



NLC *Interchange*

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Newsletter
of the
Nebraska
Library
Commission
Talking Book
& Braille
Service

Survey Reveals Readers' Preferences

Late winter and early spring 2014, talking book staff conducted a telephone survey of a random sample of borrowers. Fifty-one borrowers responded; their average age was 77. Thirty-two are visually impaired, seventeen are blind, one is physically disabled, and one experiences a reading disability.

When asked about preferences for what we record in our studios, thirty borrowers preferred Nebraska books, seven preferred Nebraska magazines, and three indicated no preference. Book preferences leaned toward mysteries, Westerns, history, and romances. Magazine preferences included *Nebraska Life*, *Nebraskaland*, *Midwest Living*, *Nebraska History*, and *Big Red Report*. Only thirteen respondents indicated that they had read *Interchange* newsletter or ordered books from it.

Twenty-two respondents use computers. Twelve use handheld electronic devices. Of these twelve, seven use Smart Phones; seven use iPods or iPads; and two use Kindles or Nooks. All respondents gave favorable reviews of their Library of Congress digital players and books, especially in terms of ease-of-use, sound quality, and the player "remembering where you left off." Some respondents indicated they were unable to access magazines when there are multiple issues on one cartridge.

Forty-nine respondents would recommend the Talking Book and Braille Service to others; and two respondents ended the survey before reaching this question. Our thanks to everyone who responded to our telephone survey.



New Books from Our Studios

Wanted: Housekeeper

DB 1160

by S. A. Sullivan

read by Grace Kluck

7 hours 5 minutes

Tom Schultz was opposed to Hazel, the mail-order housekeeper his father arranged, when she first arrived at their Nebraska farm in the 1930s. But he fell in love with her, and they married. When she gives birth to a child, they employ Hazel's best friend, Irene, as housekeeper. Hazel aspires to live a comfortable life, similar to the banker's wife, shopping, playing gin rummy, chain smoking, and horseback riding. Depression reaches Nebraska, and the bank forecloses on the farm. Tom finds work with the railroad in Sidney, though money is tight.

Three Bodies Burning: The Anatomy of an Investigation into Murder, Money, and Mexican Marijuana

DB 1194

by Brian Bogdanoff

read by Alice Timm

8 hours 8 minutes

Authorities responding to a brush fire on the outskirts of Omaha make a grisly discovery. Three human bodies were burning. An Omaha police detective provides an insider's true account of an investigation that involved murder, money, and a Mexican drug cartel. The riveting account describes an intense investigation,

and DNA analysis that ultimately resulted in successful prosecution within federal court. Contains violence and strong language.

The Rest of the Way Home

DB 1221

by Clyde Burkholder

read by Michael Cartwright

5 hours 55 minutes

Following a painful divorce, the author returns to his boyhood home in North Dakota where he rekindled relationships and discovered a new passion—photographing the art of a reclusive local artist, Thorarin Snowfield. For the next seven years, the author traveled thousands of miles throughout North America to catalog the paintings of this under-recognized artist. His research prompted the North Dakota Museum of Art to host a retrospective of Snowfield's work.

Great Decisions 2014

DB 1224

by the Foreign Policy Association

read by Dorris Walker

10 hours 30 minutes

Provides information on thought-provoking foreign policy challenges facing America today. 2014 topics cover defense technology, Israel and the U.S., Turkey's challenges, Islamic awakening, energy independence, food and climate, China's foreign policy, and U.S. trade policy. ■

Magazines for Summer Reading

Here are free magazines on cartridge that help us appreciate summertime on the Great Plains. *Grit*, a bimonthly publication that focuses on small-town and rural living, includes humorous and inspiring articles, gardening and cooking advice, and do-it-yourself projects. *Country*, published bimonthly, offers feature stories and columns for those who live in or long for the country. It includes country diaries, travel, features, and recipes.

Great Plains Game and Fish, published ten times a year, describes

fishing and hunting hot spots in Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, and North Dakota.

Midwest Living, a bimonthly, covers places to visit, recipes, gardens, hobbies, restaurants, editorials, and more about Midwest states from Michigan to Ohio, North Dakota to Kansas.

