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ABSTRACT

Compiled from responses to a questionnaire sent to producers and distributors of spoken-word recordings by the National Library Service (NLS) for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, this reference circular lists 53 selected sources for purchasing or renting fiction and nonfiction spoken-word recordings on disc and cassette. Subjects and types of publications covered include: full-length books of fiction; biographies; romances; mysteries; science fiction; westerns; short stories; essays; poetry; drama; bestselling cassettes that discuss timely issues or provide interviews with current personalities or authors; abridgements, adaptations, and excerpts from popular books; children's literature; and classics. Each entry includes the vendor name, address and telephone number; a brief description of available materials; media; and price range. In addition, information about recorded books available on free loan to blind and physically handicapped individuals through the NLS network of libraries serving blind and physically handicapped persons includes a selected list of 12 publications with current information about spoken-word recordings and equipment. Listings of 8 bibliographies and 15 reference circulars published by the NLS are also included. (KM)

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* from the original document. *

Definitions

Cassettes	Recordings on audio cassettes at the standard speed of 1 7/8 ips. If cassettes are available at the speed of 15/16 ips, this will be noted in the entry as: cassettes (15/16)
Combinations	A recording with the accompanying print book or pamphlet
Full-length	A book recorded in its entirety
Media	Indicates whether a recording is on cassette or phonograph disc, or both.
Popular literature	Bestsellers, romances, mysteries, science fiction, biographies, and other genre or subjects of current interest
Price/Price Range	Purchase price per title unless otherwise stated
Radio Plays	Recordings of popular radio programs broadcast from the early days of radio through the 1950s
Records	Phonograph disc recordings, usually at the speed of 33 1/3 rpm

I. SOURCES

Afro-Am Publishing Company (1)
910 South Michigan Avenue
Suite 556
Chicago, IL 60605
(312) 922-1147

Poetry, biography, history, folktales, and stories related to the black experience.

Media: cassettes, records
Price: \$9.98

ALS, Audio Language Studies (2)
One Colomba Drive
Niagara Falls, NY 14305
(716) 298-5991

Read-along series that includes an abridged transcript and cassette of such classics as Heidi, Wind in the Willows, The Hounds of the Baskervilles, The Time Machine, A Christmas Carol, Wuthering Heights, Billy Budd, and Great Expectations. Each title averages two cassettes.

Media: cassettes, combinations
Price: \$29.95

American Radio Heritage Institute (3)
P.O. Drawer Z
Scottsdale, AZ 85252

Radio plays including westerns and mysteries such as the Sherlock Holmes series.

Media: cassettes, records
Price range: \$6.00-7.50 for an hour program

Applause Productions, Inc. (4)
85 Longview Road
Port Washington, NY 11050
(516) 883-7460

Poetry, short stories, and a wide selection of plays, including the complete canon of Shakespeare.

Media: cassettes, records
Price: \$8.45-53.70

Audio Book Company (5)
 Cassette Book Library
 P.O. Box 7111
 Pasadena, CA 91109
 (818) 799-4139

Full-length recordings of bestselling novels, classics, and American history titles. Distributes Success Motivation tapes, which are condensed versions of books about personal growth. Also provides poetry, children's literature, and abridgements.

Media: cassettes
 Price range: \$35.70-59.50; \$8.95-10.95/rental

Audio Book Contractors, Inc. (6)
 P.O. Box 40115
 Washington, DC 20016
 (202) 363-3429

Full-length recordings of classics, popular children's literature, and books of humor.

Media: cassettes
 Price range: \$19.95-49.95; rentals/one-third of purchase price

Audio Editions (7)
 P.O. Box 998
 Burlingame, CA 94011
 800-231-4261

Abridgements averaging two cassettes per title. Includes selections from popular business and management books narrated by their authors, dramatizations from noted mystery writers, and readings from classic American poetry.

