# The Wisconsin Talking Book and Braille Library's Fall 2020 Bulletin Board Newsletter banner.

## What’s Been Happening at WTBBL!

Dear Readers,

Here we are, in autumn! We hope you managed to enjoy the summer, which to many of us, was a summer like no other. We also hope that you enjoyed reading many good books, although you had to wait longer to get them. The reasons for the delays and what you can do to help us make it better are explained in the next column. We are committed to providing you with excellent customer service.

With that said, we are pleased to announce that WTBBL is now open to the public. Our library hours are Monday to Friday, from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM (except holidays), and you can call us from 9:00 AM to 4:50 PM. During this pandemic, however, this schedule is subject to change. Please check our website at [**dpi.wi.gov/talkingbooks**](dpi.wi.gov/talkingbooks)for announcements if you cannot reach us. While thinking of the next books to read, also consider adding audio-described DVDs and magazine subscriptions to your requests. We would be happy to send you a list of DVDs and magazine subscriptions that are available for you. Would you like to follow the news from all over the country? If so, you should subscribe to the NFB-NEWSLINE. It is free, and with one call, you can access 500 newspapers and magazines, including four newspapers in the Spanish language, and 15 newspapers from Wisconsin.

There are still many people out there who have never heard about us and can benefit from our library services. Due to the pandemic, we have not been able to do as much outreach as usual; so please keep telling others and spreading the word about us.

We hope you and your loved ones continue to be well. Take care, stay in touch, and keep on reading!

## What’s Taking So Long??!

Recently, the most frequent question that reader advisors are asked here at WTBBL is “why don’t I have more books?” and “why is it taking so long for my books to come to me?”

There are a few reasons for the delays.

1. We are quarantining returned books for 5 days– this means that although your books might be back in our building, the computer does not know you need a new book until 5 days later. If you want materials to be sent out sooner than this, please call us and ask for more books to be sent!

2. The post office has been experiencing delivery delays nationwide due to budget shortages and regulation changes.

If you are wondering what you can do to make sure that you don’t have to wait too long for your books, here are some tips:

1. Don’t send ALL your books back at once! Send each book back as you finish it. This will allow us to at least get some of the materials checked in quicker.

2. CALL US – do this before you run out of all your books! When you are down to only a few, give us a call! Even if you usually get books sent out to you automatically, remember, if you don’t call, we don’t know to replace the books for up to two weeks!

3. Ask us to increase the number of books you are set up to receive. Instead of having 6 books in the turn-around, consider that 12 books might be needed for the time being.

## NLS UPDATE

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to delay the distribution of new hardcopy braille books. The pandemic has not halted the transcription of books into BRF files, and many new ebraille titles can be found on BARD through the “Recently added” books and magazines feature. However, these books are not yet available in hardcopy braille.

NLS intends to distribute these books in hardcopy to network libraries as soon as facilities reopen. As these items cannot currently be ordered in hardcopy, we will not be listing them in *Braille Book Review*.

**Therefore,** we will not be releasing a large-print or HTML version of BBR for September/October 2020**.** We will release a braille version of *BBR* September/October 2020, but it will contain only the abridged descriptions of talking books released during this period. BRFs of this *BBR* issue will be available on BARD and the NLS website.

The NLS hopes that this issue will be resolved soon and apologize for the continued inconvenience to our hardcopy braille readers.

## 2020 Summer Reading Wrap-up

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year’s summer reading! The COVID shutdown and mail delays meant that everything has been a little bit off this year. Luckily, we still managed to have a summer full of socially distanced reading. We are hopeful that next year will go a little more smoothly! Thanks again to the participants, and join us again next year for summer reading!

## WTBBL 2020 Adult Book Club

The WTBBL Adult Book Club meets on the phone using a toll-free phone number **1-855-753-0200** every other month on a Tuesday. There are two sessions from which to choose: **1:30 to 2:30 pm** or **6:30 to 7:30 pm**. The same book is discussed at both sessions.

### October 13, Tuesday 1:30 and 6:30

In a Moment by Theresa Gilliland. DBW01526In a very short span of time, Terri experienced three traumatic events. She lost her sight, her husband's life was dramatically altered after a near-fatal motorcycle accident, and their 15-year-old son was diagnosed with brain cancer. *In a Moment* is a contemporary autobiography of one woman's roller coaster life filled with pain, struggle, love and triumph.