Grit, *Country*, *Great Plains Game and Fish*, and *Midwest Living* are recorded in our own studios.

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Magazines for Summer Reading

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Sunset, a monthly publication, discusses what, when, and how to enhance your life in the West. It is produced by the Arizona Regional Library.

Birds and Blooms, a bimonthly magazine recorded by the Iowa Regional Library, covers home-gardening, bird-watching and feeding, and other topics on nature.

Seventeen, a monthly young woman's style and beauty magazine,

is tailored for women in their late teens and early twenties. Produced by the Florida Regional Library, this magazine highlights information on fitness, food, cars, college, careers, talent, entertainment, fiction, and crucial personal and global issues.

To request these magazines, please use the order form on page 7 or contact your Reader's Advisor. ■

Great Books for a Nebraska Summer

A cool drink and a good book are perfect combinations for a summer afternoon. Here are some wonderful books to make your summer more enjoyable.

DB 1025 *Summer of Discovery*, by Melody Herr

May 1939. Ben and David, two teenagers living in Western Nebraska during the dustbowl, spend their summer as archaeologists, unearthing the story of the Great Plains peoples. Bones, caves, arrowheads, and buried cities provide clues concerning Nebraska's history, from the days of Ice Age hunters through the end of the Indian Wars. For grades 6 to 9.

DB 1057 *Eight Women, Two Model Ts, and the American West*, by Joanne Wilke

In 1924, eight farm girls attending Iowa's Teacher's College embarked on an extended car-camping trip in two Model Ts. Using clues from their diaries and letters, the author reconstructs their journey on 9000 unpaved miles through six national parks "without a man or gun along." From the era of the flapper, their true story becomes a celebration of resourcefulness and individual freedom.

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Great Books for a Nebraska Summer

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DB 67702 *The Anheuser-Busch Cookbook: Great Food, Great Beer: 185 Flavorful Recipes for Pairing Beer with Food*, foreword by August A. Busch IV

In this cookbook for beer lovers, each recipe—for courses from appetizers to desserts—comes with a serving recommendation for a suitable beer such as lager, pilsner, ale, porter, or stout. Features grilling, roasting, and one-pot dishes. Includes some recipes listing beer as an ingredient.

DB 70529 *The Sundance Kid: the Life of Harry Alonzo Longabaugh*, by Donna B. Ernst; foreword by Daniel Buck and Anne Meadows

Descendants of Harry Alonzo Longabaugh, who was known as the Sundance Kid, present new information on the infamous outlaw, from his early years in Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, to his supposed death in San Vicente, Bolivia. They correct historical inaccuracies like Sundance's alleged participation in the 1897 Belle Fourche bank robbery.

DB 71705 *Empire of the Summer Moon: Quanah Parker and the Rise and Fall of the Comanches, the*

Most Powerful Indian Tribe in American History, by S. C. Gwynne

Narrative of the Great Plains, its native tribes, and America's western expansion. Highlights the story of nine-year-old settler Cynthia Ann Parker's 1836 kidnapping by Comanches and, later, her son Quanah's rise to chieftom. Contains some violence.

DB 73033 *The House on Olive Street*, by Robyn Carr

Four fellow writers arrive at their novelist friend Gabby Marshall's house for her fiftieth birthday only to find her dead. As their own lives start to unravel in different ways, Gabby's companions gather at her house for the summer. Strong language and some explicit descriptions of sex.

DB 73312 *Pick-up Game: a Full Day of Full Court*, edited by Marc Aronson and Charles R. Smith, Jr.

Anthology of eighteen short stories and poems about basketball, set in New York City's Greenwich Village. Players, scouts, filmmakers, and fans gather for game after game on a hot summer day. Some strong language. For grades 6 to 9 and older readers.

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Great Books for a Nebraska Summer

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DB 74093 *Summer Brides*, by Susan Wiggs, Sherryl Woods, and Susan Mallery
Three romantic short stories. In “The Borrowed Bride,” Isabel is whisked away from her bridal shower by a past lover. In “A Bridge to Dreams,” Karyn’s canceled vacation leads to romance. In “Sister of the Bride,” Katie’s sister marries Katie’s ex-boyfriend. Some explicit descriptions of sex.

