

DIBS (Discussions In BoxeS)

A selection of challenging and entertaining discussion books, plus a readers' guide containing reviews and author information. Available for a checkout period of 6 weeks.



New:

Nagamatsu, Sequoia *How High We Go in the Dark*
 Saunders, George *Lincoln in the Bardo*
 Westover, Tara *Educated*

Author	Title	BPL single copy formats
Alexie, Sherman	<i>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</i>	YA FIC ALEX PLAYAWAY YA FIC ALEX

Inspired by his own experiences growing up on an Indian reservation, Alexie chronicles the contemporary adolescence of one plucky boy trying to rise above the life everyone expects him to live.

Barry, Dan	<i>The Boys in the Bunkhouse: Servitude and Salvation in the Heartland</i>	IOWA 362.384 BA LARGE PRINT 362.384 BA CDBOOK 362.384 BA
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All Iowa Reads, 2018. Drawing on extensive personal interviews and reams of public records, *New York Times* journalist Dan Barry delves into the lives of the “Men of Atalissa,” a group of men with intellectual disability who worked for decades under exploitative conditions at a turkey processing plant.

Bennett, Brit	<i>The Mothers</i>	FIC BENN CDBOOK FIC BENN
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All Iowa Reads, 2020. It is the last season of high school life for Nadia Turner, a rebellious, grief-stricken, seventeen-year-old beauty. Mourning her mother’s recent death, she takes up with the local pastor’s twenty-one-year-old son, Luke. They are young; it’s not serious. But the secret that results from this teen romance—and the subsequent cover-up—will have an impact that goes far beyond their youth. (Publisher information.)

Author	Title	BPL single copy formats
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Bloom, Stephen	<i>Postville: A Clash of Cultures in Heartland America</i>	IOWA 977.733 BL
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In 1987, a group of ultra-Orthodox Jews opened a kosher slaughterhouse just outside Postville, Iowa (pop. 1,465), both reviving and dividing the town. The quiet, restrained Iowans were aghast at the Hasidic Jews who ignored the unwritten laws of Iowa behavior, and the Lubavitchers could not compromise with the world of Postville. Ten years later, the town engineered a vote on what everyone agreed was a referendum: should these Jews stay? (Publisher information.)

Boo, Katherine	<i>Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death, and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity</i>	305.569 BO
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Winner of the National Book Award for nonfiction. The dramatic story of families striving toward a better life in Annawadi, a makeshift settlement in the shadow of luxury hotels near the Mumbai Airport in India.

Bowen, Rhys	<i>Her Royal Spyness</i>	MYS BOWE LARGE PRINT MYS BOWE
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London, 1932. Lady Victoria Georgiana Charlotte Eugenie, 34th in line for the English throne, is flat broke. She's bolted Scotland, her greedy brother, and her fish-faced betrothed. London is a place where she'll experience freedom, learn life lessons aplenty, do a bit of spying for HRH—oh, and find a dead Frenchman in her tub. Now her new job is to clear her long family name... (Publisher information.)

Brennert, Alan	<i>Moloka'i</i>	FIC BREN
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When a rose-colored mark appears on her skin seven-year-old Rachel Kalama is taken from her home and family and sent to a quarantined leprosy settlement on the Island of Moloka'i. Here her life is supposed to end—but instead she discovers it is just beginning.

Brown, Amy Belding	<i>Flight of the Sparrow: A Novel of Early America</i>	
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A historical novel based on the life of Mary Rowlandson. Even before she was captured by Indians on a winter day of violence and terror, Mary Rowlandson sometimes found herself in conflict with her rigid Puritan community.

