

# READING MATTERS

Fourth  
Quarter  
2023



**WASHINGTON TALKING BOOK & BRAILLE LIBRARY**  
2021 9th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98121-2783  
8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday - Friday  
Phone: 206-615-0400 • Toll free: 800-542-0866  
wtbbl@sos.wa.gov • www.wtbbl.org



**That All May Read**

# FROM THE DIRECTOR

BY DANIELLE MILLER



Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to complete our WTBBL patron survey. Your feedback is invaluable to help us move forward and improve as we work to provide the best library service possible. Overall, the feedback we have received is very positive. However, when we asked how we can improve, we frequently heard that people are not always receiving the type of books they want to be receiving or are receiving subject matter that does not meet their preferences. We can only address these issues with your books if you call us or contact us by mail or email to let us know.

To ensure you are receiving the books, subjects, or authors you are interested in, call the library at 800-542-0866 and ask to speak to a readers' advisor. They will help you adjust your preferences for better selection of more books in the areas you enjoy. Remember, if you are having any problems with your service, please reach

out so we can make things work for you. We cannot fix what we do not know about.

Speaking of fixing, the WTBBL building has had a lot of work going on these past months. Some of you may be aware that our building is a converted car dealership. It opened on August 20, 1948 as the S.L. Savidge Dodge Dealership and sold cars almost up to the time that we moved into the facility in 1983. Some of our massive windows, including the windows on the round children's room, were the original single-pane, plate glass windows from 1948. For safety and energy efficiency, the time was long overdue to replace them. We worked with an architect and engineers to come up with the best solution for the necessary work that also preserved the architectural style and integrity of our unique building. The project is on track to be completed by January, when we'll be able to welcome all back to the renovated spaces!

Next spring, we will be holding a silent art auction to raise funds to benefit the library. I know many of you are very talented and artistic, and, as we move in to the colder and darker months, there is no better time to supplement your reading by getting creative. See the article in this issue for more information about how to submit to the show and support WTBBL. Have fun and happy reading.

On the cover: White Cane Day on  
October 14, 2023.

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# STATE LIBRARY UPDATE

BY SARA JONES



One of the roles I fill as the State Librarian is visiting libraries across our state. In the three years since I became the State Librarian, I have visited 54 of the 60 public library systems in our State- from Whatcom to Asotin County, Clark to Pend Oreille County and most everywhere in between! I will complete the final six in the new year. These visits help me be aware of the vast breadth of services Washington libraries provide their communities. In October, one of the last group of visits on my list were the San Juan Island Libraries. These included visits to Lopez Island, Orcas Island, and San Juan Island where

I met with library directors, saw their facilities, and explored the critical services provided by the libraries to these isolated communities. From our largest urban library systems like King County, Seattle Public, and Spokane City and County, to small libraries like Cathlamet, Roslyn, and Ritzville, it's a true pleasure to visit libraries at the center of their neighborhoods and communities. I also have the pleasure of meeting the library directors, who in some cases are the only staff member. In other cases, like at a central services facility like Pierce County or a large main library like the newly remodeled Spokane Central Library, I meet many staff. In addition to visiting all libraries, I am frequently invited to the opening of new libraries - like the recent dedication of the La Connor Library. I also recently attended an all-staff meeting of the King County Library System on Oct. 9, during which Governor Inslee signed the American Library Association Freedom to Read Statement to challenge censorship and support free access to ideas. The role of the State Librarian in being able to see the vast opportunities that our state's libraries provide and the challenges they meet in serving our communities is a true honor.



Sara Jones with staff at the La Conner Swinomish Library Dedication Event.



What a fantastic Autumn we've had at WTBBL! Leave it to the Youth Services Department to share opportunities for community building and engagement, from Spooky Multisensory Storytime to a spectacular Day of Coding, to the upcoming (and finally in-person!) Braille Challenge.

