



Talking Book Library Newsletter

1 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF TALKING BOOKS LIBRARY BOOK CLUB WITH NINA GARCIA

August 10, 2022, the Talking Book Library Book Club directed by Nina Garcia celebrated their one year anniversary. Nina Garcia is the Librarian II on St. Croix. The idea was to create a program for the clients of the Library for the Blind and Physically Challenged and eventually to include the rest of the library community to participate in our monthly book club meetings.

The first book club meeting was on August 11, 2021, we



discussed two books: *All We Ever Wanted: A Novel* by Emily Griffin and *The Stationary Shop* by Marian Kameli. We have been meeting at the library on the second Wednesday of every month. This past year the book club read 14 titles from 11 different authors. Some storylines were not enthusiastically but others were really intriguing.

How does the book club work? Ms. Garcia chooses a book that the library has on audio and then will look it up to see if it is also a paperback book. She also ask the group if they have any suggestions as to what authors or subjects they would like to read. So far we have read a lot of books from Agatha Christie's mystery detective stories. (Continued on page 2)

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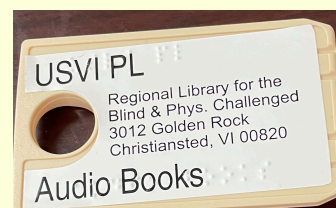
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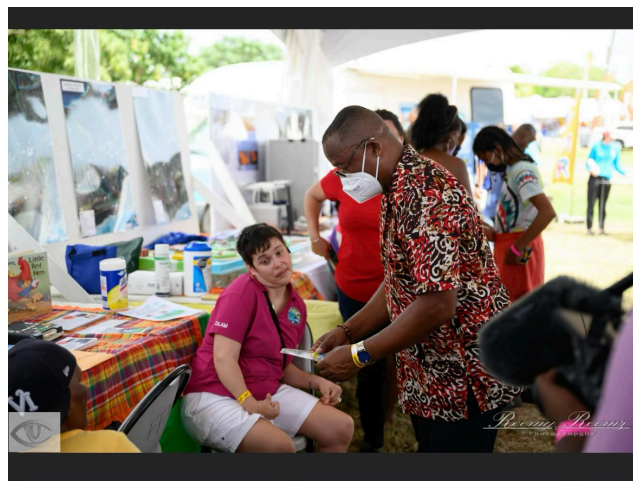


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We also read a local author's book called *Monster in the Middle: A Novel* by Tiphonie Yunique. Another book that we have read was called *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict and Christopher Murray.

On May 28th through the 30th of 2022, we participated in the Agricultural Fair as part of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR) for all three days. Director DeSorbo was doing story time for the children. I talked about the Talking Book Library and what it offers. We promoted the Book Club by handing out flyers to everybody that visited our table. One of the many people that I personally handed the flyers to was Senator Franklin Johnson. I also talked to our commissioner Jean-Pierre Oriol of DPNR to see if we can eventually work on getting the book club live or put it on our Facebook or post it on YouTube so other participants that cannot participate onsite, would be able to watch it later. This will also help us to get other participants from other islands, St. Thomas and St. John, could join the book club because it would be virtual. We can also do other virtual events. A person from St. Thomas asked me if we can have events such as a book club for the hearing-impaired. (Continued on Page 3)



1 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF TALKING BOOKS LIBRARY BOOK CLUB WITH NINA GARCIA

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On June 8, 2022 we had another book club discussion and the book was the *Summer of Lost and Found* by Mary Alice Monroe. At this time it was our first discussion which a person from our community other than our group also participated. Our guest was Senator Franklin Johnson and his assistant who came because we advertised it at the Agricultural Fair 2022. He was a great participant and a longtime supporter of the library.

On August 10, 2022 we had a successful anniversary event, where Senator Franklin Johnson, Senator Whitaker, and the Third Circuit Court Librarian, Ms. Aesha Duval joined us in our discussion.

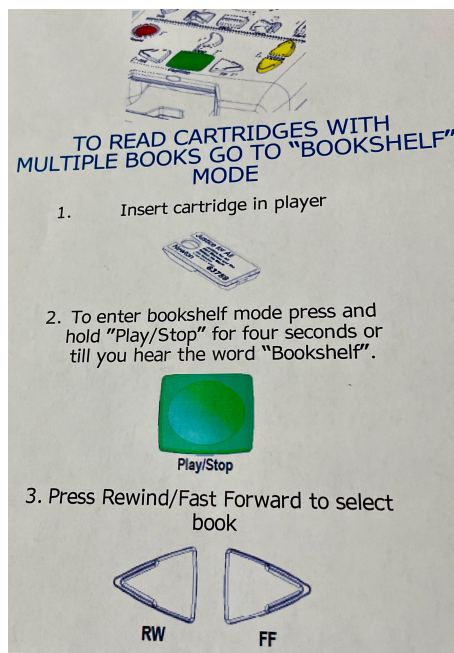


HOW TO ACCESS MULTIPLE BOOKS ON A CARTRIDGE

When you receive a cartridge with multiple books on it, you can access the books in one of two ways: The EASY Way and the Bookshelf Mode.

