



Department of Libraries
Special Services Unit

Newsletter

Summer 2013

More commercial audio being added to NLS

In order to get more content into the NLS system more rapidly, NLS will be adding more audio books that were commercially recorded. Because these books did not go through the NLS process, they will not be rated for strong language, explicit sex, or violence. These will be marked as "Unrated" in the catalog. If you find these to be objectionable, we can adjust your account so that unrated books are not selected.

iPhone, iPad, iPod app due any day now

We have seen the promised app, and it seems to be very easy to use. You will still be able to adjust the speed and tone of the playback, and navigate through parts of the book or magazine. If you will be using the app, you may want to put titles on your Wish List in BARD to prepare. To do this, when in BARD, do not click on Download, but click on the title itself, which will open another web page giving more information on that specific title. Below the download link on that second page, you will find Add to My Wish List.

New books of local interest

Coolidge, by Amity Shlaes DB 76304

The life of President Calvin Coolidge (1872-1933) from his New England roots to the assumption of the presidency after the death of President Harding. Highlights his economic policies and support of new technology. 2013

Ethan Allen: His Life and Times, by Willard Sterne Randall
DB 74802

Biography of Revolutionary War hero Ethan Allen (1738-1789) of Vermont highlights colonial frontier life, religious turmoil, land speculation, and guerilla warfare. Describes Allen's capture of New York's Fort Ticonderoga and the inhumane treatment Allen endured as a British prisoner of war. 2011

Francona: The Red Sox Years, by Tony Francona
DB 76216

Former Red Sox manager and sportswriter describe Francona's tenure from 2004-2011, which included two World Series championships. Strong language. 2013

Giant in the Shadows: The Life of Robert T. Lincoln, by
Jason Emerson DB 76070

Biography of the only son of Abraham Lincoln to reach adulthood. Discusses the political career of the Harvard-educated Chicago lawyer and businessman as a diplomat and U.S. secretary of war. Analyzes his relationship with his mother and the management of his father's legacy. 2012

Washed Away: How the Great Flood of 1913, America's Most Widespread Natural Disaster, Terrorized a Nation and Changed It Forever, by Geoff Williams DB 76357

Journalist examines the events surrounding the March 1913 flooding of more than 15 states stretching from New England to the Midwest to the Mississippi Delta. 2013

Paradise City: A Joe Gunther Novel, by Archer Mayor
DB 76094

When a string of New England jewel heists results in an elderly woman's death, Joe Gunther and Willy Kunkle of the Vermont Bureau of Investigation join a multistate task force. Violence, strong language, and some descriptions of sex. 2012

A Cold and Lonely Place, by Sara J. Henry DB 76415
Freelance writer Troy Chance is covering the annual Saranac Lake ice palace construction when the ice cutters discover a body in the frozen lake. 2013

The Backyard Parables: Lessons on Gardening, and Life, by Margaret Roach DB 76330

Provides gardening tips and life lessons learned from the decades the author spent working in her upstate New York acreage. Some strong language. 2013

Made into Movies, Movie Tie-Ins

Argo: How the CIA and Hollywood Pulled Off the Most Audacious Rescue in History, by Antonio J. Mendez
DB 75534

Former CIA officer Mendez recounts the rescue of six Americans who escaped from the U.S. embassy in Tehran. Some strong language. 2012

Silver Linings Playbook , by Matthew Quick DB 76245
Former mental-hospital patient Pat Peoples believes in happy endings and waits at his parents' house in South Jersey for his wife, Nikki, to return. Then Tiffany, a clinically depressed widow, finds her way into Pat's life. Strong language. Commercial audiobook. 2008

Inferno, by Dan Brown DB 76805
Symbology expert Robert Langdon, from *The Da Vinci Code* (DB 55735), awakens in an Italian hospital suffering from a gunshot wound and hallucinations. When an assassin comes after Langdon, a doctor rescues him--and shows him the unusual biohazard canister she found hidden in his jacket. Violence. 2013

Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker, by Jennifer Chiaverini
DB 76230
1860. Former slave Elizabeth Keckley responds to an advertisement and becomes the new First Lady's personal dressmaker, putting Elizabeth in a position to witness the trials of the Civil War. 2013

Biographies

Caravaggio: A Life Sacred and Profane, by Andrew Graham-Dixon DB 76534

Biography of painter Caravaggio (1571-1610): his formative years in Milan, time in Rome, exile to the island of Malta, death at 38. Examines his preferred subjects of religious scenes using everyday models, including prostitutes and the poor. 2010

Alan Lomax: The Man Who Recorded the World, by John Szwed DB 76468

Biography traces the career of ethnomusicologist who began making field recordings of rural music for the Library of Congress in the 1930s. Discusses his work producing albums and his role in introducing Muddy Waters, Lead Belly, and Jelly Roll Morton. 2010

Visual impairment

Macular Disease: Practical Strategies for Living with Vision Loss, by Peggy R. Wolfe DB 76495

Second edition. Suggests strategies to compensate for declining vision. Provides tips for organizing one's home; dealing with financial, personal, and legal affairs; and maximizing one's independence. Lists technological devices available and organizations and businesses that offer assistance. 2011

The Encyclopedia of Sports and Recreation for People with Visual Impairments, by Andrew Leibs DB 76499

Profiles 36 sports and recreational activities that are adapted for individuals with low or no vision. 2013

Knuckleduster, by Andrew Post DB 76476

Brody, who is blind, works as a vigilante for hire to pay for expensive batteries for his vision implants. When he leaves the city at the request of a friend, he uncovers a conspiracy. Violence and strong language. 2013

These may also be of interest

Inside Rehab: The Surprising Truth about Addiction Treatment--and How to Get Help That Works, by Anne M. Fletcher DB 76527

The Vatican Diaries: A Behind-the-Scenes Look at the Power, Personalities, and Politics at the Heart of the Catholic Church, by John Thavis DB 76521

Grow Your Handmade Business: How to Envision, Develop, and Sustain a Successful Creative Business, by Kari Chapin DB 76682

ObamaCare Survival Guide, by Nicholas Tate DB 76277

Beating Obamacare: Your Handbook for Surviving the New Health Care Law, by Betsy McCaughey DB 76207

Military Mental Health Care: A Guide for Service Members, Veterans, Families, and Community, by Cheryl Lawhorne-Scott DB 76384

Mastermind: How to Think Like Sherlock Holmes, by Maria Konnikova DB 76198

The Scientific Sherlock Holmes: Cracking the Case with Science and Forensics, by James F. O'Brien DB 76285

Ten Years Later: Six People Who Faced Adversity and Transformed Their Lives, Hoda Kotb DB 76336

What If?: Answers to Questions about What It Means to Be Gay and Lesbian , by Eric Marcus DB 76399
For junior and senior high and older readers.

Magazines

If you are interested in subscribing to AARP Magazine, Guideposts, Vermont Life, or Yankee Magazine on returnable digital cartridge, please let us know. These are not recorded by NLS, but by local recording programs in various states.

Readers interested in audio versions of Newsweek or Reader's Digest can download these from the American Printing House for the Blind (APH). These recordings can be played only on an NLS digital book player. For more information, go to <http://tech.aph.org/mags/>.

Latest audio-described videos

Thanks to the Vermont Council of the Blind for donating these new videos:

Action/Thriller

Abraham Lincoln, Vampire Hunter DVD 356

The Amazing Spider-Man DVD 336

The Bourne Legacy DVD 335
The Man with the Iron Fists DVD 362
Marvel's Adventures DVD 334
Premium Rush DVD 343
Savages DVD 352
Skyfall DVD 357
Taken 2 DVD 351

Animated

Arthur Christmas DVD 327
Brave DVD 346
Ice Age: Continental Drift DVD 329
The Lorax DVD 326
Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted DVD 345
The Pirates! DVD 325
Rise of the Guardians DVD 365
Wreck-It Ralph DVD 366