WTBBL's inclusive Multisensory Storytime is a beloved weekly program composed of 30 minutes of books, songs, and dance, followed by 30 minutes of free play and hands-on STEM activities or crafts for children aged 0-5. We had a great time on October 27th dressing up, exploring pumpkin guts, sharing our best frightening faces, and creating very scary hand puppets. Some of the stories featured were from our CVI-friendly collection of picture books, namely the classic *Go Away, Big Green Monster!* by Ed Emberly ([LP026160](#)) and a new favorite, *Ghosts in the House!* by Kazuno Kohara ([LP026158](#)).

We loved getting into the spirit of the season while practicing early literacy skills. Join us on Fridays at 11 am for more fun!

On November 4th, WTBBL hosted a Day of Coding with APH (American Printing House for the Blind). Staff and volunteers from both APH and Washington State School for the Blind brought extremely cool, hands-on coding materials for an accessible, in-person event. Not only did blind and low vision youth patrons get to learn how to use coding game sets like Code Jumper and Code and Go Mouse, but they also got to puzzle their way out of an accessible escape room, and even take home some coding kits for free! It was a great event where students and teachers were able to dip their toes into the foundations of coding, setting the stage for future achievements in STEM. Special thanks to everyone who helped make the day a success!

Mark your calendars – February 3rd will be our first in-person Braille Challenge Regional since 2020! Braille readers and writers in Grades 1-12 will come to WTBBL to show off their skills in this friendly competition celebrating braille literacy. There is fun to be had, titles to be claimed, and prizes to be won! Students who can't make it to Seattle may also participate remotely, but we are so excited to see students back at the library for this wonderful annual event. Student Registration closed on December 15<sup>th</sup>, but adult volunteers are still needed! If you'd like to Proctor, Score, or help out in any way, please reach out to Youth Librarian Erin Groth for more information.

There's so much happening in the Youth Services Department! Stay up to date by subscribing to our e-newsletter, DOTS: WTBBL's Youth Patron Newsletter. Contact Youth Librarian Erin at [erin.groth@sos.wa.gov](mailto:erin.groth@sos.wa.gov) or 206-615-1253 to be put on the list!

### WTBBL celebrates the Day of Coding!



# INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE

BY REBECCA STEWART



This fall, I am starting my third year in the online MLIS program at the UW Information School, where I've focused a lot of my coursework on academic librarianship and youth services. Within both areas, disability accessibility is of central interest to me; still, a lot of my knowledge up to this point has come from self-study and personal experience, so I was thrilled when WTBBB welcomed me as an intern this past summer to learn more about the organization and its patrons.

The cataloging project I worked on for this internship focused on improving the discoverability of series titles for library patrons and WTBBB staff. As I learned during my conversations with staff, the catalog is full of

records for books that belong to a series but are not tagged as such in the system, preventing them from coming up in a search or from being retrieved by the auto-selection algorithm. Other issues like inconsistent series titles and missing series sequence information can have an impact on discoverability as well. Reviewing the records for braille and audiobook series produced in-house, I documented a list of issues that WTBBB librarians should consider when finalizing cataloging guidelines and standards for these titles. As I did so, I directly edited and "cleaned up" over 800 records across over 100 book series according to some of the formatting guidelines that we knew would remain standard going forward, and I added all orphaned titles to the series records I touched. I hope that this work will allow WTBBB librarians to strategize more effectively as they begin more widespread cleanup in the future, and that user experience with the library catalog will be improved as a result.

During my internship, I learned about the NLS Network of libraries, gained insight into how cataloging work intersects with the work of various departments within a library, and, as I had hoped, I learned about what disability accessibility means specifically for WTBBB patrons. I was also interested to hear about some of the ideas from WTBBB staff about increasing collaboration between NLS and public libraries. This internship was one of the most valuable experiences of my program so far, and I so enjoyed getting to know everyone at WTBBB!

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Washington Talking Book & Braille Library

# BOOK CLUB

BY RYAN GELSKEY

We asked, you answered, and we listened. We're continuing Book Club in 2024! – with a few changes.

First, we are excited to announce that the Patron Book Club is becoming the **WTBBL Community Book Club**. Our wonderful volunteers are excited to join in reading the monthly titles with us and discussing the selections with you all.

Second, due to the overwhelming response to the patron satisfaction survey and the volunteer survey, we are adding a second discussion section in the evening to allow for varying schedules and maximize participation.