Author	Title	BPL single copy formats
Brown, Carrie	<i>The Rope Walk</i>	FIC BROW
<p>All Iowa Reads, 2009. On her 10th birthday Alice meets two visitors to her quiet Vermont town: Theo, the African American grandson of her father's best friend, and Kenneth, an artist who has come home to convalesce.</p>		
Butler, Nickolas	<i>Little Faith</i>	FIC BUTL LARGE PRINT FIC BUTL
<p>All Iowa Reads, 2021. Lyle Hovde loves nothing more than spending time with his five-year-old grandson, Isaac, but this relationship is threatened when his daughter, Shiloh, becomes involved with her pastor, who believes Isaac has the power to heal others.</p>		
Cameron, Claire	<i>The Bear</i>	FIC CAME
<p>2015 QC Women's Connection International Author. While camping with her family on a remote island, 5-year-old Anna wakes in the night to the sound of screaming. A wild black bear is attacking her parents.</p>		
Capote, Truman	<i>In Cold Blood</i>	364.1523 CA CDBOOK 364.152 CA DVD DRAMA CAPOTE DVD MYSTERY IN
<p>In this "nonfiction novel" Capote reconstructs the apparently motiveless 1959 murder of the Clutter Family in rural Kansas, followed by the capture, trial, and execution of the killers.</p>		
Castillo, Ana	<i>The Guardians</i>	FIC CAST
<p>Eking out a living as a teacher's aide in a small New Mexican border town, Tia Regina is also raising her teenage nephew, Gabo, a hardworking boy who has entered the country illegally and aspires to the priesthood. When Gabo's father, Rafa, disappears while crossing over from Mexico, Regina fears the worst.</p>		
Collins, Wilkie	<i>The Woman in White</i>	MYS COLL DVD TV WOMAN
<p>Opens with Walter Hartright's eerie encounter on a moonlit London road. This book is the first and most influential of the Victorian genre that combined Gothic horror with psychological realism.</p>		

Author	Title	BPL single copy formats
Danticat, Edwidge	<i>The Dew Breaker</i>	FIC DANT
<p>The violent past of the “dew breaker” (a torturer of Haitian dissidents under Duvalier) is revealed, chapter by chapter, by those who knew him.</p>		
Dean, Debra	<i>The Madonnas of Leningrad</i>	FIC DEAN LARGE PRINT FIC DEAN
<p>In this sublime debut novel, set amid the horrors of the siege of Leningrad in World War II, a gifted writer explores the power of memory to save . . . and betray.</p>		
Diamant, Anita	<i>The Red Tent</i>	FIC DIAM CDBOOK FIC DIAM DVD DRAMA RED
<p>The little known Biblical story of Dinah, daughter of the patriarch Jacob and his wife Leah, is told from the perspective of its women.</p>		
Doerr, Anthony	<i>All the Light We Cannot See</i>	FIC DOER LARGE PRINT FIC DOER CDBOOK FIC DOER 468 DO (Spanish translation)
<p>From the highly acclaimed, multiple award-winning Anthony Doerr, a stunningly ambitious and beautiful novel about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II. (Publisher information.)</p>		
Edugyan, Esi	<i>Washington Black</i>	FIC EDUG LARGE PRINT FIC EDUG
<p>Washington Black is an eleven-year-old field slave in Barbados whose life begins to change when he becomes a servant to his owner’s brother, Titch. After Wash witnesses a white man’s death, he and Titch flee the Caribbean to save Wash’s life. Their travels take them far afield of what you might expect from a fugitive slave story.</p>		

Author	Title	BPL single copy formats
Eggers, Dave	<i>The Circle</i>	FIC EGGE LARGE PRINT FIC EGGE BLU-RAY DRAMA CIRCLE DVD DRAMA CIRCLE
<p>What begins as the captivating story of one woman's ambition and idealism soon becomes a heart-racing novel of suspense, raising questions about memory, history, privacy, democracy, and the limits of human knowledge.</p>		
Endo, Shusaku	<i>Silence</i>	FIC ENDO BLU-RAY DRAMA SILENCE DVD DRAMA SILENCE
<p>Seventeenth-century Japan: Two Portuguese Jesuit priests travel to a country hostile to their religion, where feudal lords force the faithful to publicly renounce their beliefs.</p>		
Enger, Leif	<i>Peace Like a River</i>	FIC ENGE LARGE PRINT FIC ENGE
<p>All Iowa Reads, 2003. A father and his two young children go on a journey into the Badlands in the heart of winter in the 1960s. They are searching for the oldest son, who escaped from jail in Minnesota.</p>		
Erdrich, Louise	<i>The Master Butchers Singing Club</i>	FIC ERDR
<p>All Iowa Reads, 2005. The story of a WWI sniper and master butcher with a “talent for stillness” and for singing. After marrying Eva, he emigrates to America, settling in Argus, North Dakota.</p>		
Fowler, Karen Joy	<i>The Jane Austen Book Club</i>	FIC FOWL DVD ROMANCE JANE
<p>A novel about how we engage with a novel.</p>		
Fuller, Alexandra	<i>Don't Let's Go to the Dogs Tonight</i>	LARGE PRINT BIOG FULLER
<p>2009 QC Women's Connection International Author. An unflinching memoir of a child growing up during the 1970s Rhodesian Civil War.</p>		

Author	Title	BPL single copy formats
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Gawande, Atul	<i>Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End</i>	362.175 GA LARGE PRINT 362.175 GA CDBOOK 362.175 GA
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Riveting, honest, and humane, this remarkable book, which has already changed the national conversation on aging and death, shows how the ultimate goal is not a good death but a good life—all the way to the very end. (Publisher information.)

