

CT LAB Newsletter

Connecticut Library for Accessible Books, Connecticut State Library

May and June 2024

CT LAB News

CT LAB Book Club

The next CT LAB book club will meet virtually on July 17, 2024, from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM. The title that we are reading for July is *The Covenant of Water* by Abraham Verghese. This title is available as a Talking Book on cartridge and from BARD as DB 114896. A summary of the book follows:

Spanning the years 1900 to 1977, *The Covenant of Water* is set in Kerala, on South India's Malabar Coast, and follows three generations of a family that suffers a peculiar affliction: in every generation, at least one person dies by drowning—and in Kerala, water is everywhere. At the turn of the century, a twelve-year-old girl from Kerala's long-existing Christian community, grieving the death of her father, is sent by boat to her wedding, where she will meet her forty-year-old husband for the first time. From this unforgettable new beginning, the young girl—and future

matriarch, known as Big Ammachi—will witness unthinkable changes over the span of her extraordinary life, full of joy and triumph as well as hardship and loss, her faith and love the only constants.

Please register for the book club by calling Paula McLean at 860-704-2216 or 800-842-4516. Participants will receive the Zoom meeting link or dial in phone number for the book club meeting following registration.

Connecticut Talking Books

Connecticut Talking Books are recorded by volunteers from Talking Books CT/CVSBH. When books are completed, CT LAB transfers the Talking Books to BARD, the Braille and Audio Reading Download service. BARD is offered by CT LAB and the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled at the Library of Congress.

Connecticut Talking Books Now Available

- **DBC 28030 I'll Fly Away: Further Testimonies from the Women of York Prison** by Wally Lamb. A volume of intimate, searching pieces from Wally Lamb's writing workshop at the York Correctional Institution, Connecticut's only prison for women. Access the [catalog record for DBC 28030](#) or [download DBC 28030 from BARD](#).

- **DBC 28366 Sneaky Pie's Cookbook: a Cookbook for Mystery Lovers** by Rita Mae Brown. Sneaky Pie Brown, co-author of the irresistible Mrs. Murphy mysteries such as Murder on the Prowl, dishes up delectable fare for cats and humans alike in this unique collection of recipes spiced with witty personal anecdotes, including glimpses of life with co-author Rita Mae Brown. Access the [catalog record for DBC 28366](#) or [download DBC 28366 from BARD](#).
- **DBC 28412 Stone by Stone: the Magnificent History in New England's Stone Walls** by Robert M. Thorson. Stone walls tell the story of how New England was formed and how they link the natural and human history of the region. Even though most of them are crumbling today, the stone walls contain within them a magnificent scientific and human story. Access the [catalog record for DBC 28412](#) or [download DBC 28412 from BARD](#).
- **DBC 28409 Noah Webster: the life and times of an American Patriot** by Harlow Giles Unger. Unger explores Webster's monumental legacy as a teacher, legislator, philosopher, lawyer, editor, and one of history's most profoundly influential lexicographers. Access the [catalog record for DBC 28409](#) or [download DBC 28409 from BARD](#).

National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (NLS) Updates

NLS Patron Listserv

The NLS Patron Engagement Section hosts an announcement-only listserv with information and updates about NLS programs, services, and products. New posts are added to the list a few times a week. To sign up for this listserv, send your name and email address to the Patron Engagement Section at nlspes@loc.gov. You can unsubscribe yourself from the list at any time.

Upcoming NLS Programs

Get to Know the Many Faces of BARD

NLS staff members offer tips, answer questions, and demonstrate new features of BARD, the BARD Mobile app, and BARD Express each month during **The Many Faces of BARD**. This online event is open to all patrons and is held at 7 p.m. eastern time on the second Thursday of every month. The topic for the Thursday, May 9, 2024, Many Faces of BARD program will be Using the Siri Shortcuts for BARD.

Get program details, login information, and recordings of previous programs at the [Many Faces of BARD web page](#).

CT LAB Contact Information

Phone: 860-704-2220 or 800-842-4516 (toll free in-state)

Email: csi.AccessibleBooks@ct.gov

Mailing Address: 786 South Main St., Middletown, CT
06457

Upcoming CT LAB Holiday Closings

May 27, 2024 – Memorial Day

June 19, 2024 – Juneteenth Day

July 4, 2024 – Independence Day