

HLAA-CC Hearing Loss Book List

BOOKS FOR CHILDREN & TEENS

- **My Hearing, My Way**, Dr Stacy Amos. (2023) By following children with hearing devices as they turn them into unique accessories that reflect their individuality, children learn valuable lessons about celebrating their differences and empowering young readers to embrace their own uniqueness. (1-16 years)
- **Ada and the Helpers**, by Travis D. Peterson. (2021) This lively young fox, who wears cochlear implants, works with her friends to create a unique talent show. A finalist in the 2022 Eric Hoffer Awards. (1-7 years)
- **Mighty Mila** by Katie Petruzzello. (2021) A book that provides much needed representation for deaf/hard of hearing children through a fun story portraying a deaf main character as a “regular kid”, where her hearing loss is NOT the focus of the story. The perfect inclusive book to teach children about acceptance, empathy, and respect for all types of people through an inspiring, engaging story. (4-7 years)
- **Jack and the Crunchy Leaves: My First Hearing Aids** by Kenn Heyder (2023) Ideal for young children under 8 who are just starting to learn about hearing aids and hearing loss. By incorporating the perspective of a young child throughout the book, young readers will feel like they are part of the story. At the end of the book, your child will discover the power of hearing aids (1-8 years)
- **C.I. Quest** by Tanya Saunders. (2022) A tale of cochlear implants lost and found on the farm (the young farmer has hearing loss), told through rhyming verse packed with ... sounds for early learners. All the animals on the farm join the search... but who will be the first to find the devices and be crowned today's Farmyard Hero? (3-8 years)
- **Bessie Needs Hearing Aids** by Jenna Harmke. (2020) Bessie is a snuggly little bunny who uses hearing aids, as the author did when she was a child. “A great read for younger kids with hearing loss,” *Healthy Hearing* writes. (baby-8 years)
- **Super Hearing (Super Book Series)** by Jennifer Whitehead. (2022) Super Hearing is a celebration of life with hearing aids, here to educate and encourage acceptance in every form. A kind and inclusive story, this book combines a child's first-person experience living with hearing aids, with beautiful illustrations to connect kids of all hearing ranges. (Early childhood)
- **Gracie's Ears** by Debbie Blackington (2021) This is the story of Gracie, your everyday fun-loving kid who does everything that you do but has trouble hearing. It's as if her ears are sleeping! Can anyone or anything wake up Gracie's ears? Based on a true story. (3-7 years)
- **Super Kena: A Girl Made Fierce with Hearing Aids** by Becky Cymbaluk (2019) When kids at school make fun of her hearing aids, she gets a super idea. Super Kena will gather her differently-abled classmates to create a team of "super heroes". Together, they will use their super powers to make a difference in the world. They will spread understanding and acceptance, one classroom at a time. (4-8 years)

- **I am Deaf (Live and Learn)** by Jennifer Moore-Mallinos (2022) Have you ever wondered what it's like to be deaf? Learn what it's like and about some of the things that can be used to help with learning and communication. This sweet story is empowering and will inspire you to be the best you can be and to reach out to others to help bridge the gap between our differences! (4-7 years)
- **Ling Ling Bird Hears With His Magic Ears** by Tanya Saunders. (2020) Ling Ling is a colorful parrot who uses cochlear implants. The author of this book, who has a deaf child, has created a company which develops early intervention programs for deaf children. Available in Spanish. (3-6 years)
- **My Monster Truck Goes Everywhere With Me**, by Kathleen Marcath. (2020) This book "takes on a daunting task and makes it look easy – (incorporating) American Sign Language into a children's book and (making) it fun and engaging for young children," Holly Connors of Feathered Quill writes. (4-8 years)
- **Can She HEAR This Cat's Meow?** by Julia Olson and Colleen Cline. (2023) Co-written and illustrated by a grandmother-granddaughter team, this book describes basic strategies the two use to maintain their close and effective relationship. Includes helpful lists of resources and organizations. *Narrative for people of all ages.*
- **Hearing: The 5 Senses Series** by Irene Chan. (2019) A simple introduction to sound and to how people hear. Unfortunately, the format is that of a simple "baby" board book. Still, the content is clear, and it offers a straightforward introduction to the basic science of sound. (Baby - 3 years)
- **EI Deafo** by Cece Bell. (2014) A memoir written by a deaf child who grew up with profound hearing loss, which required her to wear a clunky hearing device. We share her mortification about being "different" as well as her annoyance at people who "don't know how to talk to her." And we celebrate, at the end, her learning how to cope. This book is funny, poignant and informative, a NY Times best-seller which has won many awards. Useful for all age groups.
- **Chasing Space: An Astronaut's Story of Grit, Grace, and Second Chances** by Leland Melvin. (2018) "In Chasing Space, Leland Melvin tackles stupendous obstacles with dogged determination, showing you what is indeed possible in life—if you believe." —Neil deGrasse Tyson, author of *Astrophysics for People in a Hurry* and *Welcome to the Universe*. Winner of the 2019 Grand Canyon Reader Award for Tween Non-Fiction. Young Readers Edition
- **Heart of Hearing** by Meaghan Thomas. An animated & entertaining story for children that encourages them to wear their aids. It highlights aspects of the world around us that would be missed if one chooses not to wear them and helps hearing children understand why we wear our aids. A portion of the proceeds will go directly to the non-profit, The Heart of Hearing, Inc. <https://www.theheartofhearing.org/shop>

