



Newsletter of the South Carolina State Library Talking Book Services

Hello, TBS community!

When I joined Talking Book Services, the previous issue of *Connect the Dots* had just come out, and it was a window into TBS and the wonderful work they are doing. I hope the newsletter does the same for you: bringing news about the programs, materials, and innovations aimed at continually improving your experience as a TBS patron.

A little about me: I'm a native of Miami, Florida, but my husband and I, and our two girls, have lived in Columbia since 2000, and we love it here! My favorite place in Columbia is the Riverwalk. I earned my Master's in Library Science at USC, and have always been passionate about serving patrons in the best way possible. After working in schools and on boards, I am excited to serve the whole state of South Carolina!

As you know, TBS is an amazing group of professionals who work hard to provide you, our patrons, with access to great resources and programming. It is a privilege for me to join them in serving you, and I hope you will come along as we discover new ideas and fresh opportunities.

Jennifer Falvey, Director of Talking Book Services

## **Summer Reading Brings Oceans of Possibilities**

Slogans may come and go, but for its residents, Columbia will always be “Famously Hot!” Anyone who has lived through, or visited during, a Columbia summer knows the truth of that statement, so there was no better theme for summer reading this year than Oceans of Possibilities. TBS patrons were on a hot streak as well, with more than 58 patrons reading over 900 hours!

This summer’s program was a lot of fun, but if you missed it, don’t worry—Reader Advisor and Programming Coordinator Amber Sanders is already planning more fun for our Winter Reading Program! Mark your calendars now for January 2023, and start getting your to-be-read list ready; here at TBS, celebrating reading is a year-round endeavor!

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## **The Volunteers Have Entered the Building!**

We are delighted to welcome volunteers back to TBS! So far this spring and summer we have had a variety of helpers, working as narrators and on other projects big and small. In June, volunteers from the SC Commission for the Blind Summer Teen program assisted with a massive digital cartridge recall from the National Library service. Over 2 weeks, in roughly 72 hours, they were able to withdraw, scan, and pack 254 boxes totaling 11,176 cartridges for return to Washington. Wow! They were a wonderful group, and we hope they will come again next year!

Overall, TBS has enjoyed the benefit of more than 214 hours of volunteer assistance so far this year.

# **Two Braille Services Offered by Utah State Library and NLS**

## **eReaders**

The Utah State Library is distributing eReaders from Humanware. If you read braille, you can contact TBS Reader Advisors to submit an application on your behalf. Supplies are limited, but still available! If you currently have an eReader and need assistance or troubleshooting, please contact the Utah State Library for assistance: at (800) 453-4293.

## **Braille Hard Copy Books**

The National Library Service (NLS) is offering a Braille-on-Demand pilot project, allowing active NLS patrons to request and receive one hard-copy braille title per month, which they can keep. Titles are limited to books currently available on BARD, and only complete titles are offered.

Patrons may complete the request form themselves or contact the Reader Advisors for assistance at (800) 922-7818 or (803) 734-4611. The link for the request form is

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NLSbrailleondemand>.

## **On the Road Again**

This summer, the TBS team has been delighted to make outreach visits in person again! This June, Reader Advisor and Assistive Technology Coordinator Allie Lovette traveled to the South Carolina School for the Deaf and Blind to speak to future VI teachers. Of the visit, Lovette said, "After years of Zoom trainings, it was lovely to be interacting in person again! It was also much easier to give hands-on training with our players and assistive technology petting zoo equipment versus holding it up to a camera." The teachers learned about Talking Book Services and enjoyed hands-on time with the Assistive Technology Petting Zoo.

Reader Advisor and Volunteer Coordinator Naomi Bradey also had the chance to get out into the community when she connected with a local Multiple Sclerosis support group at the Richland Library's Northeast branch. Bradey shared information about the audiobook program, as well as resources such as large print books, descriptive videos, and the ongoing summer reading program. After sharing the latest program updates, and demonstrating how easy the service is to use, she was able to help two patrons reactivate their service. Bradey says that it was a fun and informative visit, "plus they got some good freebies!"

