

Talking Book News
News & Information from the
Voices of Vision Talking Book Center

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Newsletter Formats: If you would like to receive this newsletter in braille or audio, or by email, contact the Voices of Vision Talking Book Center. A new Electronic Subscription Service which provides copies of each publication from all Talking Book Centers in Illinois is also available. Call your Talking Book Center to learn how to subscribe.

Summertime – Reading Time!

Hints for better service

Please call before returning a cassette book machine. If the cassette book machine on loan to you is not functioning properly, let us know before returning it. There are some suggestions and instructions we can offer. If it is still not working, we can arrange to send a replacement.

If possible, please keep the box in which your machine arrives in case you need to return the machine.

Introducing Our New Reader Advisor The Voices of Vision Reader's Advisors are ready to help you select reading materials. With this issue of the newsletter, we've included an introduction by Chris, our new reader advisor.

Hello, my name is Chris, and I am the newest member to join the Voices of Vision team of Reader Advisors. I am currently a student at DePaul University pursuing my Bachelor's degree in Library Information Science and Technology. Prior to becoming a Reader Advisor, I spent eight years working with 7th and 8th grade students in a middle school library. My reading passion is non-fiction, particularly biographies. I enjoy reading about the lives of contemporary figures, such as *Ten Things I Wish I'd Known--Before I Went into the Real World* (RC 50263) by Maria Shriver, first lady of the state of California and wife of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, and niece of former President John F. Kennedy. This book details lessons Maria has learned since college on work, money, family and humor. She discusses her life as a journalist, political activist, wife and mother of four.

One of my all time favorite fiction titles is *The Alchemist* (RC 37602) by Paulo Coelho. This tells the story of a poor shepherd boy who longs to see the world. In his travels, he is led by a series of spiritual guides who advise him along the way. It is an inspirational account of one person's desire to look for happiness in a multitude of life experiences.

I am excited to be a member of the Voices of Vision Talking Book Center team and I look forward to assisting our patrons. I believe we all share a similar fondness for reading and knowledge.

SUMMER IS HERE– time for taking it easy; going to the beach or sitting on the porch. Some people like to read short, breezy books. Other people like to tackle those longer “been meaning to read” books. Here are some suggestions from the Voices of Vision Reader Advisors for either kind of reader.

Ross suggests: Hot days, short reads: *Caesar's Hours: My Life in Comedy, with Love and Laughter* by Sid Caesar (RC 58781) discusses his TV shows and the other comedians he worked with such as Woody Allen, Neil Simon, and others. Another comedian tells about his life in *700 Sundays* by Billy Crystal (RC 61437). Crystal tells of his happy childhood and his hardworking father, who could only spend Sundays

with his family. *The Day I Fired Alan Ladd and other World War II Adventures* by A.E. Hotchner (RC 55675) is lighthearted reminiscences about the playwright's WW II military service on the home front.

Jean suggests: My idea of a summer book is something that I can disappear in and be a kid again. In that vein I'm currently reading *The Bronze Canticles* trilogy by Tracy and Laura Hickman. It's a fantasy series where the author has created a whole world with magic and fairy folk, and what is real and what isn't blend together. Even the characters in the book aren't sure what is happening. The titles are RC 59628 *Mystic Warrior*, RC 61259 *Mystic Quest* and RC 62204 *Mystic Empire*.

Chris suggests: If you can't take the time off to actually go somewhere, read a book! *Eat, Pray, Love: One Woman's Search for Everything Across Italy, India and Indonesia* by Elizabeth Gilbert (RC 61789) is by a young author, recently divorced, who seeks distraction and solace during a year of travel. *In a Sunburned Country* (RC 50276) by Bill Bryson chronicles his exploration of Australia. He describes the harsh terrain and hostile wildlife including crocodiles, poisonous snakes, and attacking seashells.

Fay suggests: One of my favorite authors, whose books are always long reads is James Michener. *Chesapeake* (RC 56347) is a fictionalized chronicle of the Chesapeake Bay region of North America and the struggles of four centuries of settlers and natives.

For more detailed information on these or other books, contact us or visit our online public access catalog: <http://www.klas.com/ilbph>