Genoways, Ted	<i>This Blessed Earth: A Year in the Life of an American Family Farm</i>	630.9782 CDBOOK 630.97
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Joint selection for All Iowa Reads and One Book One Nebraska, 2019. With a journalist's eye for detail and a poet's ear for language, Genoways describes a year in the life of the Hammonds, who work a cattle and crop farm that has been in their family for generations. Along with accounts of planting, harvesting, and cattle auctions, Genoways supplies historical context for how farming happens in the 21st century.

Gilbert, Elizabeth	<i>Eat Pray Love: One Woman's Search for Everything Across Italy, India, and Indonesia</i>	910.4 GI LARGE PRINT 910.4 GI CDBOOK 910.4 GI
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Gilbert grafts the structure of romantic fiction upon the inquiries of reporting in this sprawling yet methodical travelogue of soul-searching and self-discovery. (*Publishers Weekly*)

Grann, David	<i>Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI</i>	976.6004 GR YA 976.6004 GR CDBOOK 976.6004 GR
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In an extraordinary work of nonfiction, Grann tells the story of how the Osage Nation in Oklahoma became the richest people per capita in the world, as well as targets of a murderous conspiracy.

Greene, Graham	<i>The Quiet American</i>	FIC GREE DVD DRAMA QUIET
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"I never knew a man who had better motives for all the trouble he caused," Greene's narrator, Fowler, remarks of Alden Pyle, the eponymous "Quiet American" of what is perhaps the most controversial novel of Greene's career.

Author	Title	BPL single copy formats
Gregory, Philippa	<i>The Other Boleyn Girl</i>	FIC GREG DVD DRAMA OTHER
When Mary Boleyn comes to court as an innocent girl of fourteen, she catches the eye of Henry VIII.		
Gudenkauf, Heather	<i>The Weight of Silence</i>	FIC GUDE LARGE PRINT FIC GUDE CDBOOK FIC GUDE
What happens in a 24-hour period when two different families wake up in the morning and find their young daughters missing.		
Herrera, Yuri	<i>Signs Preceding the End of the World</i>	FIC HERR
Yuri Herrera does not simply write about the border between Mexico and the United States and those who cross it. He explores the crossings and translations people make in their minds and language as they move from one country to another, especially when there's no going back. Traversing this lonely territory is Makina, a young woman who knows only too well how to survive in a violent, macho world. (Publisher information.)		
Hoffman, Alice	<i>The Marriage of Opposites</i>	FIC HOFF LARGE PRINT FIC HOFF CDBOOK FIC HOFF
Growing up on idyllic St. Thomas in the early 1800s, Rachel dreams of life in faraway Paris. Rachel's mother, a pillar of their small refugee community of Jews who escaped the Inquisition, has never forgiven her daughter for being a difficult girl who refuses to live by the rules. Growing up, Rachel's salvation is their maid Adelle's belief in her strengths, and her deep, life-long friendship with Jestine, Adelle's daughter. But Rachel's life is not her own. She is married off to a widower with three children to save her father's business. When her older husband dies suddenly and his handsome, much younger nephew, Frédérick, arrives from France to settle the estate, Rachel seizes her own life story, beginning a defiant, passionate love affair that sparks a scandal that affects all of her family, including her favorite son, who will become one of the greatest artists of France. (Publisher information.)		
Hoover, Michelle	<i>Bottomland</i>	FIC HOOV
All Iowa Reads, 2017. In the years after World War I, the Hess family attempt to rid themselves of the anti-German sentiment that left a stain on their name. But when the youngest two daughters vanish in the middle of the night, the family must piece together what happened while struggling to maintain their life on the unforgiving Iowa plains.		

Author	Title	BPL single copy formats
Hosseini, Khaled	<i>The Kite Runner</i>	FIC HOSS CDBOOK FIC HOSS GRAPHIC HO DVD DRAMA KITE 813.6 HE (discussion guide) 833.912 KI (SparkNotes)

A story of fierce cruelty and fierce, yet redeeming, love. Both transform the life of Amir who comes of age during the last peaceful days of the Afghan monarchy, just before his country's revolution and its invasion by Russian forces. (*New York Times Book Review*)

Hurston, Zora Neale	<i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i>	FIC HURS DVD DRAMA THEIR
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This novel follows the fortunes of Janie Crawford, a woman living in the black town of Eaton, Florida.