TBS looks forward to meeting with many more patrons over the coming year! If you know of a community organization that would benefit from a visit by the TBS team, to talk about Talking Book Services, BARD, or the Assistive Technology Petting Zoo, call our Reader Advisors for more information at (800) 922-7818 or (803) 734-4611

## **Recording Studio Update**

The TBS recording studio is once again buzzing with activity, as many volunteers return to help record local magazines and books for our patrons. Studio manager Robert Clayton, who was introduced in the last Newsletter, has been hard at work with new projects, including two new local magazines and two books by South Carolina authors:

### **Gertie: The Fabulous Life of Gertrude Sanford Legendre, Heiress, Explorer, Socialite, Spy, by Kathryn Smith**

Gertrude Sanford Legendre was a woman whose adventurous life spanned the twentieth century, beginning in Aiken, S.C. in 1902 and ending at her plantation outside Charleston in 2000. Her adventures included being the first American woman in uniform held as a POW by the Germans during World War II. She also lounged on the Riviera with celebrities in the 1920s and went on challenging hunting expeditions. In her later years, she fought for habitat preservation on the South Carolina coast, leaving her 7,000-acre plantation as a wildlife refuge.

### **Manny, the Major, and the Teef, by Jack McIntosh**

As World War II breaks out in Europe, a brokenhearted boy arrives in Charleston, his family splintered by a tobacco barn fire that killed his mother and cost the family farm. In the years that follow, Tee McLauren will be transformed from a rule-breaking "teef" — which is almost indistinguishable from being a "thief" — into a fine young man, thanks to a remarkable group of unlikely friends.

Call a Reader Advisor to request: (800) 922-7818, or (803) 734-4611

## **New Descriptive DVD Titles Available**

Below are new DVD movie titles available for checkout by blind and visually handicapped patrons. Call a Reader Advisor to request: 803-734-4611

DW01044 DUNE (SCIENCE FICTION/DRAMA)

DW01058 SPIDER MAN: NO WAY HOME (SUPER HEROES)

DW01009 JUNGLE CRUISE (FAMILY/COMEDY)

DW01010 FREE GUY (SCIENCE FICTION/COMEDY)

DW01011 SHANG-CHI AND THE LEGEND OF THE TEN RINGS

DW01012 RESPECT (BIOGRAPHY/MUSIC)

DW01014 REMINISCENCE (SCIENCE FICTION/DRAMA)

DW01019 COPSHOP (ACTION/SUSPENSE)

DW01026 DEAR EVAN HANSEN (MUSICAL)

DW01034 THE KING'S MAN (ACTION/COMEDY/DRAMA)

DW01035 ETERNALS (SUPERHEROES)

DW01036 BELFAST (DRAMA)

DW01043 ENCANTO (FAMILY/MUSIC)

DW01045 WEST SIDE STORY (MUSICAL/DRAMA)

DW01048 KING RICHARD (BIOGRAPHY/DRAMA)

DW01049 THE 355 (ACTION/SUSPENSE)

DW01051 HOUSE OF GUCCI (DRAMA)

DW01052 HALLOWEEN KILLS (EXTENDED CUT) (HORROR)

DW01053 GHOSTBUSTERS: AFTERLIFE (SCIENCE FICTION/COMEDY)

DW01059 DEATH ON THE NILE (MYSTERY/DRAMA)

# 10 Questions with TBS:

(Chocolate milk or regular? Inquiring minds want to know!)

## Allie Lovette: Reader Advisor

1. How long have you been a Reader Advisor?

**I started with Talking Book Services in 2017. I became a Reader Advisor Assistant in 2018 and a full Reader Advisor in 2019.**

2. What is your favorite thing about being a Reader Advisor?

**I love being able to help people have access to reading. My brother is dyslexic and used this service when we were growing up, so I have seen firsthand how truly incredible it can be!**

3. Who is your favorite celebrity?

**Robin Williams and Lucille Ball**

4. Are you from South Carolina?

**No, I am actually originally from New Jersey. I have also lived in Washington D.C., Maryland, Virginia, Florida, and North Carolina.**