Third, the first book discussion session will be moved to the last Wednesday of each month, at 2 pm. The second session will be Thursdays at 6:30 pm. Both sessions will last one hour. Participants are welcome to attend either one, or both.

We will, however, still be discussing **The Last Green Valley** on Monday January 8th, 2024 at 1 pm. For anyone interested, there will be a second session on Thursday January 11th, 2024 at 6:30 pm.

In an effort to keep the momentum of Book Club going, the WTBBL Librarians have selected the theme for February's book club. In honor of Black History Month and our commitment to equity, diversity, & inclusion, we will be reading a selection of work by the great, but sometimes overlooked, literary giant James Baldwin. The remainder of the books for 2024 will be selected by popular vote beginning in December 2023 and will be made available no later than mid-February. More information about January and February's book selections below.

The Book Club will continue to be held virtually with both call-in and video-in options through Microsoft Teams.

You can register for Book Club [here](#), by calling 206-386-1254, or emailing our Integrative Services Librarian Ryan Gelskey at [ryan.gelskey@sos.wa.gov](mailto:ryan.gelskey@sos.wa.gov).

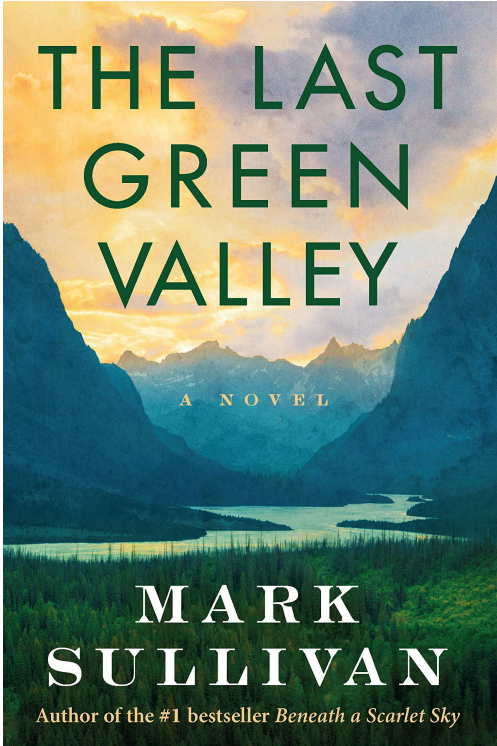
We hope you join us in 2024!



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# NEXT BOOK CLUB TITLES

BY RYAN GELSKEY



January 8, 1 pm & January 11, 6:30 pm

**The Last Green Valley** by Mark T. Sullivan  
DB106525

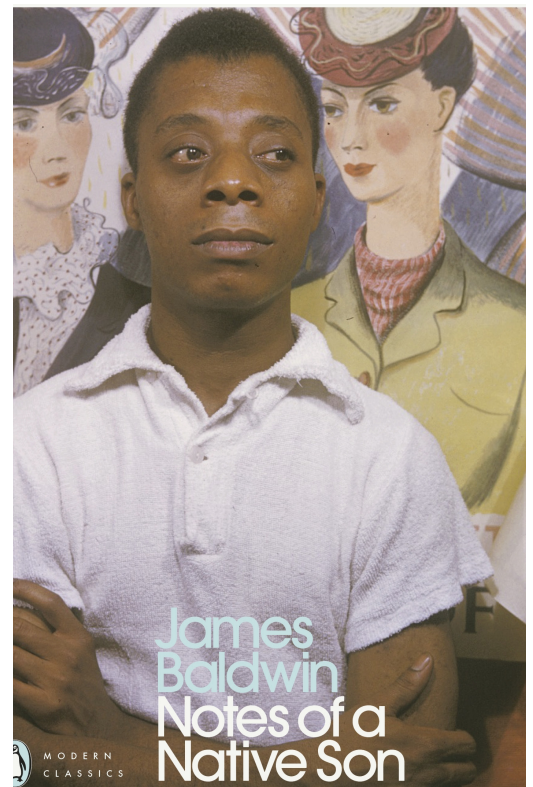
Ukraine, 1944. After a century of their German ancestors farming the land, Emil and Adeline Martel are faced with an impossible decision: follow the Nazis, who promise protection for “pure-blooded Germans”, or stand in the face of the Soviet invasion and possible deportation to Siberia. Caught between two warring forces and forced to overcome horrific trials, the Martels’ story is a brutal, complex, and ultimately triumphant tale capturing the spirit and tenacity of a people still fighting against invasion today.

