

From The Talking Book Center Board Of Directors:



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Donations to the TBC are accepted at any time and are used to enhance and improve library services. Checks can be made payable to:

Talking Book Center, 1 Churchville Avenue, Staunton VA 24401

As a patron, there is no obligation to donate, but if you would also like to be a supporter of the Talking Book Center, we would welcome your gift and we invite you, your friends or family to make a financial contribution to ensure that this local service continues. Legacy gifts through estate planning are also welcome.

We want to thank our supporters for their generous donations over the years. With your help we have continued to maintain award winning, personalized service for all of our readers. We wish you health and happiness in the upcoming year!

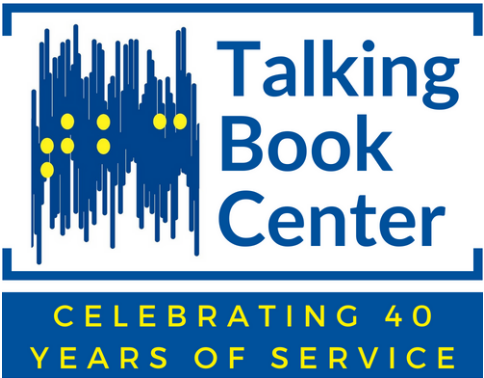
The Talking Book Center will be closed on December 24 and 25 for Christmas and closed on January 1 for New Years Day.



Talking Book Center
1 Churchville Avenue
Staunton, VA 24401

Free Matter for the Blind
and Print Disabled

That All May Read!



Talking Book Center : Staunton, Virginia

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Staunton, VA 24401
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December 2024

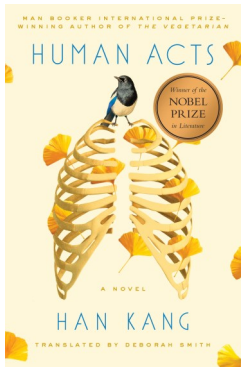
Nobel Prize In Literature:

The 2024 Nobel Prize in Literature was recently awarded to Han Kang of South Korea "for her intense poetic prose that confronts historical traumas and exposes the fragility of human life".



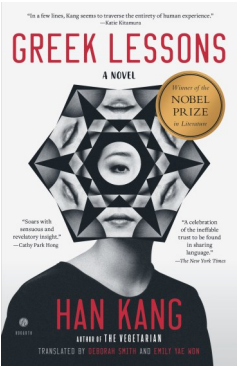
DB94272 The White Book by Han Kang (poetry, short stories)
Author begins a meditation on white things as she grapples with the tragedy that has haunted her family--the death of an older sister who was only a few hours old. The author's reality becomes more tangled the deeper she goes. 2017.

DB87312 Human Acts by Han Kang (historical fiction)
While searching for his friend during an uprising, fifteen-year-old Dong-ho is killed. The story of the uprising, Dong-ho, and life after his death unfurls through multiple characters. 2017.



DB83452 Vegetarian by Han Kang (contemporary horror)
After blood-soaked images begin to haunt her, Yeong-hye renounces eating meat, despite living in a society where this is considered subversive behavior. Meanwhile, scandal, abuse, and estrangement send Yeong-hye careening away from her former self. 2016.

DB114737 Greek Lessons by Han Kang (psychological fiction)
In a classroom in Seoul, a young woman watches her Greek language teacher at the blackboard. She tries to speak but has lost her voice. Her teacher finds himself drawn to the silent woman, for day by day he is losing his sight. Soon the two discover a deeper pain binds them together. For her, in the space of just a few months, she has lost both her mother and the custody battle for her son. For him, it's the pain of growing up between Korea and Germany, being torn between two cultures and languages, and the fear of losing his independence. 2011.



Patron Recommendations:

DB64720 The Blind Doctor: The Jacob Bolotin Story by Rosalind Perlman (biography) Biography of Chicago-born Jacob Bolotin (1888-1924), blind from birth. Discusses Bolotin's determination to become a physician and describes the hard-won training that enabled him to practice medicine as a respected heart and lung specialist. 2007.