5. Dogs or cats (or something else)?

**Has to be dogs or my yellow lab will not be happy! Sadly, I am quite allergic to cats.**

6. Beach, lake, or mountains?

**Beach! My husband and I dream of moving to the coast someday.**

7. Carolina or Clemson?

**I have to say Carolina since I got my MLIS from UofSC this spring! Go Gamecocks!**

8. If you could be any animal, which would you be?

**A giraffe**

9. Have you ever read a banned book? Which one?

**Of course! Many actually. The Harry Potter series, 1984, the Hunger Games series, A Brave New World, The Diary of Anne Frank, the Bible, the Giver, and The Catcher in the Rye.... Just to name a few!**

10. What is one place outside the U.S. you've visited, and one you want to visit?

**I love to travel and have been to four of the seven continents, my goal is to go to all of them! I have been to Australia, Canada, the Bahamas, the Virgin Islands, England, Ireland, France, Italy, Spain, Monaco, Tunisia, Switzerland, and Mallorca. Poland, Iceland, Antarctica, and Brazil are at the top of my list for the future.**

**And one more for luck!**

11. Are you a morning or a night person?

**For sure a night owl. It is a shame that my two boys and my husband all seem to be early birds!**



## **New Large Print Titles**

To request any of these new large print books, please call Talking Book Services at 1-800-922-7818 or email your requests to [TBSBooks@statelibrary.sc.gov](mailto:TBSBooks@statelibrary.sc.gov). A list of all the new large print books received this year is also available.

### **Non-Fiction:**

- LP 24187 Killing the mob: the fight against organized crime in America by Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard (U.S. History)
- LP 24188 Countdown 1945 the extraordinary story of the 16 days that changed the world by Chris Wallace (U.S. History)
- LP 24265 Queen of our times: the life of Queen Elizabeth II by Robert Hardman (history/biography)
- LP 24274 The book of hope: a survival guide for trying times by Jane Goodall (biography)
- LP 24285 Will by Will Smith and Mark Manson (biography)
- LP 24287 Three girls from Bronzeville: a uniquely American memoir of race, fate, and sisterhood (African American history)
- LP 24288 Be Joyful: 50 days to defeat the things that try to defeat you by Joyce Meyer (inspirational)
- LP 24289 Mission possible: go create a life that counts by Tim Tebow (self-help)
- LP 24297 Chasing history: a kid in the newsroom by Carl Bernstein (biography)
- LP 24299 The Churchill sisters: the extraordinary lives of Winston and Clementine's daughters (biography)
- LP 24306 Killing the Killers by Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard (U.S history)

**Fiction:**

LP 24205 Never by Ken Follett (spy story)

LP 24206 Over my dead body by Jeffrey Archer (British mystery)

LP 24217 The lady has a past by Amanda Quick (suspense)

LP 24220 Murder on the Serpentine by Anne Perry (historical mystery)

LP 24223 Bitter pill by Fern Michaels (mystery)

LP 24228 Robert B. Parker's Revelation (western)

LP 24232 Legacy by Nora Roberts (romance)

LP 24235 The stepsisters by Susan Mallery (family story)

LP 24248 Dark tides by Philippa Gregory (historical fiction)

LP 24264 The Shop on Royal Street by Karen White (mystery)

LP 24266 Run, Rose, run by Dolly Parton and James Patterson (mystery)

LP 24271 Abandoned in death by J.D. Robb (mystery)

LP 24276 The match by Harlan Coben (mystery)

LP 24283 A season of change by Beth Wiseman (Christian fiction)

LP 24284 High Stakes by Danielle Steel (romance)

LP 24286 Winter Garden by Kristin Hannah (family saga)

LP 24290 Killing in a Koi pond by Jessica Fletcher (cozy mystery)

## **New Local Magazine Titles Available**

We are pleased to announce that SC TBS has added two new magazines to the local titles available to our patrons. The list of available locally-recorded titles now includes:

**South Carolina Wildlife** – Focused on the state and its environment, each issue features stories about SCDNR conservation efforts, “as well as many general interest articles about plants and animals, outdoor recreation, hiking, hunting, fishing, boating, state history, and more.”

