

BARD Basics

The Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) is a free library service provided by the National Library Service (NLS) in partnership with its network of cooperating libraries, including the Idaho Talking Book Service (TBS).

BARD consists of downloadable braille and audio reading material that is available for U.S. residents who are unable to read or use standard print material because of visual or physical disabilities.

Patrons of the Idaho TBS qualify to use BARD.

NLS-produced books are added to BARD as soon as they meet rigorous quality checks. Books submitted by other agencies, like the Idaho TBS, are also added to the collection. In 2020, there were more than 116,000 books available for download from BARD. Music books and magazines are also included in the collection.

To download from BARD, an account with a password will need to be set up.

To register for BARD, visit: <https://nlsbard.loc.gov/nlsbardprod/support/applicationinstructions/NLS>.

After logging into your account, titles can be downloaded to a computer. All files are downloadable as compressed audio or formatted e-braille files.

BARD Basics

Continued from cover page.

Once a title has been downloaded to a computer, it can then be saved to a TBS cartridge and listened to with the TBS player, just like the cartridges sent out by the Idaho TBS. To do this, unzip the folder that was downloaded to your computer; then copy the unzipped folder to your TBS cartridge or a flash (thumb) drive.

For more about BARD, visit: <https://www.loc.gov/nls/braille-audio-reading-materials/>. Additional support can be found here: <https://www.loc.gov/nls/enrollment-equipment/technical-help-with-bard-nls-equipment/>.

For greater details about BARD, including how to download content, consult the "Frequently Asked Questions" page: <https://www.loc.gov/nls/braille-audio-reading-materials/bard-access/nls-bard-frequently-asked-questions/>.

Or contact the Idaho TBS at 208-334-2150 or 800-458-3271 for assistance.

New International TBS Content Coming

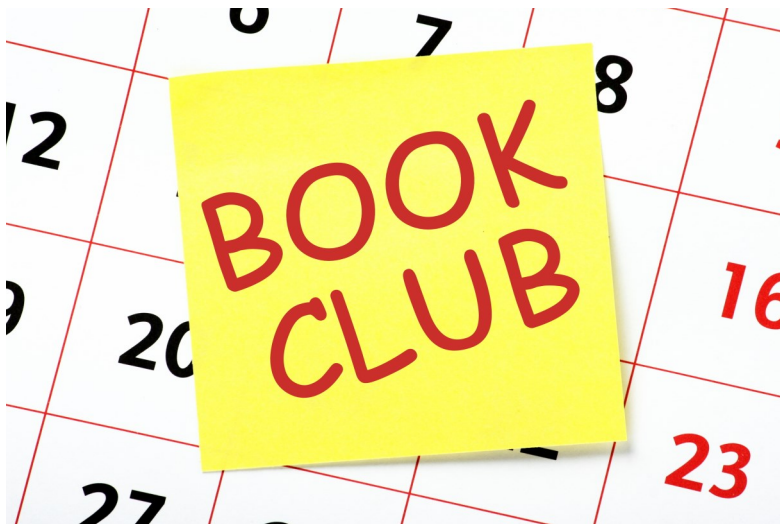
The Idaho Talking Book Service (TBS) staff recently attended a virtual conference by the National Library Service (NLS). The NLS provided an update about the Marrakesh Treaty, which aims to improve the availability and cross-border exchanges of certain works and other protected subject matter in accessible formats for persons who are blind, visually impaired, or otherwise print-disabled.

The Treaty has given the NLS access to more than 650,000 international titles from 40 participating countries. The NLS is working on procedures for adding this new material to the TBS collection.



TBS Book Club Starting in August

Would you like to discuss books and share ideas with other patrons of the Idaho Talking Book Service (TBS)? If so, the new TBS Book Club may be for you!



Participating in the book club will be easy -- the only technology you will need is a telephone.

TBS will supply the toll-free number for you to use to join the conference call.

The first TBS Book Club meeting will be held on Wednesday, **August 11, 2021**, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., MDT.

The book to be discussed at the first meeting will be "Educated" by Tara Westover. You can easily order "Educated" on page 7 of this newsletter or request it from a TBS customer service representative (CSR). Be sure to let the CSR know you are ordering a book for the book club to ensure the title gets to you as soon as possible.