February 28, 2 pm & February 29, 6:30 pm

Beginning Baldwin: An Introduction to James Baldwin featuring: **Giovanni’s Room** DB012503, **If Beal Street Could Talk...** DB058492, & **Notes of a Native Son** DB033260

Writer, Orator, Activist, James Baldwin (1924-1987) is regarded as one of the foremost American authors of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Join us as we read and discuss two of his short stories, and auto-biographical collection of essays and delve into Baldwin’s participation in the civil rights movement, and his thoughts on race, class, relationship dynamics, masculinity, belonging, and the struggles of self vs. society. Read one, read two, or read all three! Watch the “If Beale Street Could Talk” movie, and read Giovanni’s Room – do whatever works best for you, and bring your insights to share!

Please contact the library for these titles in braille.



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Washington Talking Book & Braille Library



# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

BY JESSICA JENSEN



“ The fact that you're helping other people out is really something... and [volunteering here] just fits me. ”

Jim has been volunteering at WTBBL for about 20 years. He spent the first ten to twelve years volunteering for the Evergreen Radio Reading Service twice a week. When the Radio Reading Service ended, he became an audiobook narrator, coming in once or twice a week to record books to be converted into NLS talking books. When he finishes recording a book, the audio file is reviewed by an audiobook reviewer. Jim then checks the notes, makes edits, and polishes the recording before final edits are made by WTBBL staff.

Jim spent many years as a Catholic Religious Teaching Brother, teaching Spanish. During that time, a few of his Brothers participated in recording materials for the blind. One friend, whom he referred to as his closest friend of the Brothers, became blind due to macular degeneration about twenty years ago. So Jim thought that recording books for the blind was something that called to him. He was a singer for many years and used to perform at a club in Belltown, and he was told that he had a very good voice. He had also produced CDs, so recording wasn't new to him.

Jim's favorite part of volunteering at WTBBL is the staff (and, no, he wasn't paid to say that)! He says that, in all the years he's been volunteering here, there hasn't been a single day where he has woken up and thought, "I don't want to go." He loves sharing stories and chatting with everyone at WTBBL, and the staff can agree that he has some of the most amazing stories and jokes!

To find a book that he wants to record, Jim likes to browse through the stack and see which books draw him in. His favorite book to date, that he recommends everyone read, is called **Flight of Gold: Two Pilots' True Adventure Discovering Alaska's Gold Wreck** by Kevin A. McGregor (DBC06816). Though he recorded it years ago, it still stands out in his memory as a powerful story and gripping read.

Jim's fun fact about himself is related to his old profession. As a Brother of the Cross at Catholic schools, he wore the Roman collar, which led to him and his coworkers often being mistaken for priests. People would come to him and say, "Father, would you bless my rosary?" Tired of explaining that they were teachers and not ordained, they would simply say in Latin what translates to "won't do you any harm; won't do you any good" while making the cross with their hand over the rosaries. He says they were never caught doing this!

# CALLING ALL ARTISTS!



## OPENING WINDOWS TO THE WORLD

### A Silent Art Auction to benefit The Washington Talking Book & Braille Library

Are you an artist interested in supporting WTBBL's mission "That All May Read"? We are inviting patrons, volunteers, donors, and other friends of the library to create art works for our upcoming silent auction, **Opening Windows to the World: A Silent Art Auction to Benefit the Washington Talking Book & Braille Library**. We chose this theme because we often hear that WTBBL services are a window to the world, and we recently renovated our building with new windows. All proceeds from the sale of the art will benefit WTBBL by supporting library programming, books and materials, and equipment and technology for training, local book production, and podcasting. The Art Auction and a reception will be held at WTBBL on May 23, 2024 with online bidding available.