Media: cassettes
 Price range: \$10.95-16.95

A. W. Peller & Associates, Inc.
 249 Goffle Road
 Hawthorne, NJ 07507
 (201) 423-4666

(8)

Dramatizations of books that have won the Newbery Medal or the Honor Award from the Newbery Committee. The award is given each year for "the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children." Also provides cassette/book combinations of popular children's literature called "readalongs" and a Cliffhangers series for young adults.

Media: cassettes, records, combinations
 Price range: \$10.95-16.59

Baker and Taylor
 11 West 42d Street
 New York, NY 10036
 (212) 819-7060

(9)

Distributes audio cassettes for forty publishers including children's literature, personal development, biographies, management, and fiction. Sells to schools, libraries, and bookstores.

Media: cassettes
 Price range: \$5.95-22.95

The Ballymote Tape Library
 223 Katonah Avenue
 Katonah, NY 10536
 (914) 232-9595

(10)

Sherlock Holmes mystery series and other mysteries performed for radio.

Media: cassettes
 Price: \$4.95

Bantam Audio Publishing

(11)

666 Fifth Avenue
 New York, NY 10103
 (212) 765-6500

Westerns by Louis L'Amour, personal development, and
 interviews with authors.

Media: cassettes
 Price: \$7.95

Books for Listening

(12)

Publishers in Sound
 289 Country Way
 Scituate, MA 02066
 (617) 545-6959

Full-length recordings of classics and popular literature.
 Also a distributor of condensed recordings from **Caedmon**.

Media: cassettes
 Price: \$8.00/per cassette; \$6.50-14.00/30-day rental

Books in Motion

(13)

East 9212 Montgomery #504
 Spokane, WA 99206
 (509) 922-1646

Full-length dramatizations of classics westerns, poetry,
 and several recent bestsellers. Also includes "The Audible
 Stanford," sixty- to ninety-minute recordings of lectures
 from Stanford University including social sciences, science
 and technology, history and politics, business and
 economics, and literature.

Media: cassettes
 Price range: \$5.95-39.95; \$2.50-12.00/rental

Books on Tape (11)

Box 7900
Newport Beach, CA 92660
800-626-3333

Wide selection of full-length books including popular literature and classics.

Media: cassettes
Price range: \$24.00-80.00; \$9.50-14.50/rental

BRC Productions (15)

P.O. Box 39522
Redford, MI 48239

Wide selection of radio plays.

Media: cassette
Price range: \$6.50-7.00

Brilliance Corporation (16)

235 Fulton
Suite 207
Grand Haven, MI 49417
(616) 846-5256

"Bookcassettes," which are full-length recordings of bestselling fiction that must be played on cassette players equipped with stereo sound.

Media: cassettes
Price range: \$11.95-21.95

Caedmon (17)

1995 Broadway
New York, NY 10023
(212) 580-3400

Wide selection of recordings consisting of a "core" collection for children and young adults; American and British poetry; world literature, including some in foreign languages; biographies; autobiographies; science fiction; and other general interest titles. Included are narrations by poets and writers, dramatizations performed by all-star entertainers, excerpts from books, abridgements, and some full-length recordings.

Media: cassettes, records, combinations
Price range: \$8.95-35.92

Children's Classics on Tape (18)
6722 Bostwick Drive
Springfield, VA 22151
(703) 256-2166

Selections from classics such as Beowulf and Kipling's Mowgli Brothers. Some titles have accompanying study guides.

Media: cassettes
Price range: \$7.95-10.95

Chivers Book Sales, Ltd. (19)
93-100 Locksbrook Road
Bath, Avon BA1 3HB
ENGLAND

Full-length classics, novels, and stories of suspense; poetry; drama, including a wide selection of Shakespeare; biography; and humor. Chivers's cassettes are distributed in the United States by G. K. Hall.

Media: cassettes
Price range: 3.95-21.95

Classroom World Productions, Inc. (20)
14 Glenwood Avenue
Raleigh, NC 27603
(919) 821-2640

Three series: World Personalities, Great Women of America, and States of the Nation. Each individual or state is featured on a separate cassette.

