**Selections from Talking Book Topics**

**Sept-Oct 2025**

**Fiction**

**Selections from Talking Book Topics - Fiction**

**Mystery and Detective**

**The Dog Thief**

**DB128468** 10 hours 11 minutes, by Marta Acosta, read by Cindy Kay

"When autistic dog rehabilitator Maddie 'Mad Girl' Whitney discovers a corpse on her neighbor's ranch, she impulsively tries to drum up business by claiming that psychic abilities led her to the victim...with devastating consequences. She reluctantly begins reaching out to others...and finds friendship and kindness in the unlikeliest of places. Meanwhile, the unknown killer is determined to stop the animal psychic from solving the mystery of his identity. Can she save her own life by saving the dog she loves?" — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2024.

**Killing Me Soufflé**

**DB128597** 7 hours 40 minutes, by Ellie Alexander, read by Emily Durante

"Amidst the rocky beaches of the Oregon coast, Torte's beloved Sterling and Stephanie have been hired to take over the aging restaurant at the cliffside Whaleshead Resort. Despite some opening night jitters, the dinner is off with a bang. As the tickets begin to line up and guests pile in the front door, Jules and Carlos offer to roll up their sleeves and help in any way they can. Until Erik Morton, the manager of Whaleshead and their new boss, takes a fatal fall down the dangerous cliffside trail leading to the beach. Jules and her young protege's quickly realize this was no accident. Now, the team will have to juggle the investigation while keeping the restaurant—and Steph and Sterling's new jobs—from crashing like the waves along the cliffs." — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2025.

**An Eye for an Eye**

**DB128651** 10 hours 8 minutes, by Jeffrey Archer, read by George Blagden

"In one of the most luxurious cities on earth... A billion-dollar deal is about to go badly wrong. A lavish night out is about to end in murder. And the British government is about to be plunged into crisis. In the heart of the British establishment... Lord Hartley lies dying. But his will triggers an inheritance with explosive consequences. Two deaths. Continents apart. No obvious connection. So why are they both at the center of a master criminal's plot for revenge? And can Scotland Yard's William Warwick uncover the truth before it's too late." — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2024.

**Topped Chef
DB128632** 7 hours 18 minutes, by Lucy Burdette, read by Laura Jennings

"Hoping for some good publicity, Hayley's boss at Key Zest magazine signs her up to help judge the Key West Topped Chef contest. Stakes are high as the winner could be the next cooking-show superstar. Hayley shows up for the filming nervous but excited, until she sees who's on the judging panel with her: Sam Rizzoli, big shot businessman—and owner of the restaurant she just panned in her first negative review. When Rizzoli turns up dead, the police assume his killer is one of his business rivals. But Hayley wonders whether someone is taking the contest a little too seriously." — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2023.

**Nobody's Fool
DB128659** 11 hours 20 minutes, by Harlan Coben, read by Vikas Adam

"Sami Kierce, a young college grad backpacking in Spain with friends, wakes up one morning, a knife in his hand. Beside him, the body of his girlfriend Anna. He doesn't know what happened. His screams drown out his thoughts—and then he runs. Twenty-two years later, Kierce, now a private investigator, is teaching wannabe sleuths at a night school in New York City. One evening, he recognizes a familiar face at the back of the classroom. Anna. As soon as Kierce makes eye contact with her, she bolts. He knows he must find this woman and solve the impossible mystery that has haunted him since that terrible day." — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2025.

**Romance**

**A Forty Year Kiss: A Novel
DB127340** 8 hours 48 minutes, by Nickolas Butler, read by Richard Poe

"Charlie and Vivian parted ways after just four years of marriage. Too many problems, too many struggles, even though the love didn't quite die. When Charlie returns to Wisconsin forty years later, he's sure of one thing—he must try to reconnect with Vivian to pick up the broken pieces of their past. But forty years is a long time. It's forty years of other relationships, forty years of building new lives, and forty years of long-held regrets, mistakes, and painful secrets." — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2025.

**The Secret Affair: Westmoreland Series, Book 29**

**DB128666** 5 hours 15 minutes, by Brenda Jackson, read by Shari Peele

"It has been a year since Jillian Novak ended their affair—a year that left Dr. Aidan Westmoreland determined to win back his lover. He knows they shouldn't have to keep their relationship a secret and he'll follow her around the world to prove it. Fourteen days on a cruise ship—just Aidan, Jillian and the deep blue sea...and a passion that won't be denied." — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2017.

**When the Marquess Was Mine: The Wagers of Sin**

**DB129229** 10 hours 29 minutes, by Caroline Linden, read by Beverley A. Crick

"Georgiana Lucas despises the cruel Marquess of Westmorland even before learning that he's won the deed to her friend Kitty's home in a card game. Still, Georgiana assures Kitty the marquess wouldn't possibly come all the way to Derbyshire to throw them out—until he shows up, bloody and unconscious. Fearing that Kitty would rather see him die, Georgiana blurts out that he's her fiancé. She'll nurse him back to health and make him vow to leave and never return. The man who wakes up, though, is nothing like the heartless rogue Georgiana thought she knew. He wakes up with no memory of being assaulted—or of who he is." — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2019.

