidson brings the novel necessary realism with a range of believable characters. His ability to capture the subtleties of numerous accents and dialects without falling into caricature is commendable. A splendid reading of an otherwise routine action thriller. *A Grand Central hardcover (Reviews, Apr. 6). (June)*

★ The Two-Bear Mambo: A Hap and Leonard Novel

Joe R. Lansdale, read by phil Gigante. Brilliance Audio, unabridged, seven CDs, 8.25 hrs., $29.99 ISBN 978-1-4233-8432-8

In bringing Lansdale's rollicking Edgar Award–winning novel to life, Phil Gigante goes to tremendous lengths to capture the ambience of good-old-boy charm met with darkly comic dysfunction. Unlikely

★ Rocket Men: The Epic Story of the First Men on the Moon

Craig Nelson, read by Richard McGonagle. Penguin Audio, unabridged, 14 CDs, 17 hrs., $39.95 ISBN 978-0-14-314479-3

In commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the moon landing, historian Nelson offers a compelling account of the Apollo 11 mission, creating such an authentic retelling that listeners will find themselves sweating the outcome right until the very moment that Neil Armstrong sets foot on the lunar surface. Richard McGonagle delivers a rich and layered performance as he navigates through the mix of interviews, anecdotes and declassified documents and renders the central figures as endearing and heroic as they were in their heyday. A fascinating and compulsive listening experience. *A Viking hardcover (Reviews, Apr. 20). (June)*

A Flame of Pure Fire: Jack Dempsey and the Roaring '20s

Roger Kahn, read by Kevin Yon. Brilliance, unabridged, 14 CDs, 17.25 hrs., $39.99 ISBN 978-1-4233-7780-1

A decade after its publication, Kahn's sweeping biography of the majestic career of boxing great Jack Dempsey—set against a rollicking backdrop of 1920s America—makes its way to audio. At