NONFICTION / MEMOIR

- **Adaptability: A True Story About Transforming Pain into Purpose** by Tiffany Storrs. (2023) She suddenly lost her hearing, and it was just the beginning of a series of unexpected trials and with unthinkable odds stacked against her, Tiffany was able to transform her pain into purpose. She hopes that her story of adaptability can serve as someone else's survival guide to overcoming challenges. Her transparent story of the reality of life with hearing loss will inspire, surprise, and occasionally move you to tears.
- **I'm Not Stupid I Have Hearing Loss, A Story of Hearing Loss & Hearing Aids Including Hearing & Brain Care Tips** by Tracy L. Markley. (2017) As someone who was possibly born with hearing loss, the author's hearing loss became more severe as she grew up. Tracy was a child who struggled in school at the age when the essential skills of reading, writing, and comprehension developed. Tracy's accomplishments have not come easy but she is now the author of twelve books.
- **Chasing Space: An Astronaut's Story of Grit, Grace, and Second Chances** by Leland Melvin. (2018) Leland Melvin is the only person in human history to catch a pass in the National Football League and in space. Though his path to the heavens was riddled with setbacks and injury, Leland persevered to reach the stars even though along the way he suffered a severe injury that left him deaf.
- **Life After Deaf: My Misadventures in Hearing Loss and Recovery** by Noel Holston. (2019) From a renowned media critic to a man with sudden and full hearing loss, Noel Holston ran the gauntlet of diagnoses, health insurance, and cochlear implant surgery.
- **Song Without Words** by Gerald Shea (2013) A memoir of how the author compensated for his deafness -- through sheer determination and an amazing ability to translate the melody of vowels.
- **The Way I Hear It: A Life with Hearing Loss** by Gael Hannon. (2015) If you think hearing loss is just a condition of old age—think again. Hannon shares her insightful journey, daily frustrations and a strong message of hope and optimism for living successfully with hearing loss at every age.
- **Losing Music** by John Cotter. (2023) "Music is: Bach on a snowy afternoon... Music is color... You feel it on your skin," the author writes, mourning the early and bewildering loss of his hearing. (He may or may not have been suffering from Meniere's disease, Synesthesia, migraines, tinnitus or more.) "A poignant reflection on disability," *Publishers Weekly* writes.
- **The Odyssey of Hearing Loss: Tales of Triumph** by Dr. Michael Harvey. (2004) The author is a psychologist who specializes in deafness and hearing loss. 10 true stories of hearing loss. The struggles with the psychological, social, and spiritual aspects of hearing loss in these stories reveals lessons valuable to anyone looking for self-understanding.

- **What Did you Say? An Unexpected Journey into the World of Hearing Loss** by Monique Hammond. (updated 2016) The author is a pharmacist who has worked in health care on several continents. She describes this book as “the one she desperately wished for when she was trying to navigate her sudden hearing loss,” offering a wealth of organized, easy-to-understand facts to the reader.
- **What’s That Pig Outdoors: A Memoir of Deafness** by Henry Kisor. (2010) Though the author lost his hearing as a very young child, as an adult he became an acclaimed literary journalist. Life without hearing, he declared at the end of his career, been fulfilling and fine. Yet, in this newly revised version of his original memoir, he lauds the remarkable advancements that recent technologies, along with shifts in public opinions, have brought about. "I love this book. It is witty, profound, and unself-pitying," Oliver Sacks writes.
- **Beyond Pig: What's That Pig Outdoors?: The Rest of the Story** (2023) this brief coda is offered to bring Pig readers up to date on events since the second edition was published in 2010. (14-18)
- **Shouting Won’t Help** by Katherine Bouton. (2014) For twenty-two years, Katherine Bouton had a secret that grew harder to keep every day. An editor at The New York Times, at daily editorial meetings she couldn't hear what her colleagues were saying. She has produced a clear, informative guide for helping others navigate the often-bewildering issues that arise after hearing loss. Listing multiple strategies and techniques, this often-humorous guide is helpful, readable, and inspiring.
- **Listen with the Heart: Relationships and Hearing Loss** Dr. Michael Harvey. (2001) While distressing for an individual, hearing loss also takes a heavy toll on family and friends. These stories chronicle the unique challenges of hearing loss in interpersonal relationships, including communication, self-identity, and how to continue sharing and growing in these relationships.
- **But You Look So Normal: Lost and Found in a Hearing World** by Claudia Marseille. (May 2024) An inspiring story of a life affected but not defined by her hearing loss. She wore a primitive hearing aid as she worked hard to learn to hear, lipread, and speak even as she tried to hide her disability in order to fit in. It is a journey through family, loss, shame, identity, love, and healing as Claudia finally, joyfully, finds her place in the world.
- **Hearing Beethoven: A Story of Musical Loss and Discovery** by Robin Wallace. 2021. As a musicologist specializing in the work of Ludwig Van Beethoven, the author becomes acutely aware of changes in his wife’s behaviors as her hearing fades at an untimely age. Beethoven, he becomes convinced, did not heroically overcoming his deafness, as others have suggested; instead, he adapted to his hearing loss and changed the way he interacted with music. “This pathbreaking book... bridges memoir and musicology in an exciting new way” Jessica Holmes, UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music, writes.