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Washington Talking Book & Braille Library

## Important Dates:

Entry form submission deadline: **March 15, 2024**

Notification of acceptance date: **April 5, 2024**

Delivery/ shipping arrival deadline date: **May 10, 2024**

Silent auction date: **May 23, 2024**

Unsold artwork pickup date: **May 31, 2024** (or release to WTBBBL)

## Submission Criteria:

- Opening Windows to the World is a suggested and encouraged theme
- Works can be two- or three-dimensional
- Tactile works are strongly encouraged
- Works may be created by anyone, but works by WTBBBL patrons will be given priority
- Artists may submit up to two (2) works
- Complete a separate entry form for each work
- The entry form must be completed in its entirety
- An image for each work must be submitted
- All works must be presentation-ready when delivered or mailed (we are unable to frame or provide structures)
- We are unable to accept:
  - Film, sound, or video work
  - Installation work that cannot be accommodated in someone's place of residence

If you would like to participate, please complete an entry form at <https://bit.ly/3QuaDeQ> and submit an image of your work no later than 5 pm on March 15, 2024. Works received after the deadline will not be considered. There will be a selection process depending on the number of works submitted and space available.

Questions?

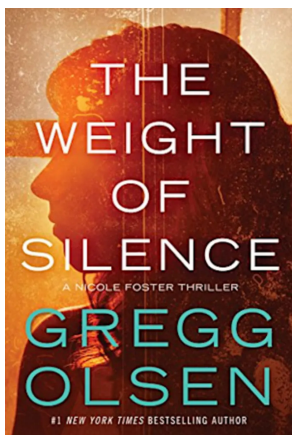
Send an email to [wtbbl@sos.wa.gov](mailto:wtbbl@sos.wa.gov) with the subject line WTBBBL Silent Auction or call us at 206-615-0400.

# NEW AUDIOBOOKS

BY JOHN PAI

The dark days of winter are upon us and that makes it the perfect time to discover some newly uploaded audio books to help chase away the wet and darkness!

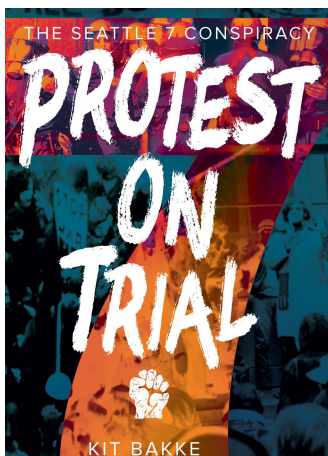
For Adult readers we have:



DBC19190 **The Weight of Silence** Book #2 in the Nicole Foster Series by Gregg Olsen Hoquiam, Washington. Nicole Foster has moved back to her hometown and is getting her life back together while working as a police detective and taking care of her niece, Emma. Things

darken when Nicole handles a case about a toddler who died of heatstroke in a car and her sister, Emma's mother, returns with deadly secrets.

[2018 Narrated by Elizabeth Lopic]



DBC00241 **Protest on Trial: The Seattle 7 Conspiracy** by Kit Bakke

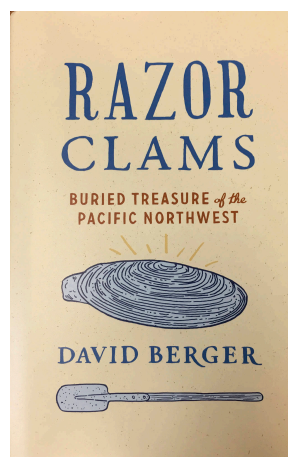
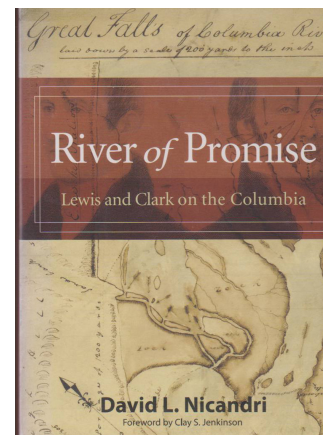
In 1970, the Seattle 7 were young political activists known as the Seattle Liberation Front who were dedicated to changing society and partying. After

successfully organizing demonstrations, they were brought to trial on grounds of inciting riot. The trial became political theater.

