

The Reading Light

*The quarterly newsletter
of Mississippi Talking
Book Services*

Winter 2021 Issue

UPDATES TO ONLINE CATALOG

You may have noticed recently that there have been some changes made to our online catalog.

Visit the catalog here: <https://tbsopac.mlc.lib.ms.us/>

These changes have been made with your convenience in mind, and we hope you'll enjoy the more easily navigated site. One thing you can do is check which books are waiting to be shipped to you and which you currently have checked out by:

1. Log in to your account
2. Click on the Account tab
3. Click on the Reading History tab
4. Browse either Requests, Items Waiting to Ship, or Currently Checked Out Items.

You can also browse recent and popular titles from the main page and order books yourself. To do that, simply select a book you'd like to order and, at the bottom of the page, click "Add Book to Your Book Basket," then "Proceed to Checkout."

If you have any questions about how to navigate the site, please feel free to give one of our Readers' Advisors a call!

(601) 432-4151



Staff Updates

Since the beginning of 2020, we have welcomed three new members to the Talking Book Services staff: Kristen Hillman, Sebastian Murdoch, and Jayson Bounds.

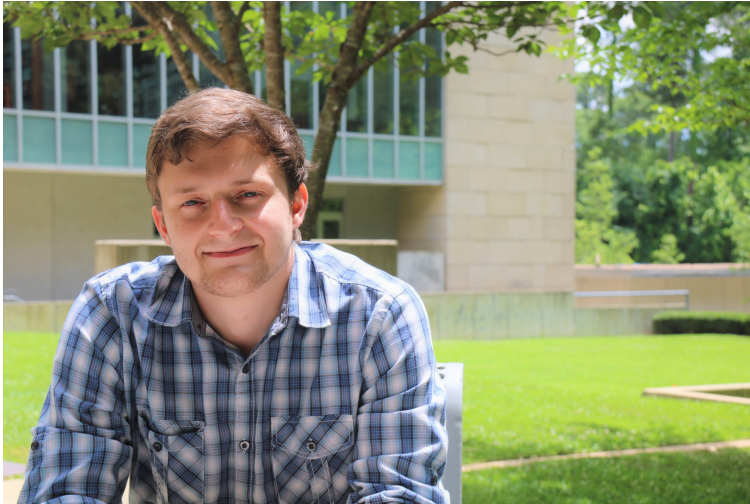
We are so happy to have them on our Talking Book Services team!



Kristen Hillman has a B.A. in English Education from Ole Miss and a master's in Library and Information Science from Southern Miss. She loves to travel, garden, kayak, bake, and take walks with her dogs, Foxy Brown and Mikey. Kristen has recently moved to the role of Patron Services Manager!

Our newest Readers' Advisor, Sebastian Murdoch, is a voracious reader, especially the horror genre. She'll read anything remotely horror-forward, but she's also no stranger to literary fiction. She has a master's in Fine Arts in Creative Writing and spends her free time writing and cuddling with her two cats, Kafka and Yoshimi.





Jayson Bounds is a Circulation Services Librarian and handles the digital books as they come in and out of MLC's facility. One of his go-to things to do when he has free time is to watch sports. He is a lifelong Philadelphia Eagles fan and a huge Philadelphia 76ers fan. His favorite book series is *Game of Thrones*, but he also loves psychological thrillers.



Book Recommendations

Haben : The Deafblind Woman Who Conquered Harvard Law by Haben Girma
DB096188

The autobiography of the first deaf-blind graduate of Harvard Law School. Girma describes her childhood, world travels, development of a text-to-braille communication system, and time at Harvard Law, as well as the ways she uses her talents to advocate for those with disabilities.

The Fifth Season by N.K. Jemisin
DB082240

Essun is a woman living in a world ruled by the violent tectonic activity it experiences. She comes home to find her husband has killed her son and kidnapped her daughter, all for the secret ability Essun and her children have to control the Earth.

Helpful Hints & Reminders

- Please do not write on the containers, cartridges, or the machines. All of our items are recycled and sent to other patrons after each use. Please help us conserve funds by not damaging our items. If you need to tell us something, send a note or give us a call.
- In order to maintain an active status as a TBS patron, you must check out or download at least one item each calendar year. Maintaining an active status ensures that you receive this newsletter as well as other updates.
- When calling the Mississippi Library Commission, please identify yourself as a Talking Book Services patron. This will assist in expediting your calls to the appropriate department.
- Please retain the box the digital player arrives in. This box can be used to send the item back if you need a replacement or decide to discontinue service. Do not use tape on the box. The player can be mailed back to the library via the "Free Matter for the Blind and Physically Handicapped" mail program. The free shipping label is marked on the box.
- You do not need to send back the "New Patron Packet" or used headphones. They are both yours to keep.

Mississippi Talking Book Services turns 50!

The Mississippi Talking Book Services celebrated our 50th anniversary on July 15, 2020. We celebrated all that TBS has done for our patrons over the years and looked towards our hopes for the future. Mississippi Talking Books has been able to serve our patrons starting with vinyl records, then moving to cassettes, to now being able to send books on digital cartridges as well as letting patrons download books to their own devices.



The Mississippi Talking Book Services has provided patrons with personal support over the phone, in person, and through the US Postal Service, and e-mail. Here's to many more years of celebrating Talking Book library service in Mississippi!

Visit <https://bit.ly/TBS50> to enjoy some videos we made to celebrate!

Upcoming NLS Virtual Event

The National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (NLS) at the Library of Congress will kick off its 90th anniversary celebration with a free virtual concert by jazz pianist Matthew Whitaker on Wednesday, March 3, at 7:00 p.m. (CST)—and you're invited! Whitaker, who has been blind since birth, is an NLS patron who has garnered accolades across the jazz world. He won ASCAP Foundation Herb Alpert Young Jazz Composer Awards for 2019 and 2020 and has been featured on stages around the world and on TV shows including *Ellen* and NBC's *Today*.

In a story on the CBS news magazine *60 Minutes* (<https://cbsn.ws/3oDMQIM>), neuroscientists discussed how Whitaker's brain is stimulated by music—so much so that his visual cortex lights up when he plays.

Like previous NLS concerts that featured José André in 2019 and Justin Kauflin in 2014, this event showcases the NLS Music Section's work in providing patrons with direct access to the world's largest collection of braille, audio, and large print music materials.

Whitaker's concert will be broadcast on the Library of Congress YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/libraryofcongress).

An interview with Whitaker will be posted there at 7:00 a.m. (CST) on March 3, 2021.

For more information, follow NLS on Facebook (www.facebook.com/ThatAllMayRead/), check out the Library of Congress Events page (www.loc.gov/events), or visit the NLS Music Notes blog (<https://blogs.loc.gov/nls-music-notes>).





Talking Book Services
3881 Eastwood Drive
Jackson, MS 39211

FREE MATTER FOR THE
BLIND & PHYSICALLY
HANDICAPPED

The Reading Light is written and edited by the staff of the Mississippi Library Commission's Talking Book Services department. It is available in braille, through email, in large print, as well as via MP3 audio on our website. Any mention of products and services in *The Reading Light* newsletter is for information purposes only and does not imply endorsement.

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Phone: 601.432.4151 or 1.800.446.0892 (toll-free)

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This publication is partially funded under the federal Library Services and Technology Act administered by the Mississippi Library Commission for the Institute of Museum and Library Services