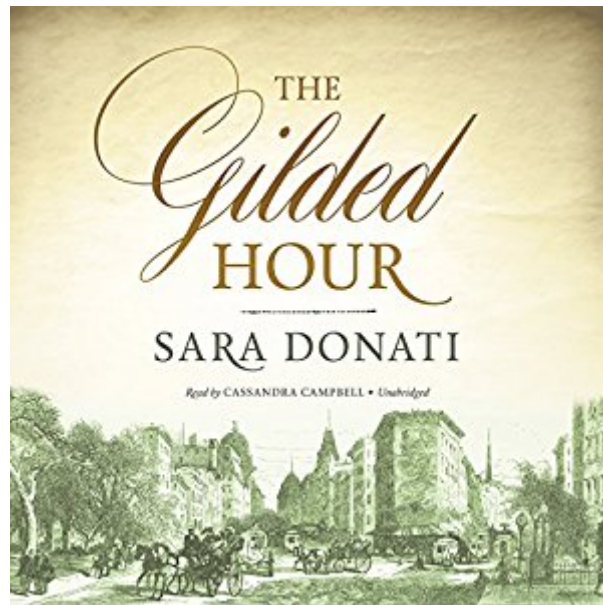


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# The Gilded Hour



## Synopsis

The internationally best-selling author of *Into the Wilderness* makes her highly anticipated return with a remarkable epic about two female doctors in 19th-century New York and the transcendent power of courage and love. The year is 1883, and in New York City it's a time of dizzying splendor, crushing poverty, and tremendous change. With the gravity-defying Brooklyn Bridge nearly complete and New York in the grips of antivice crusader Anthony Comstock, Anna Savard and her cousin, Sophie - both graduates of the Woman's Medical School - treat the city's most vulnerable, even if doing so may put everything they've strived for in jeopardy. Anna's work has placed her in the path of four children who have lost everything, just as she herself once had. Faced with their helplessness, Anna must make an unexpected choice between holding on to the pain of her past and letting love into her life. For Sophie, an obstetrician and the orphaned daughter of free people of color, helping a desperate young mother forces her to grapple with the oath she took as a doctor - and thrusts her and Anna into the orbit of Comstock, a dangerous man who considers himself the enemy of everything indecent and of anyone who dares to defy him. With its vivid depictions of old New York and its enormously appealing characters, *The Gilded Hour* is a captivating, emotionally gripping novel that proves Sara Donati is an author at the height of her powers.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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Audible.com Release Date: September 1, 2015

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

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Best Sellers Rank: #150 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Fiction & Literature > Historical Fiction  
#252 in Books > Romance > Historical > Victorian #382 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Romance

## Customer Reviews

(Thank you Goodreads.com/First Reads for an early reader copy!) I have been a Sara Donati fan for years, her new book, *The Gilded Hour*, is her best yet. As usual, her books are populated by strong

characters, both male and female, and don't hesitate to take on inequities of the time period. Her characters are fully fleshed, and you feel like you know them, yet they are still consistent with the time period of the story. Anna Savard is a fully qualified teaching physician on staff at the New Amsterdam Charity Hospital, where, as a surgeon, she sees the poorest and most desperate patients. Sophie Savard is a free woman of mixed race from New Orleans, cousin to Anna, and also a fully qualified physician who specializes in obstetrics and pediatrics. Both in their twenties, they live with Aunt Quinlan and her adult stepdaughter Margaret. They practice in a time where vaccination is still something new and scary, where birth control can send you to jail, and where women are discriminated and abused in a variety of completely legal ways. Rounding out the cast is Cap Verhoeven, an attorney and childhood playmate of Sophie and Anna's, who suffers from TB, and comes from a family of great wealth. All three of them, Anna, Sophie and Cap, are intelligent, well educated individuals who are aware of injustice and ignorance and do their best to fight it whenever possible. The story starts with Anna going to the docks to vaccinate a large group of Italian orphans. There she meets Jack Mezzanotte, a police detective, who is translating for the orphans. There is chemistry between the two of them immediately, but Anna doesn't seem to know just what kind of chemistry it is. While on the docks, Anna meets a small group of children, Rosa, Lia, Tonino and Vittorio Russo.

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