DB123839 Nexus: A Brief History Of Information Networks From The Stone Age To AI by Yuval Noah Harari (world affairs, nonfiction)

For the last 100,000 years, we have accumulated enormous power. Despite all our discoveries, inventions, and conquests, we now find ourselves in an existential crisis. The world is on the verge of ecological collapse. Misinformation abounds. And we are rushing headlong into the age of AI, a new information network that threatens to destroy us. Why are we so self-destructive? Nexus looks through the lens of human history to consider how the flow of information has shaped us, and our world. 2024.

New and Popular Books on BARD:

DB124180 We Solve Murders by Richard Osman (mystery)

DB86642 Conclave by Robert Harris (mystery)

DB123948 Passions In Death; Eve Dallas 59 by J.D. Robb (suspense)

DB124178 The Reef Girl by Zane Grey (suspense, written in 1977)

DB124456 Into The Fire by Irene Hannon (romantic suspense)

DB123864 The Fellowship Of The Ring: Being The First Part Of The Lord Of The Rings by J.R.R. Tolkien (fantasy, narrated by actor Andy Serkis)

DB124452 Counting Miracles by Nicholas Sparks (romance)

DB123971 Boston Blackie: Volume 3: Original Radio Broadcasts (radio program)

DB122487 Any Sunday by Debbie Macomber (romance)

DB123837 Sea Glass Summer by Rachel Hanna (human relations)

DB122228 The Beach House On Amelia Island by Hope Holloway (family)

DB121601 Amish Protector; River Haven 02 by Marta Perry (religious fiction)

DB124181 Yellen: The Trailblazing Economist Who Navigated An Era Of Upheaval by Jon Hilsenrath (biography)

DBC29068 Will Rogers At The Ziegfeld Follies (the humorist's writings of the 1920s)

DB124294 The Spirituality Of Grief: Ten Practices For Those Who Remain (grief, religion)

DB123891 What About Me?: Get Out Of Your Own Way And Discover The Power Of An Unselfish Life by Joyce Meyer (religion, self-help)



Global Reading: West Indies:

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago

DB26220 Collected Poems, 1948-1984 by Derek Walcott (St. Lucia) Selections from the poet's nine books of poetry and the entire text of "Another Life," his autobiography in verse (1992 Nobel Prize)

DB39376 A Way In The World by V.S. Naipaul (Trinidad) Autobiographical episodes mixed with meditation and invention, the author, a Trinidadian of Indian descent, narrates a series of historical events that formed his society and his identity within it. 1994. (Nobel Prize 2001)

DB96109 Patsy by Nicole Dennis-Benn (Jamaica) Patsy's dream of moving to America from Jamaica finally comes true just shy of her 30th birthday. She longs to be reunited with her best friend Cicely, whose letters paint a rosy picture. Patsy's plans don't involve her mother or her five-year-old daughter, Tru. 2019.

DB56137 Before We Were Free by Julia Alvarez (Dominican Republic) In the early 1960s, 12-year-old Anita's family is harassed and under surveillance by the secret police. She learns that close relatives are involved in the underground movement to end the crushing dictatorship of General Trujillo, endangering the entire family. 2002.

DBC09844 After The Dance: A Walk Through Carnival in Jacmel, Haiti by Edwidge Danticat (Haiti) Twenty years after emigrating to America, Danticat return to her native Haiti and the coastal village of Jacmel to take part in her first Carnival but not without reservations. This is her memoir and travelogue about rediscovering herself and the culture of Haiti.

DB50057 Empress Of The Splendid Season by Oscar Hijuelos (Cuba) The dreams and setbacks of a Cuban American family in New York City. Raul pledges to provide for Lydia, his bride and empress of the splendid season of love. But when heart disease incapacitates Raul, Lydia must support the family as a cleaning woman. 1999.

DB107228 Cuba: An American History by Ada Ferrer (Pulitzer Prize for History, 2022) A historian of Cuba recounts the sweeping history of Cuba and its complex ties to the United States, from before the arrival of Columbus to the early twenty-first century. The author describes the evolution of the modern nation with its record of conquest and colonization, slavery and freedom, independence and revolutions. 2021.