Media: cassettes
Price: \$6.50

GMS Records, Inc. (21)
 226 Washington Street
 Mount Vernon, NY 10553
 (914) 667-6200

World and American poetry, an American history series with authors reading from their own works, selections from children's literature, and folktales and legends.

Media: cassettes, records
 Price: \$8.98 per cassette or record

Computer Book Service (22)
 4201 Raymond Drive
 Hillside, IL 60162
 (312) 547-4400

Distributes cassettes for twelve publishers including fiction, personal development, and management. Sells to bookstores and retail outlets.

Media: cassettes
 Price: \$7.95

Condensed Knowledge Company (23)
 P.O. Box 3413
 Waco, TX 76707
 800-433-3314

Condensations of bestselling books and discussions by leading authorities dealing with self motivation and personal development.

Media: cassettes
 Price: \$14.95

Dove Books on Tape (24)
 12711 Ventura Boulevard
 Suite 250
 Studio City, CA 91604
 (213) 550-1806

Abridged bestsellers, mysteries, and current biography

Media: cassettes
 Price range: \$8.95-14.95 plus postage

G. K. Hall Audio Books (25)
 70 Lincoln Street
 Boston, MA 02111
 800-343-2806

Full-length recordings of popular literature, including some children's titles.

Media: cassettes
 Price range: \$13.95-39.95

Great American Audio Publishing Company (26)
 33 Portman Road
 New Rochelle, NY 10801
 (914) 576-7660

Wide selection of radio plays and recordings related to eventful periods in American and world history.

Media: cassettes
 Price range: \$3.50-15.00

Ingram Book Company (27)
 Audio Cassette Division
 Box 17266
 Nashville, TN 37217
 (615) 793-5000

Distributes audio cassettes for forty publishers including abridged and full-length recordings of children's literature, biographies, personal development, management, and bestselling fiction. Sells to schools, libraries, and bookstores.

Media: cassettes
 Price range: \$4.98-34.95

Jeffrey Norton Publishers, Inc. (28)
 96 Broad Street
 Guilford, CT 06437
 800-243-1234

Dialogues on world literature, poetry and criticism from the YWHA Poetry Center in New York City and from the Poet's Audio Center in Washington, D.C.; Heywood Hale Broun's radio programs about interesting and important books and authors.

Media: cassettes
Price range: \$11.95-13.95

Library of Congress (29)
Music Division
Recorded Sound Section
Washington, DC 20540
(202) 287-7833

Twentieth-century poetry, including poets reading their own works; animal and Jack tales.

Media: cassettes, records
Price: \$8.95

Listen for Pleasure Ltd. (30)
One Columbia Drive
Niagara Falls, NY 14305
(716) 298-5150

Abridgements of popular literature, classics, autobiographies, and children's books. Each title is abridged to play no more than two or three hours.

Media: cassettes
Price: \$13.95

Listening Library, Inc. (31)
1 Park Avenue
Old Greenwich, CT 06870
(203) 637-3616

Abridgements of classic and near-classic novels, dramatized abridgements of popular literature, full narrations of famous American short stories, dramatic productions of plays, readings of classical and modern poetry, and discussions of current political and social issues.

Media: cassettes, records
Price range: \$8.95-39.95

Listen USA, Inc. (32)
 P.O. Box 192
 Old Greenwich, CT 06870
 (203) 661-0101

Noted authors discuss topics from their bestselling books on management, marketing, and personal development.

Media: cassettes
 Price: \$6.95

Live Oak Media (33)
 P.O. Box 34
 Ancramdale, NY 12503
 (518) 329-6300

Dramatizations of literature for intermediate school-aged children and read-along cassettes for younger children.

Media: cassettes, records, combinations
 Price range: \$9.95-19.95

Metacom, Inc. (34)
 1401B West River Road North
 Minneapolis, MN 55411
 (612) 588-2781

Wide selection of radio plays including those from NBC Theater, Radio Comedy Classics, Lux Radio Theater, and War of the Worlds series.

Media: cassettes
 Price range: \$4.98-24.98

The Mind's Eye (35)
 4 Commercial Boulevard
 Novato, CA 94947
 (415) 883-7701

Dramatizations of classics, radio plays, and dramatizations depicting the lives of great Americans and memorable periods in American history.

