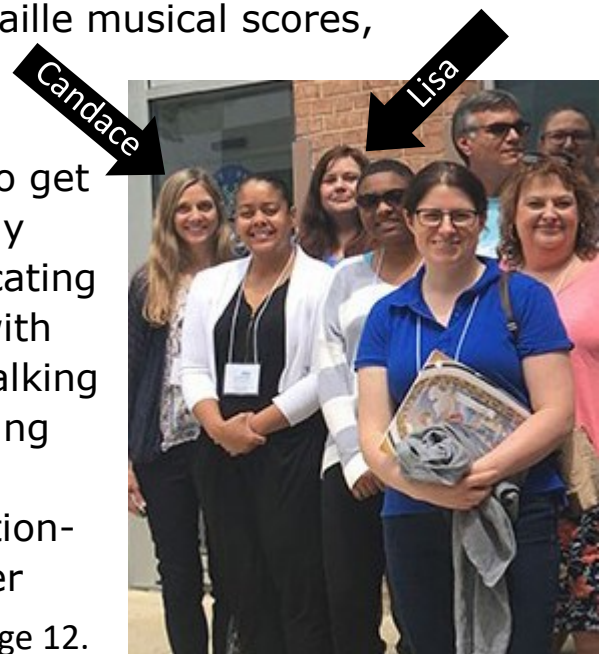


Idaho TBS Staff Visit the Nation's Capital

This spring, Idaho Talking Book Service (TBS) Customer Service Representatives (CSRs) Candace and Lisa traveled to Washington, D.C. to attend an orientation at the National Library Service (NLS) for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

Since 1931, the NLS has supported blind, visually impaired, and other print-disabled individuals through its network of libraries, which includes the Idaho TBS. For those libraries, the NLS acquires, produces, and distributes audio books and magazines, playback equipment, braille materials, catalogs and other publications, as well as publicity and marketing materials. The NLS also: develops new products and services, such as the Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD); circulates materials for the NLS overseas program; and manages and circulates materials in the music collection, such as musical instruction and appreciation books, large-print and braille musical scores, and music magazines and lead sheets.

Candace and Lisa met with the NLS staff to get an up close look at the agency's day-to-day operation. They learned more about duplicating books on demand and BARD, networked with staff members and librarians from other Talking Book Libraries, and visited the NLS recording studio while books were being narrated. Candace and Lisa also met with the collection-development staff to discuss ways to better serve their Idaho patrons. Continued on Page 12.



Satisfaction Survey Results (part 2)

Initial results of the TBS's 2019 Satisfaction Survey were shared in the Spring 2019 issue of the "TBS Connections" newsletter. In this issue, we address a topic frequently commented upon by the survey respondents regarding the types of books they receive. Some survey respondents indicated concerns with the presence of strong language, violence, and/or sexual content in the books they receive. Any one of these ratings -- or all three -- may be chosen as an exclusion by the TBS user.

However, TBS users should be aware that the National Library Service (NLS), which provides the majority of the books Idaho TBS users receive, has recently begun contracting with commercial recording companies to record many of the titles distributed by the NLS. And, although this arrangement is saving the NLS money and speeding up the recording process (so TBS users can enjoy best-sellers even sooner, for example), these commercially recorded titles are unrated for content such as strong language, violence, and/or sexual material. So, there is the possibility a TBS user could receive an unrated, commercially recorded book that contains content that they chose to exclude, such as violence, because the book is unrated.

If the TBS user does receive a title with content they find objectionable, they may simply return the book. Or, if the user does not want to risk receiving a title with content they have chosen to exclude, their account can be amended to also exclude unrated books. This additional exclusion would greatly limit the number of titles that would be available for that user. TBS users may indicate other preferences, such as: if they do not want to receive books of a certain length (very long or short books); a particular reading level (adult, young adult, or juvenile); the narrator's gender (male or female); or a foreign accent.

The TBS Customer Service Representatives can help tailor the service to best meet your needs, such as excluding books with strong language, violence, and/or sexual content or personalizing the service in some other way. Give them a call at 1-800-458-3271 and see how we can better serve you.

Marrakesh Treaty in Effect

It is estimated that less than 10 percent of published works are available in formats accessible to those unable to read standard print due to a visual or other physical disability. That is why it is so noteworthy and exciting that the United States has officially become a party to the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled.