All participants will need to RSVP for the TBS book club, which you can do by calling a CSR at 208-334-2150 or 800-458-3271. Afterwards, you will be provided with the book club conference line phone number.

Why don't you plan to join the discussion? Because the book club will use a call-in format, you can participate from anywhere -- even if you're relaxing by an Idaho lake or staycationing in your own backyard.

Update -- Book Title List on Cartridges

Thank you for being patient as the TBS staff continue to work through challenges associated with putting the list of book titles on the high-capacity scribe cartridges. We know you want the book list on your cartridges, and staff hope to have the problems with this feature resolved very soon. We want to do it right the first time and give you the best possible option.

In the meantime, if you have questions and/or need help, please call the TBS customer service representatives (CSRs). They are available weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., MT.

The "bookshelf" feature is another option for navigating through multiple titles on a cartridge to find out what those titles are. The CSRs are always happy to help you with the "bookshelf" feature. And here are some instructions for using it if you want to try it on your own.

To use the "bookshelf" feature:

- Insert the cartridge into your player;
- Hold down the "play/stop" button (the square button in the middle) until your player beeps and says "bookshelf mode";
- Now, use the "forward" (right arrow button just to the right of the square "play/stop" button) and "rewind" (left arrow button just to the left of the square "play/stop" button) arrow buttons to navigate through the titles on the cartridge;
- Remember to press and release the "forward" and "rewind" buttons instead of holding them down;
- When your player announces the title of the book you want to read, press the "play/stop" button to listen to that book.



TBS Order Form

(Continued from page 5.)

"Behold the Dreamers"

Adult Fiction

Author: Imbolo Mbue

Read By: Prentice Onayemi

Cameroonian immigrants Jende and Neni Jonga are living in Harlem with their 6-year-old son. Jende is hired as a chauffeur for a Lehman Brothers executive, and they feel like their future is secure. But secrets abound that threaten their marriage. Some violence. Unabridged edition. Commercial audiobook.

_____ **DB085537**

2016

12 hours, 16 minutes

"The Secret Life of Bees"

Adult Fiction

Author: Sue Monk Kidd

Read By: Robin Miles

South Carolina, 1964. Fourteen-year-old Lily rescues her African American housekeeper, and substitute mother, Rosaleen, from the hospital. Rosaleen had been beaten for trying to register to vote. They flee to a safe place where Lily's battered late mother had also fled -- a beekeeping operation run by three black sisters. Some strong language.

_____ **DB055533**

2002

10 hours, 16 minutes

"Plainsong"

Adult Fiction

Author: Kent Haruf

Read By: Jim Zeiger

Life in the small town of Holt, Colorado, includes a high school teacher caring for his two young sons as his wife leaves him. His coworker, later his lover, convinces two old rancher brothers to take in an outcast pregnant student. Some strong language and some descriptions of sex. Bestseller.

_____ **DB049056**

1999

9 hours, 6 minutes

(Continued on page 7.)

TBS Order Form

(Continued from page 6.)

"And Then There Were None"

Adult Fiction

Author: Agatha Christie

Read By: Burt Blackwell

Ten oddly assorted people find themselves the houseguests of an invisible host who slowly begins killing them one by one.

_____ **DB011077**

1940

6 hours, 13 minutes

"Maisie Dobbs: A Novel"

Adult Fiction

Author: Jacqueline Winspear

Read By: Jill Fox

Thirteen-year-old Maisie is lucky to be a maid in the home of a wealthy London suffragette who sees to her education. Maisie becomes a private investigator in 1929 after serving as a nurse during the Great War. Her first case involves a shelter for wounded veterans. First book in the Maisie Dobbs Mystery series.

_____ **DB067808**

2003

9 hours, 28 minutes

TBS Book Club (More info on page 3.)

"Educated"

Adult Nonfiction

Author: Tara Westover

Read By: Julia Whelan

Memoir exploring the author's path from being raised in a fundamentalist, paranoid Mormon family where she was homeschooled, to eventually working her way to graduate degrees from Cambridge and Harvard. Discusses hardships faced by the family, abuse at the hands of a sibling, and more. Strong language, some violence. Commercial audiobook.

_____ **DB090188**

2018

12 hours, 13 minutes

(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**



**Idaho Talking Book Service
Idaho Commission for Libraries
325 W. State Street
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."

