

FALL 2015

Illinois State Library
TBBS
300 S. Second St.
Springfield, IL 62701-1796



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Secretary of State
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TBBS NewsLink is available in braille and large print, on cassette, on NFB-NEWSLINE, via email by contacting the State Library or on the Talking Book and Braille Service (TBBS) website at www.ilbph.org (click TBBS NewsLink).



Illinois Book Now on BARD

TBBS participated in the National Library Service (NLS) pilot evaluation process and submitted the first book produced in the new recording studio for review. On June 24, 2015, TBBS received notification that “The Skin You Live In,” DBC05975, was approved and placed on the Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) website. TBBS is now certified to submit all locally produced books that meet NLS requirements to BARD.

“The Skin You Live In” by Michael Tyler is a children’s book for pre-K through second grade. This lively, rhyming story celebrates being content with the skin in which one lives, whatever that skin might be. Friendship, acceptance, self-esteem and diversity are promoted in simple and straightforward prose. Download DBC05975 from BARD or order it from a Reader Advisor at your service center.

The projects for the upcoming year have been chosen according to the TBBS Collection Development Policy guidelines. All books selected for recording are Illinois-

Toll-free numbers

- Illinois State Library TBBS800-665-5576, ext. 1
- Chicago Public Library Talking Book Center800-757-4654
- Illinois Talking Book Outreach Center800-426-0709

centric; the author, subject or setting must relate to Illinois. The next project scheduled for the local studio is “Lullaby (For a Black Mother)” by Langston Hughes.

BARD Mobile App for Android Devices

The BARD Mobile application for Android devices, version 1.0, is now available at the Google Play store. The BARD Mobile app enables patrons to download audiobooks and audio magazines directly to their Android devices, provided they have BARD accounts and are using devices running Android OS 4.1 or later. The user guide is available from the bookshelf of the app and online in HTML format at <https://nlsbard.loc.gov/apidocs/android/v1.0/toc.html>. Help screens are also available from inside the app and may be accessed by activating the Context menu or the More Options button and selecting Help. The BARD Mobile Android How-to Series videos are available from the Library of Congress channel on YouTube at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w3rn1g0s-XM&list=PLpAGnumt6iV7Aap_-C8b-8pR_HCxnh_Ls. The videos provide instruction on how to read and navigate an audiobook, manage downloads and use basic gestures with TalkBack, the Android screen reader service.

TBBS Advisory Committee

TBBS would like to take this opportunity to thank all Advisory Committee members for their service, especially outgoing member, Paul Rink. Their efforts and advocacy for the program are greatly appreciated. Current members are new appointees Linda Hendle and Margaret Varney, along with Maryann Bartkowski, Anthony Chandler, Delilah Jackson, Sean Martin, Antonietta Tesfaye, Deborah Watson, Larry Whewell and ex-officio member William Bogdan. The Advisory Committee assists the Illinois State Library in improving services offered through TBBS. Patrons who would like to speak with a committee member about the program should call ISLTBBS at 217-782-9435 to make arrangements.

Navigating between Books

Patrons can use the Bookshelf mode on NLS digital book players to navigate between multiple books that have been downloaded onto a cartridge. This feature only works when each book has its own, unique DB number. To enter Bookshelf mode, insert the cartridge into the digital player and hold down the Play/Stop button until you hear a beep; the machine will announce “Bookshelf.” Then it will announce the title of the book most recently played. Tap the Fast-Forward (FF) or Rewind (RW) buttons located on either side of the Play/Stop button to move through the titles on the cartridge until you hear the title you want. Press the Play/Stop button to begin reading. When you reach the end of the book you will need to return to Bookshelf mode to select another book.

Sometimes NLS will produce a digital book that includes several books in a series. In these instances, the Bookshelf mode will not work because the books were recorded together and share the same DB number. The books are narrated in series order with no breaks in between, except for the narrator announcing the titles when each book begins or ends. Patrons must have an advanced digital talking book machine to easily move back and forth between titles on this type of

book. Every digital book contains markers that allow direct access to its navigation levels when used with the advanced player's extra control buttons. Most books containing multiple series titles have two navigation levels, books at level one and chapters at level two. Insert a series cartridge into the advanced digital book player and press the Menu button until you hear it announce "Book." Use the Next and Previous (Prev) buttons located on either side of the Menu button to move between titles.

Ordering Books for the Holidays

Patrons may find that book delivery is slower during the holiday season due to the increased volume of mail the postal service handles this time of year. TBBS encourages patrons to order extra books in advance so they don't run out of reading material. Keep in mind that after a holiday closing it may take TBBS longer to process the backlog of incoming mail before more books can be sent.

This is also a great time to think about signing up for BARD or downloading the BARD Mobile app for your iOS or Android device. BARD provides instant access to over 50,000 audiobooks, braille books, magazines and music scores from the comfort of your home, even when the library is closed. An application for BARD is available at <https://nlsbard.loc.gov>. Please be aware that TBBS will not be able to approve your BARD application on days the library is closed.

NLS Facebook Page

NLS is now on Facebook, a social networking website. The new page is part of the NLS digital media outreach campaign and will carry messages about its collections, services and activities. NLS invites you to "like" the page at www.facebook.com/ThatAllIMayRead. Check back often to learn what is new at NLS—and join the conversation!

New Braille Code

The National Library Service will implement the Unified English Braille (UEB) code on January 4, 2016, the 207th birthday of Louis Braille. The first extensive change to braille code since the 1930s, the new code uses the same six-dot cell pattern, but drops some contractions, uses different spacing rules and allows for transliterating a wider array of symbols. UEB brings braille code into the computer age and makes print-to-braille translation easier, which especially benefits students and technology users. Patrons will not need to change their equipment to read the new UEB books. Existing books in the English Braille American Edition code will remain in the collection for patron use.

Frequently Used UEB Symbols is a braille document that lists the most commonly used Unified English Braille symbols, arranged by category. Contact TBBS to request a copy or download it as a BRF file from the NLS website at www.loc.gov/nls/bds/index.html. This document will also be reproduced in the September–October 2015 issue of *Braille Book Review*.

UEB books produced by the National Library Service are not expected to be available from the collection for at least six months. In the meantime, NLS has acquired several electronic titles in

UEB and has posted them to BARD. BARD users may view the list of current UEB titles by accessing the “Browse by subject” dropdown, navigating to Unified English Braille and then selecting the “go” button.

Reference Guides

The National Library Service has recently updated several of its in-house created reference guides. Topics of interest to NLS readers include the following titles: *Accessible Mobile Reading Apps*; *Assistive Technology Products for Information Access*; *Bibles and Other Sacred Writings in Special Media*; *Blindness and Visual Impairments: Information and Advocacy Organizations*; *Braille Displays and Notetakers*; *Braille Literacy: Resources for Learning and Reading*; *Digital Audiobook Players*; *Learning Disabilities: Organizations and Resources*; and *Magnifying Devices*. Contact the Illinois State Library Talking Book and Braille Service at 800-665-5576, ext. 1, or isltbbs@ilsos.net to request these reference guides in large print. Patrons can also access the guides online at <http://www.loc.gov/nls/reference/guides/index.html>.

The announcement of products and services in this newsletter should not be considered an endorsement or recommendation by the Illinois State Library Talking Book and Braille Service. Products and services are listed free of charge for the benefit of our readers. TBBS cannot be responsible for the reliability of products or services mentioned.



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Free matter for the Blind.