On February 8, 2019, the United States joined 48 other countries and the 28-member European Union in ratifying the treaty. Under the treaty, it will be easier for organizations, such as the National Library Service, to receive from and share books in accessible formats with other signatory countries. This should increase the diversity of materials available to those in many countries.

The treaty became U.S. law on May 9, 2019, but the implementation details are still being finalized. Idaho Senator James Risch, chair of the Committee on Foreign Relations, was a strong advocate for the treaty when it was discussed and approved in that committee.

For more on the Marrakesh Treaty, visit: <https://www.wipo.int/treaties/en/ip/marrakesh/>.

Talking Book Service
10² Club



Our centenarian joining the Ten-Squared Club is:

Fay Dansie

who has read more than 3,000 books
since joining the TBS program.

Rachel Recommends . . .

Idaho Talking Book Service Customer Service Representative Rachel recommends the following titles for great summer reads.

Rachel says, "With the long, lazy days of summer upon us, it is an excellent time to kick back with a juicy page turner. I've gathered together a couple of books that are so fun you won't want to do anything but relax and listen until the explosive end!"

"Crazy Rich Asians" is the first book in a trilogy by Kevin Kwan about a nice, normal, middle-class Asian American NYU economics professor who falls for a man who she doesn't realize comes from the richest, most influential family in Singapore. When he invites her to join him on a trip home to attend his best friend's wedding, which just so happens to be the social event of the year, she has no idea what she is in for. Jealous old girlfriends, back-stabbing family members, and enough drama to keep you riveted. It's a fun and funny read with a heart of gold!

Bestseller. 2013. Strong language and some descriptions of sex. DB77099

"The Last Mrs. Parrish" by Liv Constantine will take the reader in a different, and much darker, direction than "Crazy Rich Asians." This suspense novel is so full of twisting deception that by the end, you might need a vacation from your vacation. In "The Last Mrs. Parrish," Amber Patterson is tired of being a nobody. She wants a life of money and power -- like the one socialite and philanthropist Daphne Parrish takes for granted. Amber's plan to insinuate herself into Daphne's life works wonderfully, until a skeleton from her past threatens everything. Commercial audiobook. 2018. Some strong language, violence, and descriptions of sex. DB91636

Both books are available through the Idaho Talking Book Service. We are also more than happy to help you look for books in these or other genres, just give us a call at 800-458-3271.

TBS Order Form

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

To order any of the books from this newsletter, write your name and address in the space indicated above, and mark on the line(s) next to the identification number of the title(s) you want.

Then, mail the form (pages 5 through 8). Postage is not required.

These titles are also available for download from BARD.

To register for BARD, call the Talking Book Service at 1-800-458-3271 or visit: <http://NLSbard.loc.gov>.

"All the Way to Second Street: A Memoir"

Author: Nancy Casey

Adult Nonfiction

Read By: Kris Query

It is 1980. Nancy is a 28-year-old Catholic wife, living in a suburb of Detroit. Doing what she's been told has brought her academic honors, a dress-for-success career, and marriage to a man whom everyone loves. Yet Nancy feels trapped; she wants more. She moves out of her brick house and heads west. In Boulder, Colorado, Nancy meets Robb, an artist. Together, they join the back-to-the-land movement. Her family condemns her. Her friends shake their heads. She vows to write down every detail, so they will understand the importance of embracing radical simplicity and perhaps join her. This is a chronicle of survival skills and personal growth, an odyssey through the unexpected. You will visit a little-examined period in Idaho history through the voice of Nancy's journal and letters. You will stay with Nancy until she lands in a small house located on Second Street in an Idaho town, where she lives as a single mother. Strong language.

_____ **DBC00947**

2011

10 hours, 33 minutes

(Continued on page 6.)

TBS Order Form

(Continued from page 5.)

Recommendations from Taylor (page 11)

"The Great Gatsby"

Adult Fiction

Author: F. Scott Fitzgerald

Read By: David Hartley-Margolin

The glitter and recklessness of the Jazz Age is the backdrop for this novel about Jay Gatsby's desperate attempt to recapture the past, and along with it, the love of Daisy Buchanan. Amid extravagant parties at Gatsby's palatial estate, his neighbor narrates the story of his obsession with the American dream.