Rebecca's Recent Reads:

"The Book of Longings"

_____ **DB099652**

"The Awakening"

_____ **DB101360**

"Mexican Gothic"

_____ **DB099404**

Page 12:

_____ **DB066787**

_____ **DB093882**

_____ **DB083412**

_____ **DB087341**

_____ **DB071540**

More info on pages 9 & 12.

Rebecca's Recent Reads

By TBS Customer Service Representative Rebecca McKay

I have just finished these three books and highly recommend them to anyone wanting to get lost in a different world. Whether its 0 AD Israel, modern day Ireland, or 1950s Mexico, these books come to life with gorgeous imagery and fantastic characters. (Order any of these books on page 8 of this newsletter.)

"The Book of Longings"

Adult Fiction

Author: Sue Monk Kidd

Read By: Mozhan Marnò

Ana has struggled her life to become educated. When her family tries to force her engagement to a much older man, a chance encounter with Jesus changes the course of her life, and they marry. But their lives are upended further by her brother Judas's treasonous actions. No exclusions. Commercial audiobook. Bestseller.

2020

13 hours, 29 minutes

"The Awakening"

Adult Fiction

Author: Nora Roberts

Read By: Barrie Kreinik

Breen Kelly is debt-ridden and working a job she hates when she discovers her mother has been hiding money left to her by her long-lost father. Breen treats herself to a trip to Ireland and falls through a portal to a magical land where she has a dangerous destiny. Some strong language and descriptions of sex. Commercial audiobook.

2020

15 hours, 29 minutes

"Mexican Gothic"

Adult Fiction

Author: Silvia Moreno-Garcia

Read By: Frankie Corzo

Mexico City, 1950. After receiving a frantic letter from her newlywed cousin begging for someone to save her from a mysterious doom, socialite Noemí Taboada heads to High Place, a distant house in the Mexican countryside. Both the home and its owners seem to have a dark past. Some strong language, violence, and descriptions of sex. Commercial audiobook. Bestseller.

2020

10 hours, 42 minutes

Volunteers Have Returned to the TBS Recording Studio

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL), home of the Idaho Talking Book Service (TBS), has a recording studio where audio versions of Idaho-themed print materials are produced for TBS patrons.

Talented volunteers help operate the recording studio, serving as narrators, directors, editors, and producers.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Idaho TBS recording studio was closed in March of 2020, and, therefore, new Idaho-themed books and magazines have not been produced in more than a year.



Now that it is safe to reopen the studio, ICfL volunteers are again able to produce Idaho-themed materials for TBS patrons to enjoy. These materials should be out to patrons on a regular schedule by the end of this summer.

Talking Book Service

10² Club



Our centenarians joining the Ten-Squared Club are:

Babatte Gilbert

who has read 35 books since joining the TBS program in 2019.

Emma Payne

who has read 475 books since joining the TBS program in 2013.

Doris Sinclair

who has read 73 books since joining the TBS program in 2018.

Recent Donations to the Idaho Talking Book Service

(March 16 through May 20, 2021)

General Donations:

Jen Beals

Leta Carlson

Orial Cottle

Patrick Cunningham

Theresa Gross

Neal Hemmert

Doris Kinn

Richard Moore

Margaret Mortensen

Jeanne Siddoway

Irene Thomson

Lisa Wood

Billie Woods

Mike Dexter in honor of Meredith Dexter

Memorial Donation:

Louise Gardiner in memory of Glenn Logan Sentman

Donations are fully tax deductible, as allowed by law.

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 "Donate to the ICfL" button.



Our sincere thanks to all who give so generously.



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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.

208-334-2150 / 800-458-3271

TBS Talk

by TBS Program Supervisor LeAnn Gelskey

Whether you spend your summer days enjoying the sun's rays or lounging in the shade, one of these books is sure to please.

Here are a few of my all-time favorite summer reads:

- ♦ "The Art of Racing in the Rain" by Garth Stein -- DB066787
- ♦ "The Gown: A Novel of the Royal Wedding" by Jennifer Robson -- DB093882
- ♦ "Last Bus to Wisdom" by Ivan Doig -- DB083412
- ♦ "Idaho" by Emily Ruskovich -- DB087341
- ♦ "Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet" by Jamie Ford -- DB071540

Order on page 8.