**A Vineyard Tide: A Vineyard Sunset Series
DB127386** 4 hours 56 minutes, by Katie Winters, read by Mare Trevathan

"On a summer night in 1983, a mysterious woman carried her baby into The Sunrise Cove Inn—and their lives were changed forever. Forty years later, the Sheridan Family must come together to help them yet again, before the past is lost for good. Top-rate journalist Lola Sheridan is renowned for her ability to get to the heart of any story. When a university professor contacts her to dig into her past, Lola jumps at the opportunity, especially when Audrey agrees to help. But as Lola and Audrey dive into the professor's remarkable origins, they learn that the horrors of her story align with the Sheridan Family's. The deeper they go, the more they're drawn into the long-lost world of Anna Sheridan—learning of her heartache, her loneliness, and her fight for a better future." — Provided by publisher. 2023.

**Under a Vampire Moon
DB128903** 11 hours 48 minutes, by Lynsay Sands, read by Kirby Heyborne

"Escaping a horrible marriage, Carolyn Connor has no desire to think about men—a vow she's determined to keep while on vacation in St. Lucia. Christian Notte has well known the power of finding a life mate. He's seen enough of his Argeneau relatives taken down for the count, but he never imagined he'd let himself fall in love—until he meets the enthralling, charmingly skittish, and oh-so-mortal Carolyn. But how will he reveal what he is and still convince this once-bitten mortal to trust him with her heart...and her forever?" — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2012.

**Historical Fiction**

**Miss Eliza's English Kitchen: A Novel of Victorian Cookery and Friendship**

**DB129532** 11 hours 14 minutes, by Annabel Abbs, read by Bianca Amato

"England, 1835. London is awash with thrilling new ingredients, from rare spices to exotic fruits. But no one knows how to use them. When Eliza Acton is told by her publisher to write a cookery book instead of the poetry she loves, she refuses—until her bankrupt father is forced to flee the country. As a woman, Eliza has few options. Although she's never set foot in a kitchen, she begins collecting recipes and teaching herself to cook. Much to her surprise she discovers a talent—and a passion—for the culinary arts." — Provided by publisher, Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2021.

**Last Port of Call**

**DB128716** 7 hours 57 minutes, by Jean Grainger, read by Siobhan Waring

"Queenstown, County Cork, Ireland. April 1912. Twelve-year-old Harp Delaney is an unusual child, quiet and intelligent far beyond her years. Her mother, Rose, is the reserved and ladylike housekeeper at the Cliff House. The day Titanic sails from Queenstown, taking with it the hopes and dreams of so many, Harp's life too is devastated. The small port town is shaken to its foundations at the loss of the unsinkable ship, but the revelation of a long-held secret means that Harp and Rose have a much more pressing issue to solve, one that could destroy them if they cannot find a solution." — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2022.

**Austen at Sea: A Novel**
**DB129334** 11 hours 14 minutes, by Natalie Jenner, read by Rupert Graves

"In Boston, 1865, Charlotte and Henrietta Stevenson, daughters of a Massachusetts Supreme Court Justice, have accomplished as much as women are allowed in those days. Chafing against those restrictions and inspired by the works of Jane Austen, they start a secret correspondence with Sir Francis Austen, her last surviving brother. He sends them an original letter from his sister and invites them to come visit him in England. It's a voyage and trip that will dramatically change each of their lives in ways that are unforeseen, with the transformative spirit of the love of literature and that of Jane Austen herself." — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2025.

**Appalachian Song**

**DB129145** 9 hours 52 minutes, by Michelle Shocklee, read by Caroline Hewitt

"Bertie Jenkins has spent forty years serving as a midwife for her community in the Great Smoky Mountains of East Tennessee. Out of all the mothers she's tended, none affects her more than the young teenager who shows up on her doorstep one warm June day in 1943. But soon there’s a heartbreaking decision that will tear this little family apart. Thirty years later, the day after his father's funeral, Walker Wylie is stunned to learn he was adopted as an infant. He heads deep into the Appalachian Mountains to track down Bertie Jenkins, the midwife who holds the secrets to Walker's past." — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2023.

**Grand Central: Original Stories of Postwar Love and Reunion
DB129682** 12 hours 10 minutes, by Alyson Richman and others, read by Carla Mercer-Meyer

"Ten bestselling authors inspired by the Grand Central Terminal have created their own stories, set on the same day, just after the end of World War II. A war bride awaits the arrival of her GI husband at the platform… A Holocaust survivor works at the Oyster Bar, where a customer reminds him of his late mother… A Hollywood hopeful anticipates her first screen test and a chance at stardom in the Kissing Room… Featuring stories from Melanie Benjamin, Jenna Blum, Amanda Hodgkinson, Pam Jenoff, Sarah Jio, Sarah McCoy, Kristina McMorris, Alyson Richman, Erika Robuck, and Karen White." — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2014.

