

Great Lakes Talking Books
1615 Presque Isle Ave
Marquette, MI 49855

1-800-562-8985 ext. 0
1-906-228-7697 ext. 0
tb@greatlakestalkingbooks.org



Braille and Talking Book Program

for Veterans



To learn more, visit:
greatlakestalkingbooks.org

The braille and talking book program offers talking books at no charge for veterans who have difficulty reading regular print. You protected our freedom. Now enjoy the freedom to read your way.

What Is the Braille and Talking Book Program?

The braille and talking book program is a free library service administered by the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (NLS), Library of Congress. The program is provided through a nationwide network of cooperating libraries that lend reading materials to residents of the United States and its territories and U.S. citizens living abroad who are unable to read or use regular print materials because of a visual or physical disability.

Talking books, audio magazines, and the digital talking-book players needed to use them are provided free of charge, by mail, for as long as you're in the program. NLS patrons may also download reading materials through the Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) web-based service or through the BARD Mobile app for smartphones and tablets. And veterans have preference in the lending of materials and equipment! If you have been honorably discharged from the U.S. armed forces and are blind, have low vision, or have a physical disability that prevents you from reading regular print materials, you may access this service, which promotes independence, wellness, and quality of life.

"When I run across other veterans that are curious about what I'm doing, I usually take the time to show them the BARD Mobile app. Most veterans haven't been exposed to having a disability for very long, so they're very curious. And the app **gives them an opportunity to be able to enjoy books, to access the content that they may be missing.**"

— Dan, NLS patron since 2004

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Call 1-800-562-8985 ext. 0
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