_____ **DB55714**

1953

4 hours, 56 minutes

"The Book of Lies"

Young Adult Fiction

Author: Teri Terry

Read By: Colleen Prendergast

Separated at birth, twin girls are brought together after their mother's untimely death. Soon they are drawn into a family curse that stretches across centuries and foretells more death. Commercial audiobook. For senior high and older readers.

_____ **DB92776**

2016

9 hours, 17 minutes

"I Hate Myselfie: a Collection of Essays"

Adult Fiction

Author: Shane Dawson

Read By: Gregory Gorton

YouTube sensation Dawson documents his life online. He serves up personal history with this collection of 18 humorous essays about his childhood, awkward adolescence, and unfulfilling employment opportunities. Strong language and descriptions of sex.

_____ **DB81479**

2015

4 hours, 55 minutes

(Continued on page 7.)

TBS Order Form

(Continued from page 6.)

Recommendations from Rachel (page 4)

"Crazy Rich Asians"

Adult Fiction

Author: Kevin Kwan

Read By: Mary Kane

Nicholas Young brings his girlfriend Rachel Chu home to Singapore to meet his wealthy family. But Rachel finds herself unable to cope with his rich and spiteful relatives -- especially his mother. Strong language and some descriptions of sex. Bestseller.

_____ **DB77099**

2013

14 hours, 9 minutes

"The Last Mrs. Parrish: a Novel"

Adult Fiction

Authors: Liv Constantine

Read By: Suzanne Elise Freeman

Amber Patterson is tired of being a nobody. She deserves more -- a life of money and power like the one socialite and philanthropist Daphne Parrish takes for granted. Amber's plan to insinuate herself into Daphne's life works wonderfully, until a skeleton from her past threatens everything. Unrated. Commercial audiobook.

_____ **DB91636**

2018

12 hours, 2 minutes

Magazines

The National Library Service (NLS) distributes more than 70 popular magazines directly to TBS users. Available in both audio and braille formats, the magazines cover a variety of topics, and publication frequency ranges from weekly to several times a year.

_____ Request a list of magazines published by the National Library Service (NLS)

After submitting a magazine request, it typically takes a few weeks for the first issue to arrive. All NLS magazines are also available for download from the Braille and Audio Recording Download (BARD).

You may also submit your request for audio magazine titles here:

<https://form.jotform.com/icfl/TBSAudioMags>.

Braille titles may be requested here:

<https://form.jotform.com/61867278352971>.

(Continued on page 8.)

Idaho Talking Book Service
Idaho Commission for Libraries
325 W. State Street
Boise, ID 83702-6055

**FREE MATTER for the
BLIND or HANDICAPPED**



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Boise, ID 83702-6055**

For assistance, or to comment about the Idaho Talking Book Service, please call **1-800-458-3271**, weekdays, from 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., MT.

To order this newsletter on cartridge:

_____ "Connections: Idaho Talking Book Service News" on Cartridge

To order this newsletter in braille:

_____ "Connections: Idaho Talking Book Service News" in braille

For a podcast, PDF, or to subscribe to this newsletter via email, visit: <https://libraries.idaho.gov/tbs>. To download this newsletter via the online catalog, search: "Connections, Idaho Talking Book Service News."

NASA-Themed Reading Lists

In honor of the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing, Wolfner Library, Jefferson City, Missouri, shared two recommended reading lists about NASA and its history. To access, visit:

Adult list -- <https://www.sos.mo.gov/wolfner/themedlists/NASA50thMoonLanding>

Youth list -- <https://www.sos.mo.gov/wolfner/readings/youth/nasa50thmoonlanding>

Recent Donations to the Idaho Talking Book Service (through mid-July 2019)

General Donations:

Bobby and Esther Bopp

Jerome Evans

Roxie Fager

Melicia Friel

Robert & Barbara Grabowski

Christine Haggerty

Margaret Mortensen

George Paxton

Bill & Judy Purdom

Gwenlee Riedel

Ann Weigle

Memorial Donations:

Linda Carter in memory of Helen Grant

John & Rosemary Forster in memory of Harriet Wilkerson

Donations are used to enhance the Idaho Talking Book Service and are fully tax deductible, as allowed by law. Acknowledgements are sent to donors and honorees, so please include the name and address of all those to be notified.