Media: cassettes
 Price range: \$5.98-29.95

National Public Radio
 Cassette Publishing
 2025 M Street, NW
 Washington, DC 20036
 800-253-0808

(36)

One-half to one-hour programs discussing topics of current interest to the American public. Discussions are lead by experts in their respective fields. Foreign affairs, social problems, special-interest groups, health and medical concerns, and psychology are among the topics discussed.

Media: cassettes
 Price Range: \$9.95-20.95

National Radio Theatre
 600 North McClurg Court
 Suite 502A
 Chicago, IL 60611
 (312) 751-1625

(37)

Favorite stories, plays, and poems adapted for contemporary radio.

Media: cassettes
 Price range: \$10-90

Newman Communications Corporation
 2700 Broadbent Parkway, NE
 Albuquerque, NM 87107
 (505) 344-5838

(38)

Wide selection of abridged cassettes. Poetry, drama, children's literature, popular fiction, biographies, management, and personal growth are among the topics covered. The collection includes titles from fifteen other producers.

Media: cassettes
 Price range: \$8.95-13.95

North American Radio Archives, Ltd. (39)
 1301 North Park Avenue
 Inglewood, CA 90302
 (213) 673-4455

Radio plays for rent to members.

Media: cassettes
 Price range: \$15.00 annual membership plus a minimum of
 \$2.50/30-day rental

Price/Stern/Sloan Publishers, Inc. (40)
 410 North La Cienega Boulevard
 Los Angeles, CA 90048
 (213) 657-6100

Book/cassette series for young children. Each series
 includes stories that focus on a specific theme.

Media: cassettes, combinations
 Price range: \$8.95-29.95

Recorded Books (41)
 6306 Aaron Lane
 Clinton, MD 20735
 800-638-1204

Wide selection of full-length recordings. Includes
 bestsellers, classics, management books, and children's
 stories.

Media: cassettes
 Price range: \$19.95-54.95; \$5.95-13.95/30-day rental

Simon & Schuster Audio Publishing Division (42)
 1230 Avenue of the Americas
 New York, NY 10020
 (212) 698-7181

Noted authors discuss points from their bestselling books
 on management and personal development.

Media: cassettes
 Price range: \$7.95-14.95

Sound-Pool, Inc. (43)
 P.O. Box 5065
 Bloomington, IN 47402
 (812) 333-6427

Condensed classics; poetry; drama, including Shakespeare; dramatizations of children's literature, including a read-along series.

Media: cassettes, combinations
 Price range: \$8.98-26.94

Spoken Arts, Inc. (44)
 310 North Avenue
 New Rochelle, NY 10801
 (914) 636-5482

American and world poetry; short stories; drama, including Shakespeare; some titles in other languages. Also offers a wide selection of folklore, mythology, and full-length dramatizations of classics with companion readers.

Media: cassettes, records, combinations
 Price range: \$8.95-69.95

SON Entertainment Software Corporation (45)
 One Charles Street
 Providence, RI 02904
 (401) 521-2010

Recordings of award-winning children's books, songs, and poems.

Media: cassettes
 Price range: \$5.95-19.95

Stemmer House Publishers, Inc. (46)
 BEDE Productions
 2027 Caves Road
 Owings Mills, MD 21117
 (301) 363-3690

Poetry and dramatizations of Shakespeare in book/cassette combinations.

Media: cassettes, combinations
 Price range: \$8.95-21.90

Tape Rental Library, Inc.

(47)

P.O. Box 107
 Coveseville, VA 22931
 (804) 293-3705

Distributes recordings from various sources. Topics range from management and personal development to abridged and full-length classics.

Media: cassettes
 Price range: \$6.50-52.50; \$120.00/annual rental
 subscription (exchange cassettes as often as desired;
 receive two cassettes with each exchange)

Thomas S. Klise Company

(48)

203 NE Perry Street
 Peoria, IL 61603
 (309) 676-5311

Twenty-five full-length children's classics.