Jacobs, A.J.	<i>It's All Relative: Adventures Up and Down the World's Family Tree</i>	929.1 JA
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AJ. Jacobs has received some strange emails over the years, but this note was perhaps the strangest: "You don't know me, but my wife is your eighth cousin. And we have over 80,000 relatives of yours in our database." That's enough family members to fill Madison Square Garden four times over. Who are these people, A.J. wondered, and how do I find them? So began Jacobs's three-year adventure along the branches of the world's family tree. (Publisher information; this DIBS kit was funded by the National Network of Libraries of Medicine Reading Club.)

Jahren, Hope	<i>Lab Girl</i>	570.92 JA
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Geobiologist Hope Jahren has spent her life studying trees, flowers, seeds, and soil. *Lab Girl* is her revelatory treatise on plant life—but it is also a celebration of the lifelong curiosity, humility, and passion that drive every scientist. (Publisher information.)

Johnson, Steven	<i>The Ghost Map : The Story of London's Most Terrifying Epidemic and How It Changed Science, Cities, and the Modern World</i>	614.514 JO
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In the summer of 1854, a devastating cholera outbreak seized London just as it was emerging as a modern city: more than 2 million people packed into a ten-mile circumference, a hub of travel and commerce, continually pushing the limits of infrastructure that's outdated as soon as it's updated. Author Johnson chronicles Snow's day-by-day efforts as he risked his own life to prove how the epidemic was being spread. (Publisher information.)

Author	Title	BPL single copy formats
Joyce, Rachel	<i>The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry</i>	LARGE PRINT FIC JOYC
<p>Harold Fry is convinced that he must deliver a letter to an old love in order to save her, meeting various characters along the way and reminiscing about the events of his past and people he has known, as he tries to find peace and acceptance.</p>		
Kidder, Tracy	<i>Strength in What Remains</i>	305.896 KI
<p>All Iowa Reads, 2012. Deo arrives in the United States from Burundi in search of a new life. Having survived a civil war and genocide, he lands at JFK airport with two hundred dollars, no English, and no contacts.</p>		
Kingsolver, Barbara	<i>The Poisonwood Bible</i>	FIC KING LARGE PRINT FIC KING PLAYAWAY FIC KING 813.6 HE (discussion guide)
<p>An Oprah's Book Club selection. This story is told by the wife and four daughters of Nathan Price, a fierce, evangelical Baptist who takes his family and mission to the Belgian Congo in 1959.</p>		
Kinsella, Sophie	<i>Can You Keep a Secret?</i>	
<p>When her plane <i>en route</i> from Glasgow to London experiences horrible turbulence, Emma Corrigan is convinced she is going to die. She babbles all of her most intimate thoughts and secrets to the handsome American man sitting next to her. The plane lands safely. (<i>Booklist</i>)</p>		
Kline, Christina Baker	<i>Orphan Train</i>	FIC KLIN LARGE PRINT FIC KLIN JFIC KLIN (young readers' edition)
<p>Moving between contemporary Maine and Depression-era Minnesota, <i>Orphan Train</i> is a powerful tale of upheaval and resilience, second chances, and unexpected cross-generational friendship.</p>		
Krauss, Nicole	<i>The History of Love</i>	FIC KRAU
<p>Fourteen-year-old Alma Singer is trying to find a cure for her mother's loneliness by finding the author of an old book her mother is lovingly translating. (Publisher information.)</p>		

Author	Title	BPL single copy formats
Kyle, Aryn	<i>The God of Animals</i>	FIC KYLE
<p>When her older sister runs away to marry a rodeo cowboy, 12-year-old Alice Winston is left to bear the brunt of her family's troubles on a run-down horse ranch in Colorado.</p>		
Landvik, Lorna	<i>Angry Housewives Eating Bon Bons</i>	FIC LAND LARGE PRINT FIC LAND
<p>This stalwart group of friends depicts a special slice of American life.</p>		
Lee, Harper	<i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>	FIC LEE LARGE PRINT FIC LEE CDBOOK FIC LEE YA FIC LEE YA GRAPHIC LE 468 LE (Spanish translation) BLU-RAY DRAMA TO DVD DRAMA TO
<p>Discussion guides, biography, and analysis:</p> <p>813.54 CR 813.54 FL 813.54 MI 813.54 MU 813.54 SA LARGE PRINT 813.54 MI BIOG LEE</p>		
<p>The classic novel of a childhood in a sleepy Southern town and the crisis of conscience that rocked it.</p>		
Lee, Min Jin	<i>Pachinko</i>	FIC LEE
<p>The story of four generations of a Korean family. After becoming pregnant with a married man's child, Sunja marries Isak, a Protestant minister. The newlyweds leave occupied Korea for Osaka, where they face discrimination by both the Japanese government and its citizens.</p>		