DB 74394 *Chasing the Sun, Land of the Lone Star, Book 1*, by Tracie Peterson

1863. Hanna Dandridge takes her younger siblings to the Texas ranch her father purchased before he disappeared in war-torn Mississippi. When wounded soldier William Barnett returns home to discover the family on his spread, Hannah relies on her faith to enlist William’s cooperation.

DB 75093 *Porch Lights*, by Dorothea Benton

Newly widowed Jackie McMullen and her ten-year-old son Charlie retreat to Sullivans Island, South Carolina, for the summer. They are welcomed by Jackie’s separated parents, her old friends, and new neighbor, Dr. Steven Plofker. But in the fall, Charlie refuses to return to New York.

DB 77014 *My Greek Drama: Life, Love, and One Woman’s Olympic Effort to Bring Glory to Her Country*, by Gianna Angelopoulos

Autobiography of the lawyer/politician from the Greek island of Crete who organized the 2004 summer Olympics in Athens. Angelopoulos discusses her groundbreaking career and family life and her country’s post-Olympic economic crisis. ■

Magazine Celebrates Missouri’s Nature

If you enjoy *Nebraskaland* Magazine, you might also enjoy *Missouri Conservationist*, a magazine on cartridge that focuses on educating the public on issues pertaining to the conservation and management of Missouri’s natural

resources. A monthly, this magazine is recorded by the Missouri Regional Library. To sign up, please use the order form on page 7 or contact your Reader’s Advisor. ■

New on Digital

DB 913 *Abilene Lawmen: The Smith-Hickok Years*, 1870-71, by Larry Underwood U.S. history

DB 36841 *In Tune with Wedding Bells: A Novel of Enduring Romance*, by Grace Livingston Hill Christian fiction

DB 36916 *A Ballad for Sallie*, by Judy Alter Western

DB 36946 *Lost Wolf*, by Max Brand
Western

DB 37058 *Without Remorse: A Jack Ryan Novel, Book 1*, by Tom Clancy
Suspense. Contains strong language, violence, and sex.

DB 37111 *Hawaii*, by James Michener
Historical fiction. Contains some strong language and violence.

DB 37405 *Are You There, God? It's Me, Margaret*, by Judy Blume
Coming of age story. For grades 4 to 7.

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Order Form and Mailing Instructions

Mark the books and magazines you wish to order, then put the page into an envelope and mail to the Nebraska Library Commission Talking Book & Braille Service, 1200 N Street, Suite #120, The Atrium, Lincoln, NE 68508-2023.

- Big Red Report
- Birds and Blooms
- Country
- Great Plains Game and Fish
- Grit
- Midwest Living
- Missouri Conservationist
- Nebraska History

- Nebraskaland
- Nebraska Life
- Seventeen
- Sunset
- DB 1025
- DB 1057
- DB 1160
- DB 1194
- DB 1221
- DB 1224

- DB 67702
- DB 70529
- DB 71705
- DB 73033
- DB 73312
- DB 74093
- DB 74394
- DB 75093
- DB 77014

New on Digital

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❑ **DB 37562 *The Velvet Promise: Montgomery Annals, Book 1***, by Jude Deveraux
Historical romance. Contains descriptions of sex, strong language, and violence.

❑ **DB 37617 *Forever Victoria***, by Dorothy Garlock
Romance. Contains descriptions of sex, strong language, and violence.

❑ **DB 37631 *A Marriage Made in Heaven; Or, Too Tired for an Affair***, by Erma Bombeck
Humor

❑ **DB 37810 *Accident***, by Danielle Steel
Women's fiction. Contains some strong language.

❑ **DB 38222 *The Four Adventures of Richard Hannay***, by John Buchan
Spy fiction, short stories

❑ **DB 38268 *A Girl of the Limberlost***, by Gene Stratton Porter
Family story

❑ **DB 38638 *Slaughter: A Jeff Layne and Crow Feather Novel, Book 1***, by Elmer Kelton
Western

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Talking Book and Braille Service
Nebraska Library Commission
The Atrium • 1200 N St. • Suite 120
Lincoln NE 68508-2023
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Free Matter
For the Blind or
Handicapped