

# TBC Focus

Chicago Public Library Talking Book Center Newsletter  
Spring 2012

## *One Book, One Chicago 2012 Spring Selection*

The Chicago Public Library has selected Yiyun Li's remarkable short story collection *Gold Boy, Emerald Girl* for this spring's One Book, One Chicago program.

*Gold Boy, Emerald Girl* includes nine expertly written short stories set in modern China. Through Yiyun Li's unforgettable characters, we learn about a country and a people who are not so different from us. Li's stories—whether about a young girl navigating life in the army or a group of widows who start a private investigation agency—offer a rich and varied portrait of China, and will resonate with Chicago's readers. Discussions and events take place throughout April, including a conversation with Yiyun Li and Chicago author, Achy Obejas at the Harold Washington Library Center on April 19 at 6 p.m.

Please join the Talking Book Center on Thursday, April 26 at 12:00 p.m. for a discussion of the One Book, One Chicago selection, *Gold Boy, Emerald Girl*.

## *Poetry Fest at the Library*

Celebrate National Poetry Month with a free festival of poetry readings, workshops, performances and discussions at the Harold Washington Library Center on Saturday, April 28 from 10:00 am to 4:30 pm. Come participate in a wide variety of programs including a Haiku Festival awards ceremony, a poetry workshop with poet and scholar, Andrea Witzke Slot, a poetry reading with guest Bakul Banerjee and much more. Please contact the Talking Book Center for more details or visit online at <http://www.chipublib.org>.

## *Suggested Works of Poetry:*

DB 73111 ~ **She Walks in Beauty: a Woman's Journey through Poems**  
by Caroline Kennedy

DB 71248 ~ **Notes from the Air: Selected Later Poems**  
by John Ashbery

DB 71494 ~ **Time You Let Me In: Twenty-five Poets Under Twenty-five**  
by Naomi Shihab Nye

DB 72103 ~ **The Best-Laid Schemes: Selected Poetry and Prose of Robert Burns**  
by Robert Burns

DB 72672 ~ **The Living Fire: New and Selected Poems, 1975-2010**  
by Edward Hirsch

DB 71954 ~ **The Essential Writing of James Weldon Johnson**  
by James Weldon Johnson

DB 72719 ~ **Captive Voices: New and Selected Poems, 1960-2008**  
by Eleanor Ross Taylor

DB 72201 ~ **The Collected Poems of W.B. Yeats**  
by W. B. Yeats

## *Celebrating Cultural Diversity* *Asian Pacific American Heritage*

In observance of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, the Talking Book Center will host an enriching program celebrating traditional Japanese instruments and music with Professor Kuri Shea.

Thursday, May 31 at 1:00 pm  
Chicago Authors Room  
400 S. State St., Chicago, IL

*Asian Pacific American Heritage Bibliography:*

DB 71540 ~ *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet: a Novel*

by Jamie Ford

Seattle, 1986. Newly widowed Chinese American Henry Lee reminisces about his World War II boyhood when he was in love with another student, Japanese American Keiko Okabe. Henry recalls visiting the Okabe family, despite his father's objections, during their internment in Idaho and waiting--in vain--for Keiko's return to Seattle.

DB 71429 ~ *A Good Fall*

by Ha Jin

Twelve tales about Chinese immigrant experiences in America. In "Temporary Love" Lina and Panbin cohabit for practical reasons but discover that it brings emotional complications. In the title piece, a young Buddhist monk's suicide attempt becomes sweet revenge against an unscrupulous temple master.

DB 72710 ~ *In Other Rooms, Other Wonders*

by Daniyal Mueenuddin

Eight linked stories portray feudalism in modern Pakistan as experienced by elderly landowner K.K. Harouni, his extended family, and servants. In "Lily," Harouni's son Murad marries a party girl who becomes disenchanted with farm life. Some violence, some strong language, and some descriptions of sex. National Book Award finalist.

DB 73233 ~ *Pearl Buck in China*

by Hilary Spurling

Biography of Pearl Sydenstricker Buck covering her years in China and their influence on her Pulitzer Prize-winning novel *The Good Earth*.

DB 73597 ~ **India Calling**

by Anand Giridharadas

Journalist Giridharadas moves to his parents' homeland of India in 2003 to work and record the societal changes wrought by the country's economic boom.

DB 70706 ~ **Journey of a Thousand Miles: My Story**

by Lang Lang

Memoir of piano virtuoso Lang Lang, who was born in China in 1982. Discusses his passion for western classical music and the sacrifices his family--especially his father--made to promote him to world-class status. Covers Lang's setbacks and triumphs in China, Germany, and the United States, and around the world.

DB 71971 ~ **The Steamy Kitchen Cookbook**

by Jaden Hair

Expanding on her website [steamykitchen.com](http://steamykitchen.com), Chinese American food columnist offers a guide to quickly making a variety of Asian dishes. Discusses key ingredients; explains ways to prepare basic sauces, dips, and stocks; and provides recipes for everything from appetizers and entrees to sweets and libations.

## *Resources, Resources, Resources*

### **“Promising Practices, Measurable Outcomes”**

The sixth annual college transition summit for high school students with disabilities.

Saturday, April 21, 2012

8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

2102 W. Ogden Ave., Chicago, IL

## *Independent Living Program Orientation*

These workshops hosted by the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD) include presentations on a wide variety of topics including services and resources exploring independent living for individuals with impairments. The next workshop will occur on Thursday, May 17, at 10 a.m. For more detailed information or to R.S.V.P., contact 1-312-744-6673.

## *Guild for the Blind Technology Solutions Conference*

Guild Technology Solutions is a conference on adaptive technology and how adults with vision loss can use it in their everyday lives. Multiple workshops will explore the differences between mainstream and adaptive technology to help individuals find products that best meet their needs, budget and lifestyle.

Saturday, April 21, 2012

8:30 am to 4:00 pm

65 E. Wacker PL, Suite 1010

Chicago, IL

For more information, please telephone 1-312-236-8569.

## *TBC Museum Pass Program*

Spring is in the air and it's the perfect time to visit the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, and be amazed by the museum's diverse collection of exotic plants and insects, enthralling gardens and live animals. Visit the Talking Book Center and borrow a pass to this museum or another one of Chicago's premier world-class cultural institutions for free.

## *Donations Welcomed*

The Talking Book Center welcomes contributions to help support, enhance, and spread the word about our services. Gifts of any amount are welcomed throughout the year and are tax-deductible. If you need more information on making donations, contact the TBC at 1-800- 757-4654. Please make checks payable to the Talking Book Center and mail to the Talking Book Center at 400 S. State St, 5N, Chicago, IL 60605. Thank you for your generosity! This spring, we extend a heart-felt thank you to our recent donors, including:

*Lucy Anderson*

*Anna Marie Hogan*

*Pastoriza Andino*

*Bonnie Covington*

*Helen Wojcik*

*Mildred Jackson*

*Mary Anderson*

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For more information about our specialized services and program, please contact us:

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