- **My Hard of Hearing Life: Stories From Behind the Hearing Aids** by Cynthia Dixon (2014) Have you ever wanted an insider's view of what it's like to be functionally deaf or hard of hearing? Wonder no more – this is a book of short stories that pulls back the curtain of silence, and shows what's going on in the mind of a person with hearing loss. Most of the stories use humor to educate and inform.

FICTION

- **The Dolphin House** by Audrey Schulman (2022) Based on the fictionalized account of the true story of the 1965 'dolphin house' experiment, this spellbinding novel captures the tenor of the social experiments of the 1960s as Cora, a young, hearing-impaired woman, buys a one-way ticket to the island of St. Thomas.
- **Deaf Sentence** by David Lodge. (2009) Probably no other work of fiction (and possibly no medical account) has described so successfully the multiplicity of confusions, frustrations and social stratagems deriving from hearing loss. This book finds 'tender insights' into the human condition. And he's funny!!!

INSPIRATIONAL

- **I'll Scream Later** by Marlee Matlin (nonfiction/memoir). Marlee reveals the illuminating, moving, and often surprising story of how she defied all expectations to become one of the most prolific, critically acclaimed, award-winning and beloved actresses of our time. With uncompromising honesty and humor, she shares the story of her life -- an enduring tale that is an unforgettable lesson in following your dreams.
- **Golem Girl** by Riva Lehrer (nonfiction/memoir). Memoir of an artist born with spina bifida who searches for freedom and connection in a society afraid of strange bodies. Although few studies have reported hearing loss in patients with spina bifida, these patients with [hearing impairment](#) are commonly encountered.
- **Karen: A True Story Told by Her Mother with Love from Karen** by Marie Killilea (Biography; part 1 and 2). Takes place in the 1940's-1960's in New York. Karen is born with severe cerebral palsy. This is the story of her family and how they struggled to give her a normal life. The author is one of the founders of the United Cerebral Palsy Foundation.
- **My Maggie** by Richard King (2007, nonfiction) My Maggie is a rare and real love story about his wife enduring suffering with illnesses that included childhood hearing loss. Rich and Maggie King were two people who never gave up on each other as they faced her hearing and vision loss.
- **Haben: the deafblind woman who conquered Harvard Law** by Haben Girma. 2019. Growing up in a family of refugees, Haben defines disabilities as an opportunity for growth. She is a passionate advocate for the disability community and has been a leader in utilizing emerging technologies for their benefit. Oprah writes, in O Magazine "(This) autobiography by a millennial Helen Keller teems with grace and grit."