**Suspense and Thrillers**

**Slaying You
DB129352** 8 hours 54 minutes, by Michelle Gagnon, read by Jaime Lamchick

"Two troublemakers hit the danger jackpot when they discover a fresh killer on their high-heels...again. Grace and Amber were stalked by the same serial killer. But after he died, they went their separate ways, determined to pick back up their lives. Surprise: neither of them is very good at being normal. When a mutual friend's wedding reunites the two stalkees and a dangerous killer starts targeting their friends, Grace and Amber must work together. They've outrun a murderer before...but can they do it again?" — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2025.

**Fever Beach: A Novel
DB129420** 12 hours 30 minutes, by Carl Hiaasen, read by Will Damron

"The afternoon of September first, dishwater-gray and rainy, a man named Dale Figgo picked up a hitchhiker on Gus Grissom Boulevard in Tangelo Falls, Florida. The hitchhiker, who reminded Figgo of Danny DeVito, asked for a lift to the interstate. Figgo said he'd take him there after finishing an errand.' Thus begins Fever Beach, with an errand that leads—in pure Hiaasen-style—into the depths of Florida at its most Floridian. Hiaasen ties them all characters together and delivers them to their appropriate fates, in his wildest and most entertaining novel to date." — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2025.

**Requiem
DB129264** 5 hours 59 minutes, by Rick Mofina, read by Justin Price

"On a flight from Mexico City, Wanda Stroud sees troubling content on the laptop of a passenger seated ahead of her. The next day, Wanda fails to show up for a coffee date she's made with her friend. Ray Wyatt investigates the story while clinging to his last thread of hope that his son, Danny, is not dead." — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2023.

**The Ones We Love: A Novel
DB129166** 9 hours 32 minutes, by Anna Snoekstra, read by Aimee Smith

"Meet the Jansen family... Since the morning after the party—the one Liv can't remember, the one that left her covered in bruises—there's been a padlock on the door of her bedroom. Kay wasn't sure she wanted to be a mother when she got pregnant with Liv, but she gave up everything for and will do whatever she has to do to take care of her kids. All Cas wanted was to go home for the summer—to Australia, his real home. But his parents are making him stay in LA, AND he has to share a room with his sister. Since Cas's plans were ruined, he might as well find out the truth about the padlock." — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2025.

**Such a Good Mom: A Novel**

**DB129153** 10 hours 41 minutes, by Julia Spiro, read by Abigail Reno

"With a healthy newborn baby, a devoted husband, a successful career, Brynn Nelson should be the happiest she's ever been. But her husband, Ross, grows more distant by the day, and the challenges of postpartum make Brynn feel like she's slowly losing pieces of herself. But it's summer on the Vineyard, a beacon for wealthy visitors, and a place so beautiful that it seems immune to tragedy and crime. A friend of the family is found washed ashore. And Ross is arrested for the crime. Brynn's only path forward is to find out who really killed Cecelia Buckley." — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2025.

**Westerns**

**Tough Luck: A Novel
DB129130** 8 hours 27 minutes, by Sandra Dallas, read by Mia Hutchinson-Shaw

"After their mother dies, Haidie Richards and her younger brother, Boots, are put to work in an orphanage. Their father left four years earlier to find a gold mine in Colorado Territory, and since then he's sent only three letters. But patience is not one of Haidie's virtues and soon she and her brother make a dangerous journey into Western territory. Along the way, Haidie’s community includes a card shark, independent 'spinster' sisters, and a very fierce dog. Haidie will need all her new friends for a get-even plot worthy of The Sting." — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2025.

**Forever Texas
DB129155** 12 hours 58 minutes, by J.A. Johnstone, read by John Little

"No one knows better than the American masters of epic Western fiction that forging a new life on the frontier takes hope, drive, and plenty of ammunition. It's 1852. The wounds of the Mexican War are healing. Regis Royle, co-owner of a steamship fleet, has made it out alive, relatively unscarred and with enough profit and foolhardy ambition to envision a new life in south Texas. With the help of his crack-shot kid brother Shepley, his glad-handing riverboat partner Cormac Delany, and his old friend, raw-edged former Texas Ranger Jarvis 'Bone' McGraw, Regis is laying claim to the Santa Calina range teeming with wild mustangs and eighteen-thousand acres of lush promise." — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2022.

**Lonesome Justice
DB128910** 9 hours 11 minutes, by Donald L. Robertson, read by Scott Miller

"Need Help. In Presidio. Jake Clay Barlow, Texas Ranger, never turned his back on a friend, and he wasn't starting now. After receiving the cryptic message from Jake Coleman, his good friend, and fellow Texas Ranger, he immediately headed west. What kind of trouble is Jake in? Is he still waiting in Presidio? Most importantly, will Clay survive the sun and the ants to help his friend?" — Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2020.

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**Sept–Oct 2025**

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**FL1D**

**Orange County Library System**

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Staff Email: talkingbooks@ocls.info

**FL1G**

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**FL1J**

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**FL1L**

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**FL1M**

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