Make checks payable to the Idaho Commission for Libraries and mail to:
Idaho Talking Book Service
325 W. State Street
Boise, ID 83702

Credit card donations may be made online from the Idaho Commission for Libraries' website: <https://libraries.idaho.gov/donations/>. Or, from the homepage, click on the "Support Your Library" button.

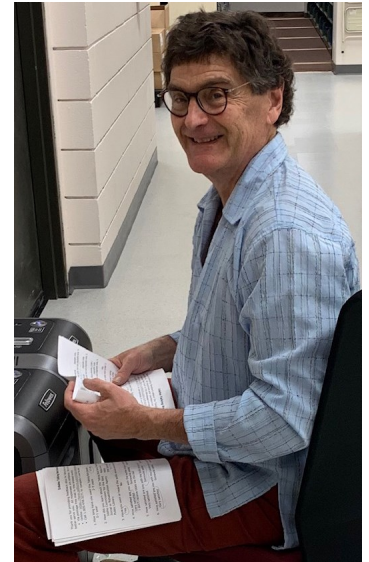
Our sincere thanks to all who give so generously.

ICfL's Interns

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) administers the Idaho Talking Book Service (TBS). To assist the agency in its work, the assistance of volunteers and interns are utilized.

In February 2019, Nick Casner joined the ICfL as an intern through Experience Works, which is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to improve the quality of life for older adults through training, community service, and employment. Nick has worked on various TBS-related projects, including compiling the data from the 2019 TBS Satisfaction Survey.

Nick was born and raised in Boise and was a professor of history at Boise State University. Nick enjoys volunteering and knowing that he is helping to make his community a better place. Nick also likes dancing, cooking, and serving his two cats (who rule the household).



Nick Casner

This summer, the ICfL utilized the help of another intern, Taylor Harker, who was placed through the Summer Work Experience Program (SWEP). Every summer, the Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired offers this program to blind and visually impaired students, who are 16 to 21 years of age.



Taylor Harker

Idaho students come together in Boise for the summer and live together in a supervised dormitory environment. They experience paid employment, enjoy some of Idaho's best recreational activities, and meet new people. This program assists participants in developing the skills and confidence necessary to live and work on their own as adults.

Continued on Page 11.

ICfL's Interns

Continued from Page 10.

While at the ICfL, Taylor designed the photo layout for the agency's "volunteer appreciation wall" and hung the photos. She also worked on some operating procedures for the TBS.

Taylor is from Idaho Falls and will begin her senior year of high school in the fall. The last book Taylor read was "It Gets Worse" by Shane Dawson. This book is not currently available through the TBS, but "I Hate Myselfie," another collection of essays by Shane Dawson, is available (DB81479).

Taylor's favorite books are "The Great Gatsby" by F. Scott Fitzgerald (DB55714) and "Slated" by Teri Terry. "Slated" is not available through the TBS, but "The Book of Lies" by Teri Terry is available (DB92776).

The Reading Railroad by Margaret Pettis

This poem was written by Margaret Pettis, one of the scholars of the Idaho Commission for Libraries' Let's Talk About It program.



I looked up from the page.
That last sentence carried me
like a train through the night,
slowing in the mist to the last stop,
a dark place where I dropped
my satchel off the last iron step
and found around me cajoling
strangers and windows steamy
from the lives of characters
who gestured to join them
and took me willingly
on another adventure
into my own head.
Or so I read.



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**FREE MATTER for the
BLIND or HANDICAPPED**



This project was made possible, in part, by the
Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Customer service representatives (CSRs) are available to assist TBS patrons, **Monday through Friday**, from **8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., MT**, except State of Idaho holidays, two staff training days per year, and from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m., MT, on Thursdays, when the CSRs are in a meeting. Calls during that time on Thursdays will be delivered to voicemail. Visitors to the TBS office in Boise cannot be assisted during that time, either.

208-334-2150 / 800-458-3271

Idaho TBS Staff Visit the Nation's Capital

Continued from Cover Page.

In addition, Candace and Lisa heard about future enhancements for the Talking Book Service, such as the development of a voice user interface that would play books on a home device such as Alexa or Google Home. This development would allow patrons to use BARD even if they don't have or use a computer. For patrons who do not have internet access, solutions were discussed that would allow for wireless devices to download from BARD via public cellular systems.