SELF HELP

- **Hearing Loss for Dummies** by Frank Lin, (Professor of otolaryngology) (2022) "Hearing loss can be frustrating, but in fact it's common and treatable. Hearing Loss For Dummies, written by top experts in the field in collaboration with AARP, walks you through how to get the help you need to clearly hear the sounds of life—whether you're at home, at work, or out and about. And hearing health is critical: Hearing loss can increase your risk of falls and injuries, isolation and depression, and even cognitive decline and dementia." -- Amazon
- **Smart Hearing** by Katherine Bouton. (2018) Bouton, a former NY Times editor, shares her own experiences of dealing with hearing loss in a sometimes-humorous, sometimes-exasperated, very helpful book. Tips will be useful to both those who are experiencing hearing loss and their families.
- **Hear and Beyond: Living Skillfully with Hearing Loss** by Shari Eberts and Gael Hannan. (2022) The authors of this book are passionate advocates for better hearing health. In this book, they share insights and strategies acquired while dealing with their own hearing loss, offering a plethora of useful tips for improving connection and engagement. -Shari Eberts writes the blog LivingWithHearingLoss.com
- **A Quiet World: Living with Hearing Loss** by David G. Myers. (2000) The author, a psychology professor who himself suffers from hearing loss, has written a compassionate and practical book about the issues of isolation and loneliness often associated with hearing loss. A variety of helpful and useful strategies are offered to the 28 million Americans (and 350 million people worldwide) who are now living with hearing loss. Author, Reviving Ophelia.
- **How to Talk to People with Hearing Loss** by Mary Florentine and others. (2019) Direct and to the point, this simple little book could be very helpful to family members. The purpose of this book is to tell you what people with hearing loss find useful from their communication partners, so that you can be a better communicator.
- **Your Resilient Brain** by Andrew Campbell. (2021) Campbell is an audiologist who does far more than adjusting your hearing aids. His book is a treasure trove of strategies and behaviors which can help you maintain overall health and connections when your hearing begins to wane. Suggestions focus on exercising and meditating and walking outdoors, and even for eating chocolate (for the antioxidants it contains. If you're feeling dispirited reach for this one.

SCIENCE OF SOUND

- **Of Sound Mind: How Our Brain Constructs a Meaningful Sonic World** by Nina Kraus. (2022) The author is a neuroscientist who has done pathbreaking research on sound and hearing for more than thirty years and how sound leaves a fundamental imprint on who we are. Of Sound Mind offers a deeply scientific yet often poetic look at the hearing brain; simple, sometimes cartoonish illustrations make the text "easy to understand, even friendly," the Wall Street Journal writes.

- **Volume Control: Hearing in a Deafening World** by David Owens (2019) The surprising science of hearing and the remarkable technologies that can help us hear better.
- **Seeing Voices: A Journey Into the World of the Deaf** by Oliver Saks a Hearing Neurologist (2011) About the subject of deafness, and the result is a deeply felt portrait of a minority struggling for recognition and respect—a minority with its own rich, sometimes astonishing, culture and unique visual language, an extraordinary mode of communication that tells us much about the basis of language in hearing people as well.
- **Synaesthesia: tasting words in a rainbow of sound** by Sue Johnson (2018) Synaesthesia is a condition in which one type of stimulation evokes the sensation of another, as when the hearing of music produces the visualization of color. The condition is linked to autism and dyslexia. There are estimated to be 70 different types of synaesthesia and it is experienced by approximately 4% of the population.
- **Wednesday is Indigo Blue: Discovering the Brain of Synesthesia** by Richard E. Cytowic, MD and David M. Eagleman, PhD (Nonfiction). (2011) How the extraordinary multi-sensory phenomenon of synesthesia has changed our traditional view of the brain.
- **I Can Hear You Whisper: An Intimate Journey Through the Science of Sound and Language** by Lydia Denworth (nonfiction/memoir) (2014) An acclaimed science journalist as well as a mother, Denworth made it her mission to find out, interviewing experts on language development, inventors of groundbreaking technology, Deaf leaders, and neuroscientists at the frontiers of brain plasticity research. Disclaimer: since written in 2014 the knowledge of the science of sound has had many new discoveries.
- **Tinnitus Retraining Therapy: A Beginner's Quick Start Overview and Guide to Managing Tinnitus Through TRT and Other Methods** by Patrick Marshwell. (2022) Tinnitus occurs when people experience any type of sound in their ears, not caused by an outside source. Many people have found tremendous relief through Tinnitus Retraining Therapy (TRT) utilizing a combination of masking sounds and counseling to retrain their brains to stop focusing on the phantom noise occurring in their ears.
- **Phantom Voices, Ethereal Music & Other Spooky Sounds** by Neil Bauman, Ph.D. (2011) Musical ear syndrome is a non-psychiatric disorder that causes musical hallucinations with no external source when hard of hearing people begin hearing phantom voices or music, they immediately worry they are going crazy. The truth is thousands of hard of hearing people experience this syndrome. Learn what these sounds are, what causes them, what you can do to alleviate or eliminate them and how you can regain your peace of mind.

COCHLEAR IMPLANT

- **Cochlear Implant Basics** by Richard Pocker. (2021) Though he had been totally deaf for 35 years, the author of this book was able to achieve 85% comprehension of speech after receiving bilateral cochlear implants just prior to his 65th birthday. This book is designed to help candidate for such surgery navigate both the surgery and post-surgery rehabilitation. The text of the book is based on interviews with surgeons, an audiologist, and other hearing care professionals. Deaf / Blind Non-Fiction Memoir

TECHNOLOGY: Hearing Devices and ALDs. Possible category???