Author	Title	BPL single copy formats
Loewen, James	<i>Lies My Teacher Told Me</i>	973 LO YA 973 LO
Thought-provoking, nonpartisan, and often shocking, Loewen unveils the real America in this iconoclastic classic beloved by high school teachers, history buffs, and enlightened citizens across the country.		
Lowry, Lois	<i>The Giver</i>	NEWBERY JFIC LOWR MEDAL WINNER JGRAPHIC LO YA FIC LOWR YA GRAPHIC LO PLAYAWAY JFIC LOWR
Newbery Medal 1994. Jonas's world is perfect and when he turns 12, he is singled out to receive special training from The Giver, who holds the memories of the true pain and pleasure of life. (Publisher information.)		
Maltman, Thomas	<i>Little Wolves</i>	FIC MALT LARGE PRINT FIC MALT
All Iowa Reads, 2014. Set on the Minnesota prairie in the late 1980s during a drought season pushing family farms to the brink, Little Wolves features the intertwining story of a father searching for answers after his son commits a heinous murder, and a pastor's wife who has returned to the town for mysterious reasons of her own. (Publisher information.)		
Martel, Yann	<i>Life of Pi</i>	FIC MART CDBOOK FIC MART BLU-RAY DRAMA LIFE DVD DRAMA LIFE 813.6 HE (discussion guide)
When Pi is 16, his family and their zoo animals emigrate from India to North America. The ship sinks and Pi finds himself in a lifeboat with a 450-pound Bengal tiger.		
Mason, Daniel	<i>The Piano Tuner</i>	FIC MASO
In 1886 a shy, middle-aged piano tuner receives an unusual commission from the British War Office: to travel to the remote jungles of Burma to repair a rare piano belonging to an eccentric army officer. (Publisher information.)		

Author	Title	BPL single copy formats
McBride, James	<i>The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother</i>	BIOG MCBRIDE LARGE PRINT BIOG MCBRIDE YA BIOG MCBRIDE
<p>The author's mother was a rabbi's daughter, born in Poland, and raised in the South. She fled to Harlem, married a black man, founded a Baptist church, and put twelve children through college.</p>		
McCracken, Elizabeth	<i>Niagara Falls All Over Again</i>	FIC MCCR
<p>All Iowa Reads, 2004. Mose Sharp is the only boy among six sisters in a close-knit Jewish family in Valley Junction, Iowa. Instead of taking over the family business, he heads for the vaudeville circuit and teams up with comedian Rocky Carter.</p>		
McKenny, Rachel Mans	<i>The Butterfly Effect</i>	
<p>All Iowa Reads, 2022. Greta Oto, a prickly Iowa State University entomology student, cuts her research trip to Costa Rica short to help care for her twin, Danny, after he has an aneurysm. Returning home to Iowa means Greta will have to encounter people she would much rather avoid, like her ex-boyfriend, her estranged mother, and Danny's fiancée.</p>		
Meissner, Susan	<i>The Last Year of the War</i>	FIC MEIS LARGE PRINT FIC MEIS
<p>Elise Sontag lives an ordinary life with her family in Davenport, Iowa, until her father is arrested under suspicion of being a Nazi sympathizer. Her family is able to reunite by relocating to an internment camp in Texas, where she befriends Mariko, a Japanese American girl.</p>		
Mones, Nicole	<i>The Last Chinese Chef</i>	FIC MONE
<p>Mones takes readers inside the hidden world of elite cuisine in modern China through the story of an American food writer in Beijing.</p>		
Munro, Alice	<i>Hateship, Friendship, Courtship, Loveship, Marriage</i>	FIC MUNR
<p>In the nine stories that make up this collection, Munro achieves new heights, conjuring up characters as thorny and contradictory as people we know ourselves. (Publisher information.)</p>		