### December 1, Tuesday 1:30 and 6:30

A Wolf Called Romeo by Nick Jans. DB094157Photographer recounts the interactions between residents of Juneau, Alaska with a black wolf--who is eventually dubbed Romeo--that he encountered for the first time in 2003. Explores the mystique, lore, science, and history of the wolf. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2014.

## Staff Reading Recommendations

If you are looking for something new to read, check out some of these WTBBL staff picks!

### This Tender Land by William Kent Krueger DB096864

Set during the Depression, this is a captivating story about four courageous orphans who ran away from their sad lives in an orphanage in Minnesota. They journeyed south in a canoe down the Mississippi River, each dreaming of finding a home and a family they could call their own. Stopping at places where they could find shelter and sustenance, the group learned to trust each other and the adults that they met along the way. Their touching story also reminds us of the rich and sometimes heartbreaking history of our country.

### Imaginary Friend by Stephen Chbosky DB096861

Odd events in Mill Grove, Pennsylvania engulf newcomers Kate Reese, her 7-year-old son Christopher, his best friends, their parents, and the townspeople during the winter semester culminating on Christmas Day. Christopher's very vivid imagination allows him to bridge the present "real" world and the converse "imaginary" world. There, the ‘Nice Man’ kindly teaches him how to develop his powers to perhaps defeat evil. A truly scary story worthy of Ray Bradbury or Stephen King.

### The Thirty-Nine Steps by John Buchan DB012693

Classic English mystery first published in 1922 focuses on Richard Hannay who attempts to foil an international conspiracy and comes under suspicion of murder. Exposed to the double risk of capture by the police and assassination by the members of a powerful secret society, Hannay knows he must solve the riddle of the thirty-nine steps.

### Diamond Doris: The True Story of the World's Most Notorious Jewel Thief by [Doris Payne](https://www.harpercollins.com/blogs/authors/doris-payne) DB97526

*Diamond Doris* is the memoir of Doris Payne, who was born into a poor coal mining family in West Virginia during the Great Depression and grew up to become a notorious international jewel thief.  Doris, the daughter of an African-American father and a Native American mother, grew up watching her mother beaten down by her father and vowed to only rely on herself to get where she wanted to be in life.  After a career spent robbing jewelry stores around the globe that spanned six decades, Doris was arrested once again in 2013 and her name and story became a part of popular culture.  This is a very entertaining and exciting story about a real-life criminal that leaves readers rooting for Diamond Doris Payne.

### The Conference of the Birds: The Fifth Novel of Miss Peregrine’s Peculiar Children by Ransom Riggs DB098581

The fifth in this YA series about Miss Peregrine’s peculiar children starts at a fast, action-packed pace. Jacob Portman, the accepted leader of Miss Peregrine’s peculiar children, is paired with Noor Pradesh, a newly contacted peculiar and Jacob’s new love interest, to save the future of all peculiardom. Readers will get better acquainted with the peculiar children, and there is hope for a peculiar character whose fate was unknown at the end of book four. The book’s cliff-hanger ending promises that another exciting installment is coming!

### Open Book, A Memoir by Jessica Simpson DB098656

The singer, songwriter, and reality TV star tells her truth of finding her career at a young age and finding love.  Acutely aware she is portrayed as a "dumb blonde," she uses that to back her ambition and career moves to share what she deems as God's will by sharing her voice and changing lives throughout her journey and to who she is now; a successful pop star, wife, mother and fashion designer.

### Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption by Bryan Stevenson DB080035

Attorney and law professor discusses founding the Equal Justice Initiative, a legal practice dedicated to defending those most desperate and in need. The book describes one of his first cases — defending Walter McMillian — a young man sentenced to die for a notorious murder he insisted he didn't commit. This book made me think a bit, especially with the recent riots, how the system can be and still at times is unjust to individuals of color.