Media: cassettes
 Price range: \$19.95-24.50

Troll Associates

(49)

320 Route 17
 Mahwah, NJ 07430
 (201) 529-4000

Wide selection of literature for children, including several book/cassette combinations.

Media: cassettes, combinations
 Price range: \$9.95-12.00

Ulverscroft Soundings

(50)

c/o Helen D. Boyle
 279 Boston Street
 Guilford, CT 06437
 (203) 453-2080

Full-length recordings of bestselling British literature.

Media: cassettes
 Price range: \$13.95-34.50

Warner Audio Publishing (51)
 P.O. Box 718
 New York, NY 10011
 800-528-6050, ext. 1890

Interviews with authors and experts in history, science, and technology; how-to discussions related to business and management; dramatizations of classics and contemporary fiction.

Media: cassettes
 Price range: \$7.95-14.95

Weston Woods (52)
 Weston, CT 06883
 800-243-5020

Wide selection of children's literature, including some book/cassette combinations.

Media: cassettes, combinations
 Price range: \$7.00-13.95

Wiley Sound Business Cassettebooks (53)
 c/o John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
 605 Third Avenue
 New York, NY 10158
 (212) 850-6037

Conversations with business and management experts.

Media: cassettes
 Price range: \$8.95-14.95

II. RESOURCES FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

A. NLS Free Library Service

A free national library program that provides recorded materials for blind and physically handicapped persons is administered by the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS), Library of Congress. With the cooperation of authors and publishers who grant permission to use copyrighted works, NLS selects and produces full-length books and magazines on recorded disc and cassette. Reading materials (braille is provided also) are distributed to a cooperating network of 56 regional and 103 subregional (local) libraries where they are circulated to eligible borrowers. Recorded materials are sent to eligible readers by postage-free mail and are returned in the same manner. Specially designed phonographs and cassette players are also loaned free to eligible readers.

The NLS recorded book collection contains 26,000 titles, which are selected on the basis of their appeal to a wide range of interests. Bestsellers, biographies, fiction, and how-to books are in great demand. Titles expected to be extremely popular are produced on flexible disc in several thousand copies and circulated to borrowers within several months of their publication in print form.

Eligibility

Residents of the United States and American citizens residing abroad who are unable to read or use standard printed materials as a result of temporary or permanent visual or physical limitations may receive service. A survey sponsored by NLS found that two million persons with some type of visual impairment may be eligible and another million with physical conditions such as paralysis, missing arms or hands, lack of muscle coordination, or prolonged weakness could benefit from the use of reading materials in recorded form.

For further information, application forms, or the address of the nearest library serving blind and physically handicapped individuals, write or telephone:

Reference Section
National Library Service for the
Blind and Physically Handicapped
Washington, DC 20542
(202) 287-9286

B. Selected List of Publications with Current Information about Spoken-Word Recordings and Equipment

Audio cassette newsletter. Quarterly. \$19/yr. Cassette Information Services, P.O. Box 9559, Glendale, CA 91206.

Provides descriptions and source information for new spoken-word cassettes on a wide range of subjects.

Audio publishing report. Monthly. \$225/yr. Knowledge Industry Publications, 701 Westchester Avenue, White Plains, NY 10604.

News about the cassette publishing industry.

Audio video market place: a multimedia guide. Annual. \$52/yr. R. R. Bowker, 205 East Forty-second Street, New York, NY 10017.

An annotated listing of producers and distributors of audiovisual software and hardware. Contains a glossary and separate sections on reference books, directories, periodicals, funding sources, associations, audiovisual awards, and festivals.

Audio/video plus. Monthly feature in Publisher's weekly. Weekly. \$89/yr. Publishers Weekly, P.O. Box 1979, Marion, OH 43302.

A regular feature that provides current information about the cassette industry.

Educator's guide to free audio and video materials. Annual. \$30.00/yr. Educators Progress Service, 214 Center Street, Randolph, WI 53956.