**Columbia Metropolitan** – Called “the city magazine for the capital of South Carolina,” this magazine covers the Midlands region as well as covering information and stories appealing to all South Carolina residents.

**The Southern Edge** – Published by the South Carolina National Heritage Corridor, this magazine is for “the spirited and sophisticated reader who is passionate about the culture, lifestyle, business and enrichment of the Palmetto State. Inspired by modern living, yet rooted in rich tradition, we are dedicated to celebrating and showcasing the best of life in the South.”

All three magazines are available via subscription and will be delivered to you on a digital cartridge. Call a Reader Advisor today to sign up!

(800) 922-7818 or (803) 734-4611

## Reading List a Bit Ho-Hum? Try a New Genre!

Summer is a time for adventure—so why not step outside your usual reading zone and try something new? Here are some new titles to try from the May-June Talking Book Topics:

**Mystery: Murder in Season DB102636** 8 hours 31 minutes;

by Jessica Fletcher, read by Laural Merlington

Two sets of bones dated centuries apart are found on Jessica Fletcher's property, which sparks an investigation into a mystery that has long plagued Cabot Cove. Jessica must hurry to solve yet another murder, or this Christmas may be her last. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2020.

**Historical: The Stolen Lady: A Novel of World War II and the Mona**

**Lisa DB106703** 13 hours 12 minutes; by Laura Morelli, read by various narrators

In 1939, Anne works at the Louvre, racing to pack up the museum's art treasures—including the *Mona Lisa*. In 15th-century Italy, Leonardo da Vinci is commissioned to paint a portrait of Lisa, the wife of a silk trader, while Lisa's servant Bellina is caught up in a plot against the Medicis. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2021.

**Romance: The Bookstore on the Beach DB103241** 12 hours 41

minutes; by Brenda Novak, read by Amy McFadden

Eighteen months ago, Autumn Divac's husband went missing. With her two teenage children, Autumn goes home for the summer to the charming beachside town where she was raised. She seeks comfort working alongside her mother and aunt at their bookshop and runs into the man she once loved. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2021.

**Sports: Ring Lardner: Stories & Other Writings DB104573** 37 hours 42 minutes; by Ring Lardner, read by Ryan Dalusung  
Collection of stories, newspaper articles, plays, letters, and more from one of the most popular writers of the Jazz Age. Most known for his sports writing, this collection includes the novel *You Know Me Al*, about an egotistical baseball pitcher. 2013.

**Fantasy: The Swallowed Man DB102492** 4 hours 14 minutes; by Edward Carey, read by Edward Carey  
In this reimagining of the Pinocchio story, Geppetto reflects on fatherhood, loss, pride, regret, and the strange events of his life during the years he spends within the belly of a sea beast. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2020.

**Science Fiction: Klara and the Sun DB102764** 10 hours 19 minutes; by Kazuo Ishiguro, read by Sura Siu  
Klara, an Artificial Friend, possesses great observational skills and loves to watch the humans around her. When she is purchased to act as a companion for an ill girl, she studies the emotions of her new family closely and tries to learn from them. Unrated. Commercial audio-book. 2021.

**Contemporary: The Joy and Light Bus Company DB105926** 8 hours 11 minutes; by Alexander McCall Smith, read by Bianca Amato  
Mma Ramotswe and Mma Makutsi are worried when their friend Mr. Matekoni is being encouraged to mortgage his property to pursue a new business endeavor. Meanwhile, a client is concerned his elderly father is being taken advantage of when he learns his father has changed his will. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2021.

**Talking Book Services**  
South Carolina State Library  
1500 Senate Street  
Columbia SC 29201

FREE MATTER FOR  
THE BLIND  
OR HANDICAPPED

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**2022 Holiday Closings:**

**September 5** –  
Labor Day

**November 11** –  
Veteran’s Day

**November 24** –  
Thanksgiving Day

**December 26** –  
Christmas Day (observed)

**December 30** –  
New Year’s Eve

**January 2, 2023** – New  
Year’s Day (observed)

Connect the Dots is available in print and audio formats.

1-800-922-7818 or (803)-734-4611  
tbsbooks@statelibrary.sc.gov  
sctalkingbook.org

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