

Fall 2011/Winter 2012

TALKING TIMES

**REGIONAL LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND &
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**Office of Library and Information Services
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This issue of the newsletter is dedicated to mystery books. In response to the members who told us through the survey they wanted annotated booklists in the newsletter, Talking Books Plus created the Fall Mysteries booklist. This list is annotated and series numbers were added to indicate when a book was from a series. The DB request number for each title is provided for convenient ordering. For those members who prefer books without violence, strong language or sex, the "cozy mystery" label was added when possible.

Talking Books Plus staff are committed to providing the best possible service to members. As part of that commitment, tips for best experiences with the digital player will be shared as they are learned. Here is Tip #1. When batteries lose their charge and a simple 5 hour plug-in doesn't recharge the battery to full capacity, try the following. Plug in the machine and charge for 5 hours then run down the battery until low battery shuts off the machine. Charge the machine again for 5 hours. All this must be done within 48 hours in order to discharge the battery and recalibrate the digital player.

FALL MYSTERIES

Library Journal, a magazine written for Librarians, sponsored a webcast event in which Audio Go, Severn House, and Kensington Publishing announced their pick of Fall 2011 mystery authors. The first in the list, Audio Go, is a BBC Audio Books company that publishes international writers. The three publishers mentioned several authors that have books in the Talking Books Plus collection. Below are the names of these authors with a sample title for each author, annotations included, from the Talking Books Plus catalog. Information in brackets is provided from the publishers through the webcast event.

Audio Go -

Laura Lippman. *I'd Know You Anywhere*. DB71892

Thirty-eight-year-old Eliza, now married with children, is horrified to receive a letter from Walter, the man who held her captive for thirty-nine days when she was fifteen. Walter, who has been on death row for more than twenty years, wants to apologize in person. Some explicit descriptions of sex. 2010.

["One of the best novelists around, period." - Washington Post]

Laurence Block. *Burglar in the library*. BL8BR (Series) DB41109

Bernie Rhodenbarr and his pal Carolyn are staying at Cuttleford House, a bed-and-breakfast in New England. Bernie is there to steal an autographed first edition of Raymond Chandler's *The Big Sleep* (RC 32657). But when he slips into the library late one night to take

the book, he finds a corpse instead. Some strong language and some descriptions of sex.

M.C. Beaton. Death of a Gentle Lady. BM8HM (series) DB67061

Scottish inspector Hamish Macbeth is the only person in his village who doesn't like newcomer Margaret Gentle. Hamish overheard the elderly lady and believes he knows her true nature. Hamish has even proposed to Margaret's fired servant Ayesha, an illegal alien. Then Margaret is murdered and Ayesha disappears. 2008.

[British author on the cozy side of mysteries.]

Anne Perry. Buckingham Palace Gardens: PATCP:24(series) DB66835

Victorian England. A prostitute's naked body is found in Buckingham Palace, where the Prince of Wales is hosting a gathering of businessmen--and their wives--to discuss plans for a railroad spanning Africa. Detective Thomas Pitt's maid Gracie goes undercover as a palace employee to find the culprit among the guests. 2008.

Charles Todd. A Duty to the Dead. TCCRA:1(series) DB72025

1916. British nurse Bess Crawford returns to England to convalesce and travels to Kent to convey a message from dying patient Arthur Graham to his brother. There Bess helps nurse a shell-shocked soldier back to health--and becomes uncomfortably enmeshed in Graham's family secrets. 2009.

[Author writes in the early turn of the century depicting the insanity of war]

Marcia Muller. Burn Out. MM8SM(series) DB68805

California. Traumatized by a near-deadly investigation, PI Sharon McCone retreats to her high-desert ranch, where she becomes embroiled in the case of the murder of Hayley Perez, her foreman's niece. While learning to accept her own Shoshone heritage, Sharon uncovers troubling secrets about Hayley's dysfunctional family. Some strong language. 2008.

Dashiell Hammett. Complete Novels: "Red Harvest," "The Dain Curse," "The Maltese Falcon," "The Glass Key," "The Thin Man." DB55472

Five classic mysteries originally published between 1929 and 1934, featuring hard-boiled detectives. Stories include "The Thin Man", which introduces the husband-and-wife team of Nick and Nora Charles, and "The Maltese Falcon" with Sam Spade. Some violence and some strong language. 1934.