Includes an interview with the author [2018 Narrated by Florrie Munat]

DBC15616 **River of Promise: Lewis and Clark on the Columbia** by David L. Nicandri This account of the Lewis & Clark expedition focuses on their time west of the Rockies and their search for a water route to the Pacific. Close attention is also paid to the contribution of the area's Native Americans.

[2009 Narrated by John Ogliore]



DBC19124 **Razor Clams: Buried Treasure of the Pacific Northwest**

by David Berger A cheerful book on the lore, science, and history of razor clams on Washington beaches. It includes useful information about

harvestings razor clams and recipes to use with them.

[2011 Narrated by Michael Memmo]

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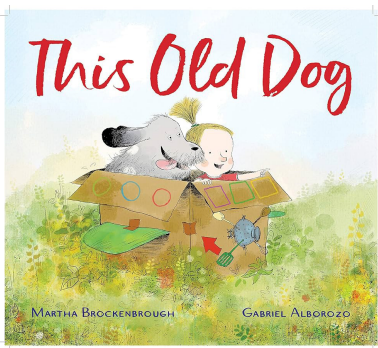
DBC19227 **Hungry Monkey: A Food-Loving Father's Quest to Raise an Adventurous Eater**

by Matthew Amster-Burton

Who gets to decide what is for dinner--the kid or the parents? This lighthearted account of a father teaching his daughter about a wide range of tasty foods includes recipes.

[2010 Narrated by Michael Memmo]

For YA/Children/Juvenile readers we have:



DBC19162

**This Old Dog**

by Martha

Brockenbrough  
illustrated by Gabriel  
Alborozo

An ode to the bond between a young toddler and an old dog, this book

celebrates taking your time to appreciate the little things. For preschool to grade 2 readers.

[2020 Narrated by Margarita Munoz]

DBC07045 **The Boys From Little Mexico: A Season Chasing the American Dream**

by Steve Wilson

2005, Woodburn High. The true story of an all-Latino boys' soccer team in Oregon - Los Perros/The Bulldogs - and their fight to win the State Championship, against the odds and the wealthy all-white suburban schools around them. For 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade readers.

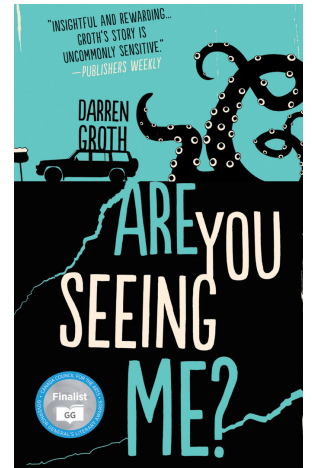
[2010 Narrated by Ron Davids]

DBC19090 **Are You Seeing Me?**

by Darren Groth

Twins Justine and Perry have left their home in Australia and embarked on the road trip of a lifetime in the Pacific Northwest. For junior and senior high school readers.

[2015 Narrated by John Gahagan]



DBC16953 **The Spirit of Springer: The Real-Life Rescue of an Orphaned Orca**

by Amanda Abler

A compelling nonfiction picture book about the remarkable rescue of an orphaned orca calf, Springer (A73), whose story captured the hearts of whale lovers throughout the Pacific Northwest. For grades 2-4 readers.

[2020 Narrated by Margarita Munoz]

DBC15729 **The Originals**

by Cat Patrick

Seventeen-year-old Lizzie, Ella, and Betsey Best are clones, raised as identical triplets by their surrogate mother but living as her one daughter, Elizabeth - until their separate abilities and a romantic relationship force a change. For junior and senior high readers.

[2013 Narrated by Sarah Pitman]

# END OF YEAR REFLECTIONS

## BY WTBBL STAFF

We asked WTBBL staff to reflect on 2023. Here are some staff members sharing their favorite memory and book of 2023, and their hope for 2024!