DB92018 A History Of Barbados: From Amerindian Settlement To Caribbean Single Market by Hilary Beckles (nonfiction, history/geography)

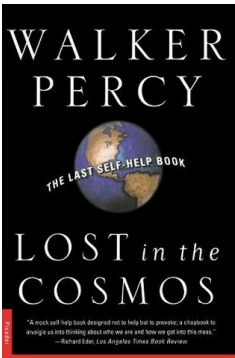
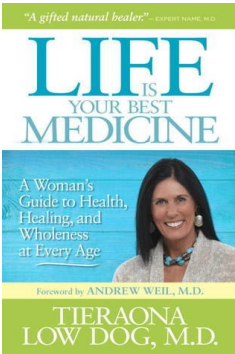
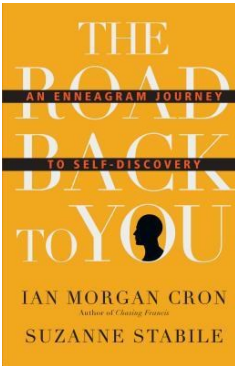
DBG04989 The Real Jerk: New Caribbean Cuisine by Lily & Ed Pottinger (cooking)

DB28712 A Small Place by Jamaica Kincaid (nonfiction, history of Antigua)



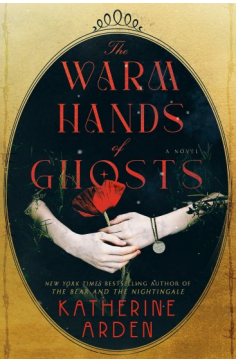
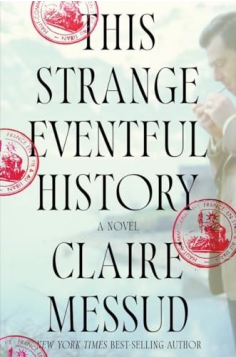
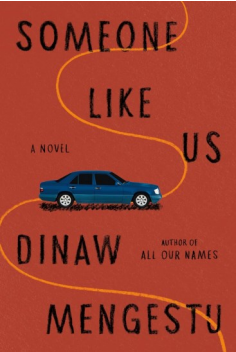
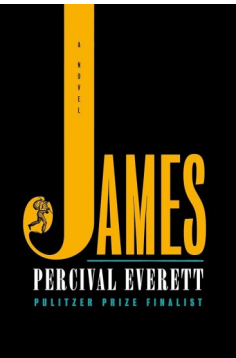
Self-Exploration, Self-Discovery, And Self-Help:

- DB63764 The Secret by Rhonda Byrne
- DB98857 The Road Back To You: An Enneagram Journey To Self-Discovery by Ian Morgan Cron
- DB87473 Startup Your Life: Hustle And Hack Your Way To Happiness by Anna Akbari, PhD.
- DB93731 Help Me!: One Woman’s Quest To Find Out If Self-Help Really Can Change Your Life by Marianne Power
- DBC12291 Bridges Of Consciousness: Self Discovery In The New Age by Kathy Oddenino
- DB94312 Brave Love: Making Space For You To Be You by Lisa Leonard
- DBC12229 Sharing: Self Discovery In Relationships by Kathy Oddenino
- DB51391 Self-Nurture: Learning To Care For Yourself As Effectively As You Care For Everyone Else by Alice D. Domar
- DB82670 Your Life Is A Book: How To Craft & Publish Your Memoir by Brenda Peterson
- DB75696 Life Is Your Best Medicine: A Woman's Guide To Health, Healing, And Wholeness At Every Age by Tieraona Low Dog
- DBC26072 Creative Visualization by Shakti Gawain
- DB82790 The Power Of I Am: Two Words That Will Change Your Life Today by Joel Osteen
- DB72228 Combat-Related Traumatic Brain Injury And PTSD: A Resource And Recovery Guide by Cheryl Lawhorne
- DB118990 Self-Care For Black Men: 100 Ways To Heal And Liberate by Jor-El Caraballo
- DB78814 It Ain't Over... Till It's Over: Reinventing Your Life- And Realizing Your Dreams- Anytime, At Any Age edited by Marlo Thomas
- DB90321 The Mask Of Masculinity: How Men Can Embrace Vulnerability, Create Strong Relationships, And Live Their Fullest Lives by Lewis Howes
- DBC24779 Lost In The Cosmos: The Last Self-Help Book by Walker Percy
- DB90688 Get Over It!: Thought Therapy For Healing The Hard Stuff by Iyanla Vanzant
- DB49030 How To Meditate: A Guide To Self-Discovery by Lawrence LeShan