Author	Title	BPL single copy formats
Nagamatsu, Sequoia	<i>How High We Go in the Dark</i>	SF/FAN NAGA PLAYAWAY SF/FAN NAGA
<p>All Iowa Reads, 2023. In 2030, a grieving archeologist arrives in the Arctic Circle to continue the work of his recently deceased daughter at the Batagaika crater, where researchers are studying long-buried secrets now revealed in melting permafrost, including the perfectly preserved remains of a girl who appears to have died of an ancient virus. Once unleashed, the Arctic Plague will reshape life on earth for generations to come, quickly traversing the globe, forcing humanity to devise a myriad of moving and inventive ways to embrace possibility in the face of tragedy. (Publisher information.)</p>		
Nguyen, Viet Thanh	<i>The Sympathizer</i>	FIC NGUY
<p>Pulitzer Prize and Carnegie Medal, 2016. Follows a Viet Cong agent as he spies on a South Vietnamese army general and his compatriots as they start a new life in 1975 Los Angeles.</p>		
Noah, Trevor	<i>Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood</i>	791.4502 NO YA 791.4502 NO YA BIOG NOAH CDBOOK 791.4502 NO PLAYAWAY 791.4502 NO
<p>In this critically acclaimed memoir, the former host of <i>The Daily Show</i> recounts his childhood as the son of a black mother and a white father under South African apartheid.</p>		
Oliveira, Robin	<i>My Name Is Mary Sutter</i>	FIC OLIV LARGE PRINT FIC OLIV CDBOOK FIC OLIV
<p>All Iowa Reads, 2015. Mary Sutter is a brilliant young midwife who dreams of becoming a surgeon. Determined to overcome the prejudices against women in medicine—and eager to run away from recent heartbreak—Mary travels to Washington, D.C., to help tend the legions of Civil War wounded.</p>		
O’Nan, Stewart	<i>Last Night at the Lobster</i>	FIC ONAN
<p>At the edge of a run-down New England mall, the Red Lobster hasn’t been making its numbers and headquarters has pulled the plug. But manager Manny DeLeon still needs to navigate a tricky last shift.</p>		

Author	Title	BPL single copy formats
Orange, Tommy	<i>There There</i>	FIC ORAN CDBOOK FIC ORAN PLAYAWAY FIC ORAN
<p>A wondrous and shattering novel that follows twelve characters from Native communities: all traveling to the Big Oakland Powwow, all connected to one another in ways they may not yet realize. (Publisher information.)</p>		
Petterson, Per	<i>Out Stealing Horses</i>	FIC PETT
<p>The story of Trond Sander, a 67-year-old man who has moved from the city to a remote, riverside cabin, only to have all the turbulence, grief, and overwhelming beauty of his youth come back to him one night while he's out on a walk.</p>		
Phillips, Julia	<i>Disappearing Earth</i>	FIC PHIL
<p>One August afternoon, two sisters—Sophia, eight, and Alyona, eleven—go missing from a beach on the far-flung Kamchatka Peninsula in northeastern Russia. Taking us through the year that follows, <i>Disappearing Earth</i> enters the lives of women and girls in this tightly knit community who are connected by the crime: a witness, a neighbor, a detective, a mother. (Publisher information.)</p>		
Reichl, Ruth	<i>Tender at the Bone: Growing Up at the Table</i>	BIOG REICHL LARGE PRINT BIOG REICHL
<p>Reichl's memoir of her early years as an eater and cook, which served as the foundation of her later careers as a food writer and restaurant critic.</p>		
Robinson, Marilynne	<i>Gilead</i>	FIC ROBI LARGE PRINT FIC ROBI CDBOOK FIC ROBI
<p>All Iowa Reads, 2006. In 1956, toward the end of Rev. John Ames's life, he begins a letter to his young son, an account of himself and his forebears.</p>		