**Izzy** (Office Assistant), **Erin** (Youth Services Librarian), and **Shannon** (Readers' Advisor)

### **Favorite Memory:**

Izzy: "Alicia has a bird of the day calendar and every workday she comes to my desk and we look at the bird together and make our little observations and assessments.

EX: 'Is that bird's brain really big, or is it just feathers in there?' 'That bird looks like it's wearing knee-high boots, ha-ha,' etc.. On Friday we get to see three birds because of the weekend."

Erin: "Returning to in-person Storytime after almost 3 years and meeting a new group of regulars. One family told me their toddler plays 'Ms Erin' where he presents Storytime with books and songs to his mom and dad at home. So cute, I'm honored!"

Shannon: "I got the Wordle correct in one try, a fluke I have never repeated and don't expect to again!"

### **Favorite Book:**

Izzy: "**Working: People Talk About What They Do All Day and How They Feel About What They Do** by Studs Terkel (DB107784). Although the interviews in this book are from the mid-70s, the people featured in this book; their daily struggles, triumphs, and observations; felt so alive and prescient. I would highly recommend this book to anyone who is interested in the intimate effects of capitalism, or really just the human condition in general."

Erin: "**Our Wives Under the Sea** by Julia Armfield. Mysterious, intriguing sci-fi in a debut novel. I am so excited to read what this author puts out next!"

Shannon: "**Legends & Lattes** by Travis Baldree (DB111420, BR024733). It's a very low-stakes fantasy novel, but I loved the premise and I thought the characters were charming."

### **In 2024, I hope...**

Izzy: "To do more puzzles, read more books, and go to the ocean more."

Erin: "Get back into some hobbies that have fallen by the wayside."

Shannon: "To become even more awesome!"



**Alan** (Readers' Advisor), **Sal** (Shipping Manager), and **John** (Audio Book Production Supervisor)

### **Favorite Memory:**

Sal: "After over 25 years I have too many memories to pick just one. I will say that working for Danielle and seeing how she has led us to being the Network Library of the Year (3 times!) has opened my eyes to all that we can do to make sure That All May Read. This is an amazing place to work!"

John: "Participating with a full-blown Volunteer appreciation event which elevated the celebration and honoring of our volunteers who truly are special and extraordinary to work alongside. Also, being treated to a birthday dinner by my 3 daughters in downtown Madrid!"

### **Favorite Book:**

Alan: "**The Stone and the Flute** by Hans A. Bemmann (DB026451), a translation from a German author, by Anthea Bell. I'd never

heard of this author, but I can't resist a big fantasy book. This book was great, not heroic or epic, just one man trying to cope with what life hands him."

Sal: "Sorry to say, I'm not really a reader, it puts me to sleep."

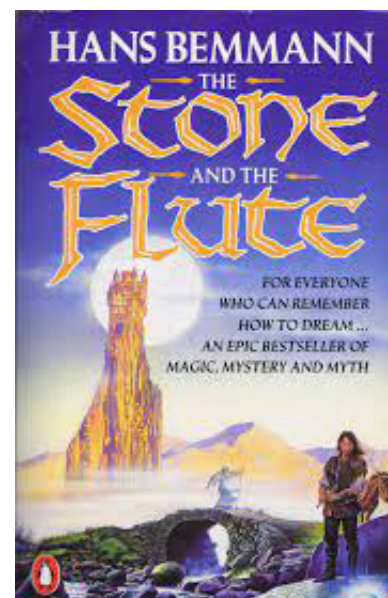
John: "**To Whoever Even Listen** by Michiko Wild. Graphic novel compiling three generations of letters, medical records and autobiographical comics to explore the legacy of intergenerational trauma, mental illness and memory."

### **In 2024, I hope...**

Alan: "To retire!"

Sal: "To leave the Shipping Department in better shape than it was over 25 years ago, as I plan on retiring in December 2024."

John: "Continue to plan, implement, and set the stage for a fully engaged life."





**Ryan** (Integrative Services Librarian), **Reilly** (Outreach Librarian), and **Traci** (Managing Librarian).

### **Favorite Memory:**

Ryan: "Having the opportunity to attend the Washington Library Association 2023 conference, where I participated as a Rogue in a Dungeons & Dragons demonstration campaign to promote tabletop gaming in libraries."