An annotated listing of free audiotapes, scripts, and audiodiscs. The guide is arranged alphabetically by title under broad subject areas with title and subject indexes.

Equipment directory of audiovisual, computer, and video products. Annual. \$60/yr. International Communications Industries Association, Inc., 3150 Spring Street Fairfax, VA 22031.

A compilation of pertinent facts about all types of audiovisual equipment, including cassette and open-reel tape recorders, duplicators, and record players. A picture of each model is shown.

Iwan, Irene J., ed. Words on tape: an international guide to recorded books. Westport, CT: Meckler Publishing, 1984. 428p.

An author, title, and subject guide to approximately 6,000 titles available on cassette. Subject areas include novels, children's fiction, plays, short stories, self-help, inspirational, business-related courses, poetry, and political interviews.

Library resources for the blind and physically handicapped. Annual. Free. National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20542.

Includes names and addresses of NLS network libraries, their readership, circulation, budget, staff, and collections. Also includes information about other national-level sources of recordings for blind and physically handicapped individuals.

Library of Congress. National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Reference Section. Guide to spoken-word recordings: foreign-language literature and instruction. Compiled by Linda Redmond. Washington: 1982. 28p. Free on request.

Includes sources of recordings of literature and instruction for a variety of foreign-languages and English as a second language.

McKee, Gerald, ed. Directory of spoken-word audio cassettes. Guilford, CT: Jeffrey Norton Publishers, 1983. 169p. \$24.50.

An annotated listing of audio cassettes by subject. Annotations include addresses of producers/distributors.

On cassette: a comprehensive bibliography of spoken-word audio cassettes. New York: R. R. Bowker, 1986. 655p. \$71.

An author, subject, and title guide to approximately 11,500 titles available on cassette. Included are indexes for title, author, reader/narrator, subject, producer/distributor by title, and producer/distributor.

Schwann Catalog [Super Schwann]. Quarterly. \$20/yr. W. Schwann, Inc., 535 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116.

A section of this catalog is devoted to spoken-word recordings.

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Compiled by:
Linda Redmond
Reference Section
December 1986

BIBLIOGRAPHIES

A series of bibliographies is also published by the Reference Section. The following titles are available free on request:

Accessibility: Designing Buildings for the Needs of Handicapped Persons, 1983

Attitudes toward Handicapped People, Past and Present, 1984

Braille: History and Recent Developments, 1982

Gardening for Handicapped and Elderly Persons, 1981

Library and Information Services to Handicapped Persons, 1983

Mobility and Mobility Aids for Visually Handicapped Individuals, 1984

Reading Machines: Devices for Converting Print to Braille or Speech, 1985

Selected Readings for Parents of Preschool Handicapped Children, 1986

Additional copies of this reference circular or any of the reference circulars listed below are available free on request from:

Reference Section
National Library Service for the Blind
and Physically Handicapped
Library of Congress
Washington, DC 20542

REFERENCE CIRCULARS

- Becoming a Volunteer: Resources for Individuals, Libraries, and Organizations, 1981
- Bibles and Other Scriptures in Special Media, 1983
- Braille Instruction and Writing Equipment, 1986
- Building a Library Collection on Blindness and Physical Handicaps: Basic Materials and Resources, 1985
- From School to Working Life: Resources and Services, 1985
- Guide to Spoken-Word Recordings: Educational, Professional, and Self-Development Materials, 1983
- Guide to Spoken-Word Recordings: Foreign Language Literature and Instruction, 1982
- Information for Handicapped Travelers, 1982
- National Organizations Concerned with Visually and Physically Handicapped Persons, 1983
- Parents Guide to the Development of Preschool Handicapped Children: Resources and Services, 1984
- Reading Materials in Large Type, 1983
- Reading, Writing, and Other Communication Aids for Visually and Physically Handicapped Persons, 1986
- Reference Books in Special Media, 1982
- Sources of Audiovisual Materials about Handicapping Conditions, 1985
- Sources of Braille Reading Materials, 1985
- Sports, Games, and Outdoor Recreation for Handicapped Persons, 1983