### The Unhoneymooners by Christina Lauran DB095304

Olive Torres is used to being the unlucky twin, until her sister Ami’s entire wedding party gets food poisoning. The only two not affected are Olive and the best man, Ethan. Rather than have Ami's Hawaiian honeymoon go to waste, Olive and Ethan pretend to be newlyweds. This was a lite and fun read which I enjoyed to the end.

### The Mountains Sing by Nguyễn Phan Quế Mai *In Process*

**The Mountains Sing**, the author’s first novel in English, is a moving account of one family’s struggle to survive in 20th century Vietnam. The book follows the family as they face a century of obstacles: communism, the division of the country, the American war and the aftermath of survival and reunification.

### Clap When You Land By Elizabeth Acevedo DB099823

Originally written in prose by own voices author who represents Afro Latino female voices and author of **The Poet X (DB 92221)** and **With the Fire On High (DB 95376).** The story is of two sisters, Yahaira and Camino, who discover each other after their father's tragic death on a flight back to the Dominican Republic.  One lives in New York and the other in *el campo* in the Dominican Republic. Once they find each other over Facebook, they discover a lot about their complicated father and their complicated family dynamic.  This book explores grief and the effects of broken homes.

## Holiday Books

With the holiday seasons quickly approaching, here are some new holiday books from the Talking Book and Braille Library.

A Mrs. Miracle Christmas by Debbie Macomber DB096769As the holidays approach, Laurel McCullough and her husband Zach dream of having a baby. Their dreams are put on hold when they have to move in with Laurel's ailing grandmother. Mrs. Miracle shows up at the door, seeming to be the answer to all their prayers. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2019.

Christmas in a Cowboy's Arms by Rosanne Bittner DB097368This anthology of holiday romances includes six authors known for their Western settings. Leigh Greenwood's story "Father Christmas" features a man searching for gold stolen by his mining partner who instead finds himself a family. Some strong language and some explicit descriptions of sex. 2017.

All I want for Christmas is a Cowboy by Jessica Clare DB097122Cass Horn is driving to Wyoming for a much-needed vacation when she crashes her car in a blizzard. Eli Pickett finds her unconscious and takes her back to his ranch. He can't help but fall for her, but Cass has lost her memory in the accident. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2018.

One Snowy Night: A Heartbreaker Bay Christmas Novella by Jill Shavis DB097249It's Christmas Eve, and Rory Andrews is desperate to get home to the family she hasn't seen in years. Problem is, her only ride to Lake Tahoe is the annoyingly handsome Max Stranton and his goofy, lovable dog Carl, and she and Max have history together. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2016.

Two Love Lane by Kieran Kramer DB092466Three contemporary romances set around a matchmaking agency in Charleston, South Carolina, written between 2017 and 2018. Includes *Christmas at Two Love Lane*, *A Wedding at Two Love Lane*, and *Second Chance at Two Love Lane*. Some strong language and some explicit descriptions of sex. 2018.

Alaskan Holiday by Debbie Macomber DB092504Before starting work at a hot Seattle restaurant, chef Josie Avery takes a summer job at a lodge in Alaska. She bonds with the locals, including swordsmith Palmer Saxon. Their relationship has an end date, as Josie can't imagine leaving her life in Seattle--even for love. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2018.

Ettie Smith Amish Mysteries by Samantha Price DB098222Eight mysteries, written in 2016-17, feature Amish amateur sleuth Ettie Smith. Includes *Betrayed*, *Amish False Witness*, *Amish Barn Murders*, *Amish Christmas Mystery*, *Who Killed Uncle Alfie?*, *Lost, Amish Cover-Up,* and *Amish Crossword Murder*, in which Ettie must solve an Amish crossworder's murder with clues left in the puzzles. 2017.

## New Audio-Described DVDs

WTBBL has audio-described movies and TV shows available on DVD. You may check out three movies at a time. The loan period for each is one month.