Author	Title	BPL single copy formats
Robinson, Marilynne	<i>Lila</i>	FIC ROBI LARGE PRINT FIC ROBI CDBOOK FIC ROBI
All Iowa Reads, 2016; National Book Award finalist; National Book Critics Circle Award. This third installment of Robinson's Gilead trilogy reveals the story of John Ames's wife, Lila.		
Satrapi, Marjane	<i>Persepolis</i>	GRAPHIC PERSEPOLIS DVD FOREIGN PERSEPOLIS
A memoir of growing up in Iran during the Islamic Revolution.		
Saunders, George	<i>Lincoln in the Bardo</i>	FIC SAUN LARGE PRINT FIC SAUN CDBOOK FIC SAUN
On February 22, 1862, two days after his death, Willie Lincoln was laid to rest in a marble crypt in a Georgetown cemetery. That very night, shattered by grief, Abraham Lincoln arrives at the cemetery under cover of darkness and visits the crypt, alone, to spend time with his son's body.		
Set over the course of that one night and populated by ghosts of the recently passed and the long dead, <i>Lincoln in the Bardo</i> is a thrilling exploration of death, grief, the powers of good and evil, a novel—in its form and voice—completely unlike anything you have read before. It is also, in the end, an exploration of the deeper meaning and possibilities of life, written as only George Saunders can: with humor, pathos, and grace. (Publisher information.)		
Shadid, Anthony	<i>House of Stone: A Memoir of Home, Family, and a Lost Middle East</i>	
A lyrical saga of Shadid's rebuilding of his great-grandfather's house in southern Lebanon, as well as a granular history of the region.		
Shaffer, Mary Ann, and Annie Barrows	<i>The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society</i>	FIC SHAF LARGE PRINT FIC SHAF CDBOOK FIC SHAF 813.6 HE (discussion guide)
As London is emerging from the shadow of World War II, writer Juliet Ashton discovers her next subject in a book club on Guernsey Island—a club born as a spur-of-the-moment alibi after its members are discovered breaking curfew by the Germans occupying their island.		

Author	Title	BPL single copy formats
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Skloot, Rebecca	<i>The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks</i>	616.0277 SK CDBOOK 616.0277 SK DVD DRAMA IMMORTAL
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Henrietta Lacks was a poor Southern tobacco farmer, yet her cells—taken without her knowledge—became one of the most important tools in medicine. The first “immortal” human cells grown in culture, they are still alive today, though she has been dead for more than sixty years.

Smith, Betty	<i>A Tree Grows in Brooklyn</i>	FIC SMIT LARGE PRINT FIC SMIT
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The beloved American classic about a young girl's coming-of-age at the turn of the twentieth century.

Spiegelman, Art	<i>The Complete Maus</i>	GRAPHIC MAUS V. 1 GRAPHIC MAUS V. 2
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Pulitzer Prize Special Citation, 1992. Spiegelman’s modern classic depiction of his father’s Holocaust experiences is at one and the same time a novel, a documentary, a memoir, and a comic book.

Stevenson, Bryan	<i>Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption</i>	353.48 ST YA 353.48 ST CDBOOK YA 353.48 ST BLU-RAY DRAMA JUST DVD DRAMA JUST
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Winner of the 2015 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Nonfiction. The founder of the Equal Justice Initiative in Montgomery, Alabama recounts his experiences as a lawyer working to assist those desperately in need, reflecting on his pursuit of the ideal of compassion in American justice. (Publisher information.)

Strout, Elizabeth	<i>Olive Kitteridge</i>	FIC STRO LARGE PRINT FIC STRO CDBOOK FIC STRO BLU-RAY TV OLIVE DVD TV OLIVE
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Winner of the 2009 Pulitzer Prize for fiction. At times stern, at other times patient, at times perceptive, at other times in sad denial, Olive Kitteridge, a retired schoolteacher, deplors the changes in her little town of Crosby, Maine, and in the world at large.

Author	Title	BPL single copy formats
Allison, Jay and Dan Gediman, editors	<i>This I Believe: The Personal Philosophies of Remarkable Men and Women</i>	170.44 TH
<p>“One Book One Bettendorf,” 2006. Based on the National Public Radio series of the same name, <i>This I Believe</i> features eighty essayists—from the famous to the unknown—completing the thought that begins the book’s title.</p>		
Thompson, Jean	<i>The Year We Left Home</i>	FIC THOM
<p>All Iowa Reads, 2013. Chronicles the happiness pursuits of the Eriksons from their 1970s coming-of-age to the near-present day, in a story told from revolving viewpoints.</p>		
Trevor, William	<i>The Story of Lucy Gault</i>	FIC TREV
<p>The Gault family leads a life of privilege in early 1920s Ireland, but the threat of violence leads them to England. Nine-year-old Lucy runs away, hoping to convince her parents to stay in Ireland.</p>		
Tyler, Anne	<i>Digging to America</i>	FIC TYLE CDBOOK FIC TYLE
<p>All Iowa Reads, 2008. The Donaldsons and Yazdans meet by chance at the Baltimore airport. Both families are waiting to pick up an adopted infant daughter from Korea. Over the course of a lifelong friendship, the two families grapple with questions of assimilation and identity.</p>		
Ung, Loung	<i>First They Killed My Father: A Daughter of Cambodia Remembers</i>	959.6042 UN
<p>QC Women’s Connection International Author, 2016. One of seven children of a high-ranking government official, Loung Ung lived a privileged life in the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh until the age of five. Then, in April 1975, Pol Pot’s Khmer Rouge army stormed into the city, forcing Ung’s family to flee and, eventually, to disperse. Loung was trained as a child soldier in a work camp for orphans.</p>		
Urrea, Luis Alberto	<i>Into the Beautiful North</i>	FIC URRE
<p>Nineteen-year-old Nayeli works at a taco shop in a remote Mexican village and dreams about her father, who left years ago to find work in the United States. (Funded by the Dr. Robert Anderson and Karen Schultz Endowment of the Community Foundation of the Great River Bend.)</p>		

