



# The Reading Light

*The quarterly newsletter  
of Mississippi Talking  
Book Services*

**Summer 2019 Issue**

# Staff Updates

Gloria Jimerson has officially moved from Machine Lending to Large Print Direct. We are very excited to have her working with our large print patrons. Please contact her at (601) 432-4047 or email her at [gjimerson@mlc.lib.ms.us](mailto:gjimerson@mlc.lib.ms.us).



We welcomed our newest employee, JD Burns to our circulation department in May. JD enjoys a lot of different types of books. He'll read anything from historical non-fiction to poetry to horror, although he loves comic books. His favorite comic authors are Frank Miller, Jeph Loeb, and Mike Mignola. He's always going through back issues of *Batman*, *Dr. Strange*, or *X-Men* comics. Currently, he's reading *NYHC: New York Hardcore 1980-1990*. We are so happy to have him on our Talking Book Services team!

***Do you have more than one Digital Talking Book Machine? Is your unused machine taking up too much space? We can help you get that extra machine to someone who needs it!***

***Please contact your Readers' Advisor at 800.446.0892 or 601.432.4151***

***We will send a postage-paid mailing box for you to mail back your unused machine.***



## Book Recommendations

*The Secret Keeper* by Kate Morton

DB075668

In 1960s England, teenager Laurel Nicolson witnessed her mother, Dorothy, stab a man to death. Decades later, Laurel, now a renowned actress, visits her senile ninety-year-old mother and begins to research the matriarch's complicated past.

*Tears of the Heart* by Luran Paine

DB070446

Twenty-year-old Toby, falsely charged with stealing horses, spends two years in jail. Once released, Toby heads to New Mexico to work at Rancho Trinitria, where a deadly confrontation with a former prison guard threatens Toby's newfound liberty. Toby fights for his freedom with the help of friends.

*Uncommon Type: Some Stories* by Tom Hanks

DB089526

Seventeen short stories written by the Oscar-winning actor. An immigrant arrives in NYC after escaping civil war at home. A bowler suddenly gains incredible skill and celebrity. A billionaire discovers romance while searching for acquisitions.

*Becoming* by Michelle Obama

DB092627

A memoir by the former First Lady, and first African American in that role. Obama recounts her childhood in Chicago, her years balancing motherhood and her career as an executive, and her time in the White House.

*Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens

DB092245

In late 1969, when Chase Andrews is found dead, the locals of Barkley Cove, North Carolina, immediately suspect Kya Clark, the so-called Marsh Girl. But Kya is not what they say. Sensitive and intelligent, she has survived for years alone in the marsh that she calls home.

## 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 with writings.
- In order to maintain an active status as a TBS patron, one 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 should 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.

## \*NEW\* Bookshelf Feature on Digital Players

The National Library Service has released a new software upgrade for our talking book players that will make it easier for users to go to the next book when there are multiple books on a cartridge. This update is included on multiple-book cartridges and will install automatically when it is inserted into the player. The player will then tell you an update is in progress and will ask you to not remove the cartridge or to turn off your player. Once the update is complete, the machine will beep. Most of you have probably done this already.

Once the player is updated, this makes it easier to move from one book to another. Play or fast forward until the end of a book past the closing announcements until you hear “end of book.” Tap the green Play/Stop button and the next book will play automatically. If 10 seconds go by without a button being pressed, the machine will repeat the prompt the next time you press the Play/Stop button.

Remember, you must play the book until the “end of book” announcement and it will go to the next book. You can still use the bookshelf feature as before to switch from book to book. If you have any questions or want to order more books on a cartridge, call us at 800-446-0892.



# Mary Rodgers Beal Goes to Washington!

Talking Book Services Director Mary Rodgers Beal recently returned from a whirlwind training trip to Washington, D.C. While there, she attended National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) Orientation, a training hosted three times each year for network librarians from across the United States. NLS is "a free braille and talking book library service for people with temporary or permanent low vision, blindness, or a physical disability that prevents them from reading or holding the printed page. Through a national network of cooperating libraries, NLS circulates books and magazines in braille or audio formats, delivered by postage-free mail or instantly downloadable."



Mary Rodgers says that some of her favorite parts of the training were touring the NLS recording booth and experiencing the book recording process firsthand, learning more about talking book player repair, and the tour of the Library of Congress. Mary Rodgers also loved hearing from the book and magazine production team. She said, "It was neat to hear all of the different parts of the process of picking which books to order and record and then how they go on and process the books in their catalog to share with the network libraries."

Mary Rodgers said that networking with other NLS staff was fun and informative, but that she was ready to get back to Mississippi to apply what she had learned for the patrons here.



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FREE MATTER FOR THE  
BLIND & PHYSICALLY  
HANDICAPPED



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