First time on CD

Henri Charrière

Papillon

The fascinating autobiography of an innocent man imprisoned in the notorious Devil’s Island prison for a murder he did not commit and his relentless determination to escape.

Henri Charrière, called “Papillon” for the butterfly tattoo on his chest, was convicted in Paris in 1931 of a murder he did not commit. Sentenced to life imprisonment in the penal colony of French Guiana, he became obsessed with one goal: escape. After planning and executing a series of treacherous yet failed attempts over many years, he was eventually sent to the notorious Devil’s Island prison, a place from which no one had ever escaped...until Papillon. His flight to freedom remains one of the most incredible feats of human cunning, will, and endurance ever undertaken.

Charrière’s astonishing autobiography, Papillon, was published in France to instant acclaim in 1968, more than twenty years after his final escape. Since then, it has become a treasured classic—the gripping, shocking, ultimately uplifting odyssey of an innocent man who would not be defeated.

**MARKETING**

- First published in 1969
- Modern Classic

**PRAISE FOR PAPILLON**

“A first-class adventure story.”
—The New York Review of Books

“A modern classic of courage and excitement.”
—Janet Flanner, The New Yorker

“The greatest adventure story of all time.”
—Auguste le Breton

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Henri Charrière (1906–1973) was born in Ardèche, France, and served in the French Navy for two years. In 1931, he was convicted of murder and sentenced to life in prison and ten years of hard labor. Henri finally escaped from prison in 1945 to Venezuela, where he married, settled in Caracas, and opened a restaurant.

Michael Prichard is a professional narrator and stage and film actor who has played several thousand characters during his career. An Audie Award winner, he has recorded well over five hundred books and has earned several AudioFile Earphones Awards. Michael was also named a Top Ten Golden Voice by SmartMoney magazine.

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