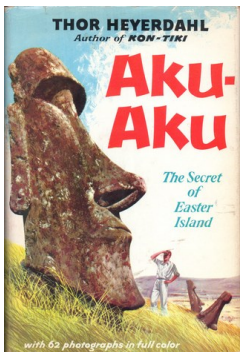
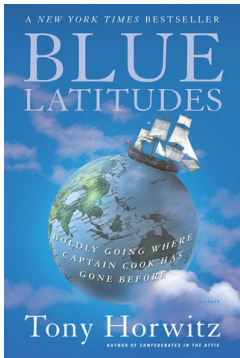
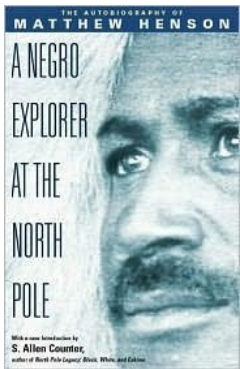
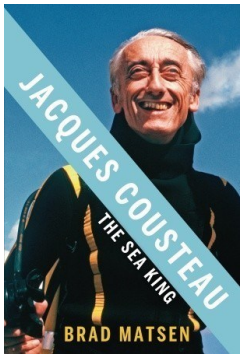
Must-Read Books Of 2024 (So Far):

- DB120063 James by Percival Everett (historical fiction)
A retelling of The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, told from the enslaved Jim's point of view. When enslaved Jim overhears that he is about to be sold to a man in New Orleans, separated from his wife and daughter forever, he decides to hide on a nearby island until he can formulate a plan. Meanwhile, Huck Finn has faked his own death to escape his violent father, recently returned to town.
- DB119136 Martyr! By Kevah Akbar (contemporary fiction)
Cyrus Shams is a young man grappling with an inheritance of violence and loss: his mother’s plane was shot down over the skies of the Persian Gulf by accident. Cyrus is a drunk, an addict, and a poet, whose obsession with martyrs leads him to examine the mysteries of his past toward an uncle who rode through Iranian battlefields dressed as the angel of death to inspire and comfort the dying.
- DB123341 Someone Like Us by Dinaw Mengestu (mystery)
With his marriage on the verge of collapse, Mamush returns to the close-knit immigrant Ethiopian community of Washington DC that defined his childhood. At its center is Mamush's stoic mother, and Samuel, the larger-than-life father-figure. But when Mamush arrives home, Samuel is found dead in his garage. Mamush sets out on an unexpected journey across America in search of answers to questions he'd been told never to ask.
- DB121644 This Strange Eventful History by Claire Messud (hist. fiction)
Over seven decades, from 1940 to 2010, the pieds-noirs Cassars live in an itinerant state—separated in the chaos of World War II, running from a complicated colonial homeland, and, after Algerian independence, without a homeland at all.
- DB119495 The Warm Hands Of Ghosts by Katherine Arden (hist. fiction)
January 1918. Laura was a field nurse until she was wounded and sent home, leaving her brother still fighting in Flanders. She receives word of Freddie’s death, and his personal effects, but something seems amiss. Determined to uncover the truth, Laura returns to Belgium. She hears of haunted trenches, and a strange hotelier whose wine gives soldiers the gift of oblivion. Could Freddie have escaped the battlefield, only to fall prey to something or someone else? November 1917. Freddie awakens after an explosion to find himself trapped with Hans Winter, a German soldier. Unable to bear the thought of returning to the killing fields, they take refuge with a mysterious man who seems to have the power to make the hellscape of the trenches disappear. As ghosts move among the living, Laura and Freddie must decide whether their world is worth salvaging or better left behind entirely.