Author	Title	BPL single copy formats
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Walls, Jeannette	<i>The Glass Castle</i>	BIOG WALLS LARGE PRINT BIOG WALLS YA BIOG WALLS CDBOOK BIOG WALLS DVD DRAMA GLASS
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When sober, Jeannette’s brilliant and charismatic father captured his children’s imagination, teaching them how to live fearlessly. But when he drank, he was dishonest and destructive. Her mother was a free spirit who abhorred the idea of domesticity. (Publisher information.)

Westover, Tara	<i>Educated: A Memoir</i>	270.092 WE LARGE PRINT 270.092 WE CDBOOK 270.092 WE PLAYAWAY 270.092 WE
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Tara Westover was seventeen the first time she set foot in a classroom. Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, she prepared for the end of the world by stockpiling home-canned peaches and sleeping with her "head-for-the-hills bag." In the summer she stewed herbs for her mother, a midwife and healer, and in the winter she salvaged in her father's junkyard. The family was so isolated from mainstream society that there was no one to ensure the children received an education, and no one to intervene when one of Tara's older brothers became violent. As a way out, Tara began to educate herself, learning enough mathematics and grammar to be admitted to Brigham Young University. Her quest for knowledge would transform her, taking her over oceans and across continents, to Harvard and to Cambridge. Only then would she wonder if she'd traveled too far, if there was still a way home. With the acute insight that distinguishes all great writers, Tara Westover has crafted a universal coming-of-age story that gets to the heart of what an education offers: the perspective to see one's life through new eyes, and the will to change it. (Publisher information.)

Whitehead, Colson	<i>The Underground Railroad</i>	FIC WHIT CDBOOK FIC WHIT PLAYAWAY FIC WHIT
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Winner of the 2017 Pulitzer Prize for fiction. “In his dynamic new novel, Colson Whitehead takes the Underground Railroad—the loosely interlocking network of black and white activists who helped slaves escape to freedom in the decades before the Civil War—and turns it from a metaphor into an actual train that ferries fugitives northward” (*The New York Times*).

Author	Title	BPL single copy formats
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Wilkerson, Isabel	<i>Caste: The Origin of Our Discontents</i>	305.5122 WI LARGE PRINT 305.5122 WI CDBOOK 305.5122
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In this brilliant book, Isabel Wilkerson gives us a masterful portrait of an unseen phenomenon in America as she explores, through an immersive, deeply researched narrative and stories about real people, how America today and throughout its history has been shaped by a hidden caste system, a rigid hierarchy of human rankings. Beyond race, class, or other factors, there is a powerful caste system that influences people's lives and behavior and the nation's fate. Linking the caste systems of America, India, and Nazi Germany, Wilkerson explores eight pillars that underlie caste systems across civilizations, including divine will, bloodlines, stigma, and more. (Publisher information.)

Winchester, Simon	<i>The Professor and the Madman: A Tale of Murder, Insanity, and the Making of the Oxford English Dictionary</i>	423.092 WI LARGE PRINT 423.092 WI CDBOOK 423.092 WI DVD DRAMA PROFESSOR
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James Murray, the “professor” of Winchester’s title, sets out to compile a record of every word in English and illustrate their meanings with examples of historical usage. This enormous project required help from numerous volunteers; one of the most prolific and beneficial contributors to the dictionary was an inmate of Broadmoor Criminal Lunatic Asylum.

Woodrell, Daniel	<i>Winter's Bone</i>	FIC WOOD DVD DRAMA WINTERS BLU-RAY DRAMA WINTERS
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Ree Dolly’s father has skipped bail on charges that he ran a crystal meth lab, and the Dolly family will lose their house if he doesn’t show up for his next court date. Sixteen-year-old Ree is determined to find him.

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