Comedy

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days DVD 328
The Dictator DVD 324
The Five-Year Engagement DVD 341
Moonrise Kingdom DVD 339
Parental Guidance DVD 368
Playing for Keeps DVD 363
Ruby Sparks DVD 353
Ted DVD 347
That's My Boy DVD 340
Think Like a Man DVD 349
This is 40 DVD 364

To Rome with Love DVD 331

The Watch DVD 333

Drama

The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel DVD 330

Flight DVD 369

Hope Springs DVD 337

Life of Pi DVD 371

Lincoln DVD 358

The Odd Life of Timothy Green DVD 342

People Like Us DVD 332

The Sessions DVD 370

Titanic DVD 350

Won't Back Down DVD 338

Zero Dark Thirty DVD 360

Family

Chasing Mavericks DVD 361

Horror

Paranormal Activity 4 DVD 372

Musical

Les Miserables DVD 359

Pitch Perfect DVD 344

Sparkle DVD 348

Sci-Fi/Fantasy

Chronicle DVD 323

Prometheus DVD 354

Snow White and the Huntsman DVD 355

Book & player tricks & tips

NLS is recommending that readers not make a habit of completely running down the battery of the digital book player. This is contrary to the advice we've given some readers in the past.

DO leave your player plugged IN, if you can. DON'T leave your player UN-used for long periods of time without having it plugged IN.

DON'T expect the battery to always recharge to the original 29+ hours it got when new (anything at or above 12 hours is considered acceptable).

DON'T be surprised if the charging time drops dramatically from one time to the next – especially if you have been using a flash drive instead of a cartridge.

Does your book player talk too much? If you have a standard model player and want to turn off the "Volume up, volume down, speed up, speed down, tone up, tone down," follow these steps.

- Remove book cartridge from player.
- Press and hold both the Fast Forward and the Speed Down button simultaneously for two seconds.
- The message "reduced verbosity" confirms the change in setting was successful.

If you have the advanced player, it is already set for this.

Please do not write on the digital book player, the books, or the boxes or cases they come in. We've gotten some back that were marked with names, and we are unable to remove the writing. Books and machines should be returned in the specific cases they came in.

Giveaways: AA, Bible, sci-fi classic

SSU has one copy of each of the following titles to give away to the first person requesting each. These books are on cassette tape, recorded at normal commercial speed on 2 sides, so do not require an NLS cassette player to play them. Each title comes in a plastic case. Call SSU at 1-800-479-1711 or email lib.ssu@state.vt.us if you would like any of these.

Alcoholics Anonymous [3rd edition of *The Big Book*, the basic text for Alcoholics Anonymous]. Set of 7 tapes. 1979.

Old Testament. Portions of the New King James Version of the Old Testament, narrated by Cliff Barrows. [Genesis, Exodus, Psalms, Proverbs, Isaiah.] Set of 12 tapes. Aurora Ministries, Bible Alliance, Bradenton, FL. 1983.

New Testament. New King James Version of the Old Testament [Complete], narrated by Cliff Barrows. Set of 12 tapes. Aurora Ministries, Bible Alliance, Bradenton, FL. 1983.

Colossians / Bible Messages, Dr. Mariano DiGangi, Set of 8 tapes. Aurora Ministries, Bible Alliance, Bradenton, FL. No date given.

SSU also has one copy of a book on CD to give away:

Flatland: A Romance of Many Dimensions, by Edwin Abbott. Set of 3 CDs. Originally published in 1884. Both a satire of Victorian society and a thought-provoking examination of math, geometry, and spatial dimension. This set was recorded by a Massachusetts high school student as a community service project for the visually-impaired.

Vermont Department of Libraries, Special Services Unit

1 -800-479-1711 or (802) 828-3273,

Monday-Friday, 7:45 am to 4:30 pm

Email lib.ssu@state.vt.us

Website libraries.vermont.gov/ssu

Online catalog webopac.klas.com/vtssu

This newsletter is available in alternative formats upon request.



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