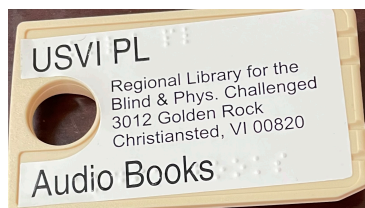
1. The Easy Way – when you reach the very end of the book or initial instructions, press the green, rectangular, Play button.
2. The machine will say, "Press the play button again to go onto the next book." Go ahead and press the play button again, and the machine will start playing the next book.

[HINT: As I listen to the books on the cartridge, I choose the easy way, and must remember to hit the large PLAY button after one book finishes and I want to move forward to the next book. This works well to go smoothly from one book to the next.]



HOW LONG DAY I CHECK OUT BOOKS?

The DB books are check out for a month. These are the cartridges in the blue and clear white cases. Please remember to return the books when you finish listening to them. When you return your books, you will be able to check out more books, but you need to return the ones you have before getting new books. Thank you! If you are not using your digital machine, return it, other clients would be able to use them!



WHAT HAPPENED TO THE TALKING BOOK TOPICS?

Many of our clients have been experiencing that they are no longer receiving the TALKING BOOK TOPICS (TBT) in large print format in the mail. National Library Service (NLS) will no longer print the large print issues of the TALKING BOOK TOPICS (TBT). The last large print issue of BRAILLE BOOK REVIEW (BBR) was September-October 2022. You can find various formats and information on the NLS website.

TALKING BOOK TOPICS ON NLS WEBSITE:

- HTML format, including links to BARD for downloading, or adding books to wish lists www.loc.gov/nls/tbt
- PDF format, containing a printable order form www.loc.gov/nls/tbt

DUPLICATION ON DEMAND

On Wednesday, April 20, 2022, Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Challenge officially turned on our Duplication on Demand (DOD) live. This means that the library no longer has the physical digital books on our bookshelves. This new service uses the same player and cartridges that we are currently using, but the cartridges will have more books on each one. There are many benefits to this change. In the past our audiobook collection contained thousands of titles that are only available to download from BARD; these books will now be readily available to you as new books are. In addition, you now have access to new books faster and will never have to be on a waiting list for a popular title. Another benefit of this service is faster mail processing, because the mail only has to scan one cartridge rather than 12 individual cartridges, so you will be able to receive your book faster and you will have less items to pick up in your mailbox.

Mr. Sobratti, our Bookmobile Driver, and Ms. Jackson, our Librarian Technician I, has been assisting with the Duplication on Demand. They are trained to place an order for a client using the duplication of the demand and the Gutenberg catalog.

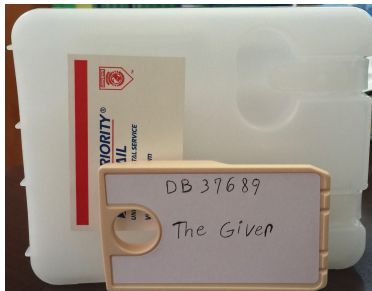
To access individual titles, remember you can either use the player's bookshelf mode or the sequential play feature. As you receive these cartridges, and if you do need help, please call us before sending the book back! The number is 340-718-2250.

[HINT: As I listen to the books on cartridge, I choose the easy way, and must remember to hit the large PLAY button after one book finishes and I want to move forward to the next book. This works well to go smoothly from one boat to the next.]



The Virgin Islands Regional Library has been in the Virgin Islands since 1968 when it started in St. Thomas. After relocating to Frederiksted, St. Croix first, in 1992 it was moved to Christiansted, St. Croix at its present location. The Library is part of the Library of Congress Network of the Libraries for Blind and Physically Handicapped. It provides audio digital books free of charge to persons who are unable to utilize traditional books. The Library has transitioned to the digital age with the introduction of digital players, books and related technology, like “apps.” The Library of Congress/National Library Service came into existence in 1931 for blind residents in the U.S. but over the years has expanded its size and scope of services.

The Library’s local administrative agency is the Division of Libraries, Archives and Museums in the Department of Planning and Natural Resources, Government of the U.S. Virgin Islands.



WE WANT OUR BOOKS BACK!

Our records show that some of you have **overdue materials...**

- Be a good neighbor; share your good reads.
- Please return books on time.
- Magazine cartridges (Red case/Blue cartridge) must be mailed back.

• Downloaded books (White case/Peach cartridge)

• Don't want to bother with due dates? Download!

We can teach you how...**BARD** (Braille and Audio Reading Download) offers digital books and magazines to borrow as long as you like.

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That All May Read

NINA GARCIA,
LIBRARIAN II