Ian Rankin. Exit Music. RI8JR (Series) DB68820

Edinburgh. With just ten days until his retirement, Detective Inspector John Rebus investigates the case of an exiled Russian poet found beaten to death. Rebus and his colleague Siobhan Clarke uncover connections to local Scottish bankers and politicians--and find evidence of another murder. Strong language and some violence. 2007.

S.J. Rozan. The Shanghai Moon. RS8S (Series) DB72197

During the Holocaust Rosalie Gilder fled Austria for Shanghai and vanished from official records. Her jewelry briefly resurfaces decades

later--only to be stolen. PI Lydia Chin accepts a job tracking it down, then turns to estranged partner Bill Smith for help investigating when her contact is killed. 2009.

Anthony Horowitz. Crocodile Tears. HA8AR. DB070121

Alex Rider investigates a food company that is experimenting with genetically modified seeds. Alex uncovers a plot to poison millions in Kenya and steal the world aid that would come for their relief. For grades 6-9. 2009.

Michael Connelly. City of Bones. CM8HB (Series) DB54156

The scattered bones of an abused, murdered child are discovered in the Hollywood hills. Detective Harry Bosch takes the cold case and tracks the corpse to a missing boy from 1980. Bosch also begins an affair with a rookie cop as the case takes on strange twists. Commercial audiobook. Violence and strong language. 2002.

Severn House -

Fiona Buckley. The Doublet Affair. BFQEC:2 (Series) DB49539

Downloadable Only

In this sequel to To Shield the Queen (RC 49538) lady-in-waiting Ursula Blanchard is sent to spy on Leonard Mason, who is suspected of sympathizing with Mary Stuart's design to seize the throne. Ursula hopes to join her husband in France afterwards as a reward. Some descriptions of sex and some violence. 1998.

Ed Gorman. A Modern Treasury of Great Detective and Murder Mysteries. DB67202

Anthology of twenty-five short mysteries published between 1954 and 1991 by Lawrence Sanders, Loren D. Estleman, Tony Hillerman, Ed McBain, Sharyn McCrumb, Sara Paretsky, and others. In Marcia Muller's "The Broken Men," a PI seeks a killer at a clown convention. Includes a Nameless Detective tale by Bill Pronzini. 1994.

J. Sydney Jones. The Empty Mirror. JJVIE: 1 (Series) DB69179

Austria, 1898. When a female model of controversial artist Gustav Klimt becomes the victim of a serial killer, authorities suspect Klimt may be involved. Lawyer Karl Werthen and criminologist Hanns Gross attempt to vindicate Klimt in an investigation that implicates members of the social and political elite. Some violence. 2009.

[Writes historical mysteries about Vienna in early 1900s]

Kensington Publishing -

Joanne Fluke. Apple Turnover Murder. FJ8HS (Series) DB70782

Hannah Swensen of Lake Eden, Minnesota, is busily baking for a three-day charity event. When her former college professor – and one-time fling – Bradford Ramsey arrives in town, Hannah seeks to keep her reputation safe. But she must investigate when Brad is murdered. Includes recipes. 2010.

[Cookbook mysteries with recipes. Cozy mysteries. *"Best recipes in genre", says Library Journal.*]

Leslie Meier. Gingerbread Cookie Murder. DB72467

Three short Christmas mysteries. In the title piece, bakery owner Hannah Swensen of Lake Eden, Minnesota, discovers the body of her neighbor Ernie Kusak in his condo. Suspects in the murder of the recent lottery winner include his ex-wife. Includes recipes. 2010.

[Cozy mystery]

2011-2012 Hours Open

**Monday – Friday 8 AM to 4 PM
Days Closed**

November	11	Veterans' Day
November	24	Thanksgiving
December	26	Christmas
January	2	New Year's
January	16	Martin Luther King
May	28	Memorial Day

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The Talking Times newsletter is also available on cassette, by email, or in audio and print over the Internet at the Talking Books Plus website.

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