Reilly: "Attending the Elsa Sjunneson author talk."

Traci: "I had so many lovely interactions with patrons—it's hard to choose! I loved hearing about what people were reading and how much they love the service."

### **Favorite Book:**

Ryan: "This is a tough question for me to answer! I have so enjoyed each of our book club books for 2023, as each one has offered such unique perspectives and facilitated sharing so many wonderful ideas. If I had to pick one so far, I'd have

to pick **Young Mungo** by Douglas Stuart (DB107722). Even though it was very heavy in content and emotionally charged, the tenderness and love shown between Mungo and James was so hopefully poetic and sincere, they have stuck with me since closing the book covers."

Reilly: "**A River Enchanted** by Rebecca Ross (DB109028, BR024788). I found this Celtic-inspired fantasy to be a captivating read that did an amazing job weaving together romance, intrigue, and folklore. This book explores the intersections of music, enchantment, partnership, duty, secrets, and love. I was spellbound!"

Traci: "**Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic, and Madness at the Fair that Changed America** by Erik Larson (BRG02644, DB055748). Larson is, in my mind, the king of non-fiction writing that reads like a page-turning novel, and his exhaustive researching abilities never cease to astound me. I've read many of his other books and I'm not sure why it took me so long to get to this one. This taught me so much about the 1893 Chicago World's Columbian Exhibition and America's first serial killer—it was both gruesome and educational."

### **Hope for 2024:**

Ryan: "Continue learning about assistive technologies and increase my braille literacy so that I can offer the best support possible to you all."

Reilly: "Continue having opportunities to talk people throughout the state about our library service!"

Traci: "To significantly improve my braille-reading skills!"





**Indigo** (Patron Services Specialist), **JJ** (Administrative Assistant), and **Alicia** (Audiobook Production Technician).

### **Favorite Memory:**

Indigo: "Any outreach with a water view! I am so happy to be back in Seattle, and going to health fairs where I get to gaze out at the sound really drives home what I had been missing. Shout out to the Lakeshore and Edmonds Waterfront Center! Please have us back."

JJ: "Coming to work at WTBBL! Everyone was so welcoming, and this is truly the best place to work! Plus, I have more people to pester with book recommendations, book rants, etc."

Alicia: "When Izzy told us at a Thursday staff meeting that they were going to see Beyoncé in concert and we all spontaneously started clapping."

### **Favorite Book:**

Indigo: "**If I Understood You Would I Have This Look on My Face?** by Alan Alda (DB088309). Alda teaches scientists, child musicians, and presenters improv

games to help them learn to be more natural communicators. I admire his outlook on life and generally loving and positive view of people. Alda brings his signature comedic charm and curiosity to this book, it's an easy read that taught me something! Really helps prove that nonfiction doesn't have to feel daunting and dense."

JJ: "**Thursday Murder Club** by Richard Osman (DB100981, DB104861) was such a fun read! I was actually named after the protagonist of *Murder, She Wrote*, so I have a special place in my heart for mysteries with older protagonists!"

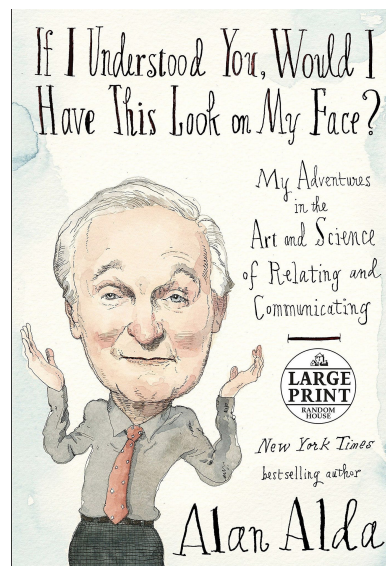
Alicia: "Also **Legends & Lattes**, which Shannon got me to read!"

### **In 2024, I hope...**

Indigo: "Improve my braille and get out in the community!"

JJ: "To read and write more, and to get more engaged in studying languages!"

Alicia: "To eat more pasta."



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