

June 6 2011

## Vowell, Sarah. Unfamiliar Fishes

With a few notable exceptions (Stephen King, Neil Gaiman, Bill Bryson), I believe authors should not attempt to narrate their own audio books. I mention this because I recently listened to Sarah Vowell's latest book, *Unfamiliar Fishes*. While the content of the book was interesting enough, I became really irritated by the author's reading of it by disk 2. This did not bode well for a favorable review.

Fortunately, I stuck with it and learned a few more things about the history of Hawaii, about its unification, its natives, its first contacts with adventurers and missionaries, and its melting-pot growing pains. Vowell is witty, as always, and doesn't hesitate to include her personal and political viewpoints along the way. Recommended for fans of Vowell, those curious about Hawaiian history, or those in the mood for a serendipitous jaunt through an unfamiliar place.

[Reserve a copy](#)

**RA Blog Categories:**

[Non-Fiction](#)

---

**Source URL:** <https://www.hplibrary.org/bibliofiles/vowell-sarah-unfamiliar-fishes>