Explorers and Adventurers:

- DB25435 Shackleton, His Antarctic Writings by Ernest Shackleton
- DB71693 Jacques Cousteau: The Sea King by Brad Matsen
- DB66640 Aku-Aku: The Secret Of Easter Island by Thor Heyerdahl
- DBG06545 Scott Of The Antarctic by David Crane
- DB30277 Living Dangerously by Ranulph Fiennes
- DB53320 A Negro Explorer At The North Pole: The Autobiography Of Matthew Henson by Matthew Alexander Henson
- DB59786 Over The Edge Of The World: Magellan's Terrifying Circumnavigation Of The Globe by Laurence Bergreen
- DB83387 The Last Crusade: The Epic Voyages Of Vasco da Gama by Nigel Cliff
- DB14463 The Tomb Of Tutankhamen by Howard Carter
- DBC14097 Lewis & Clark In The Bitterroot by Jeanne O'Neill
- DB16367 The Voyage Of The Beagle by Charles Darwin
- DB55707 Blue Latitudes: Boldly Going Where Captain Cook Has Gone Before by Tony Horwitz
- DB51796 The Eternal Darkness: A Personal History Of Deep-Sea Exploration by Robert D. Ballard
- DB 68382 Conquistador: Hernán Cortés, King Montezuma, And The Last Stand Of The Aztecs by Buddy Levy
- DB83057 The Invention Of Nature: Alexander Von Humboldt's New World by Andrea Wulf
- DB69270 Crossing The Continent, 1527-1540: The Story Of The First African-American Explorer Of The American South by Robert Goodwin
- DB13298 The Travels Of Marco Polo by Marco Polo
- DB85352 No Dream Is Too High: Life Lessons From A Man Who Walked On The Moon by Buzz Aldrin
- DB102968 Icebound: Shipwrecked At The Edge Of The World by Andrea Pitzer
- DB75917 The Last Viking: The Life Of Roald Amundsen by Stephen R. Bown
- DBG03497 The Secret Voyage Of Sir Francis Drake, 1577-1580 by Samuel Bawlf
- DBC28317 David Livingstone: Missionary, Explorer, Abolitionist by Vance Christie
- DB115582 High Adventure: Our Ascent Of The Everest by Sir Edmund Hillary



Explorers and Adventurers:

- DBC00386 Women On High: Pioneers Of Mountaineering by Rebecca A. Brown
- DB42991 Daisy Bates In The Desert by Julia Blackburn
- DB119312 Flirting With Danger: The Mysterious Life Of Marguerite Harrison, Socialite Spy by Janet Wallach
- DB87796 One Dry Season: In The Footsteps Of Mary Kingsley by Caroline Alexander
- In Process Abundant Beauty: The Adventurous Travels Of Marianne North, Botanical Artist by Marianne North
- DB83071 A Woman In Arabia: The Writings Of The Queen Of The Desert by Gertrude Bell
- DB30885 Isabelle: The Life Of Isabelle Eberhardt by Annette Kobak
- DB28324 Speak To The Earth: Wanderings And Reflections Among Elephants And Mountains by Vivienne de Watteville
- DB13604 "It Is I, Sea Gull"; Valentina Tereshkova, First Woman In Space by Mitchell R. Sharpe
- DB48842 A Lady's Life In The Rocky Mountains by Isabella L. Bird
- DB38476 Nellie Bly: Daredevil, Reporter, Feminist by Brooke Kroeger
- DB20379 I Married Adventure: The Lives And Adventures Of Martin And Osa Johnson by Osa Johnson
- DB32801 Amelia Earhart: A Biography by Doris L. Rich
- DBG02698 I Saw Three Chinas: One Canadian's Experience In China, 1909-1989 by Molly Phillips
- DBG01687 Spinsters Abroad: Victorian Lady Explorers by Dea Birkett
- DB26589 Winter In Arabia by Freya Stark
- DB29284 Alexander's Path: A Travel Memoir by Freya Stark
- DB53919 Southern Gates Of Arabia: A Journey In The Hadhramaut by Freya Stark
- DB 22831 Valleys Of The Assassins And Other Persian Travels by Freya Stark
- DB11658 On Top Of The World: Five Women Explorers In Tibet by Luree Miller
- DBG03401 Ada Blackjack: A True Story Of Survival In The Atlantic by Jennifer Niven
- DB53912 Ultimate Journey: Retracing The Path Of An Ancient Buddhist Monk Who Crossed Asia In Search Of Enlightenment by Richard Bernstein