A new movie catalog is available from WTBBL in large print, braille, or digital cartridge. Here are some of the new DVDs by genres:

### Action

#### DVD01108   Gemini Man

#### DVD01111   Midway

#### DVD01116   Jumanji: The Next Level

#### DVD01126   21 Bridges

#### DVD01127   The Gentlemen

### Animated, Children’s Movies & Children’s Television Programs

#### DVD01094   Spies in Disguise

#### DVD01096   The Addams Family

#### DVD01097   Pokémon Detective Pikachu

#### DVD01098   The Call of the Wild

#### DVD01099   Sonic the Hedgehog

#### DVD01100   Sleeping Beauty (anniversary edition)

#### DVD01103   Frozen II

#### DVD01104   Onward

#### DVD01102   Ralph Breaks the Internet

### Biographical

#### DVD01106   I Still Believe

#### DVD01114   Harriet

#### DVD01117   Dark waters

#### DVD01120   Ford v Ferrari

#### DVD01123   Bombshell

#### DVD01124   Richard Jewell

### Comedy

#### DVD01101   Playing With Fire

#### DVD01110   Knives Out

#### DVD01118   Jojo Rabbit

#### DVD01122   Bad Boys for Life

#### DVD01135   Zombieland: Double Tap

### Documentary

#### DVD01090   Arctic Wolf Pack

#### DVD01091   Bears

### Drama

#### DVD01095   A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood

#### DVD01121   Pain and Glory = Dolor y Gloria

#### DVD01125   Motherless Brooklyn

#### DVD01129   Queen & Slim

#### DVD01136   The Good Liar

### Horror

#### DVD01112   Countdown

#### DVD01115   Gretel & Hansel

#### DVD01128   The Invisible Man

#### DVD01132   Doctor Sleep

### Musical

#### DVD01107   Mary Poppins Returns

### Romance

#### DVD01119   The Photograph

#### DVD01130   Waves

#### DVD01133   Ordinary Love

### Romantic Comedy

#### DVD01113   Last Christmas

### Science Fiction and Fantasy

#### DVD01105   A Wrinkle in Time

#### DVD01109   Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them

### Sports

#### DVD01134   The Way Back

### Television Show

#### DVD01092   Okavango: River of Dreams

#### DVD01093   The Whale Detective

### War

#### DVD01131   1917

## New Wisconsin Titles Available

ABLE (Audio & Braille Literacy Enhancement) has produced more Wisconsin books for your reading pleasure. These titles are available on DB cartridges or on BARD.

### DBC08317 The 1966 Green Bay Packers: Profiles of Vince Lombardi’s Super Bowl I Champions by Editor Gorge Bozeka

The 1966 Green Bay Packers were one of the greatest teams in professional football history. Editor George Bozeka gives a close-up look at individual games, players, and coaches that tells the story of the '66 Packers and how they started a legacy in Titletown USA.

### DBC08321 On a Clear Night: Essays from the Heartland by Marnie O. Mamminga

From everyday experiences to life-changing events, the author’s essays give a personal view of her life while living in the Wisconsin heartland.

### DBC08345 Walk-On This Way: The On-Going Legacy of the Wisconsin Football Walk-On Tradition by Joel Nellis and Jake Kocorowski

An in-depth look at the long and storied history of walk-on football players at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

### DBC15437 Pabst Farms: The History of a Model Farm by John C.Eastberg

Historian John C. Eastberg explores the rich model farming history of the Pabst family. Primarily known for their association with brewing beer, this book delves deep into the Pabst's agricultural endeavors, shining an interesting light on life in the early 1900s.

### DBC15452 Farm-Fresh and Fast: Easy Recipes and Tips for Making the Most of Fresh, Seasonal Foods by Fairshare CSA Coalition

This cookbook is full of easy recipes and cooking tips for making the most of fresh, seasonal Wisconsin foods.

### DBC15464 Beneath the Flames: A Novel by Gregory Lee Renz

*Beneath the Flames* is a story of love, race, and life. Mitch Garner balances his personal struggles with becoming a firefighter in Milwaukee’s inner-city. Strong language, violence, and explicit descriptions of sex.

## 2020 Holiday & Postal Office Closings

* **September 7**, 2020 (Labor Day)
* **October 12** – No Mail (Columbus Day)
* **November 11**, 2020 No Mail (Veterans’ Day)
* **November 26-27**, 2020 (Thanksgiving)
* **December 24-25**, 2020 (Christmas)
* **December 31**, 2020 (New Year’s Eve)

**BULLETIN BOARD is available in large print, braille and audio editions, and is also available electronically via email and through *NFB-NEWSLINE*®, a newspaper by phone service.**

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