



## **Blind Authors Write About Their Experiences**

**We can hear you just fine: clarifications from the Kentucky School for the Blind**  
**by Matthew Caudill, Haley Hall, Shane Lowe, Madelyn Loyd, Selena Tirey, Kianna Waller,**  
**Cherish Willis; edited by Joe Manning**

In *We Can Hear You Just Fine*, seven visually impaired young authors from Appalachia, the Inner Bluegrass, the Western Coalfields and elsewhere in Kentucky offer vivid, incisive and illuminating portraits of their lives. The range of topics explored in their chapters are as varied as the authors themselves: the travails and triumphs of visual impairment, the difficulties of marginalization, tough decisions about leaving home for the Kentucky School for the Blind, coming to terms with mental health issues, the changes of perspective that attend pregnancy and childbirth, pastoral recollections of rural communities, an autodidact's path to producing internet radio shows, and the relief of finding community and achieving independence. While this book highlights the particularities of the authors' lives, and the individuality of their voices, it also serves as a poignant reminder that the desire for acceptance and dignity, and the drive to succeed and make meaning in the world is common to all of us.

DBC08406

**Sightless in Seattle: adventures with my guide dog**  
**by Claire Anderson, with June Braggalla**

Every seven minutes another American loses their eyesight and joins the ranks of the estimated ten million legally blind in the United States. Until this kind of tragedy strikes close to home, few people consider the unique challenges and triumphs specific to relearning their independence. Claire Anderson is one of these individuals. After sixty-four years of an active lifestyle, she lost the sight in both of her eyes due to a stroke in the optical nerves. As a seasoned writer and personal witness to the challenges and triumphs of overcoming a loss of vision, Claire has written this heartwarming and educational nonfiction book about learning to live, love, and share with her first, and only, Seeing Eye dog, DaVida. Taken straight from her personal journals written during her time at Seeing Eye dog school, this delightful book will take the reader along on the journey of two inexperienced individuals, both dog and woman, coming together to form a team.

DBC00271

**Milo's eyes: how a blind equestrian and her "seeing eye horse" rescued each other**  
**by Lissa Bachner**

"The extraordinary bond between Lissa Bachner, a young blind woman and Milo, a neglected, frightened horse, helped them overcome staggering odds to become one of America's most inspiring, successful riding teams in the world of show jumping. Lissa Bachner was born with a passion for horses and won her first blue ribbon at age five. Other awards would follow as a young rider, and for years Lissa trained with jumpers, tackling more difficult leaps, and working to perfect her ride. When blindness struck in her teens, it appeared her passion for riding would come to an end. How could she jump hurdles when she could barely navigate through her own home. But success, trust, and love came to Lissa when her trainer convinced her to buy a

"diamond in the rough" from Germany. On New Year's Eve, Milo arrived at the barn, frightened, and neglected. Taking one look at his shaking, filthy body, Lissa promised Milo that he would only know kindness. In return, Milo took special care of her in the ring. Through countless eye surgeries and the many months of training and work, Lissa and Milo formed a magic bond that made them inseparable. And winners. With effortless humor and penetrating compassion, Lissa weaves a story of unfaltering faith in Milo, and the unconditional love they shared." -- Provided by publisher.

DB 110604

BR 24622

**In the Dark on the Sunny Side  
by Lawrence W. Baggett**

Misfortune struck one June day in 1944, when five-year-old Larry Baggett was forever blinded following an accident with a paring knife. He went on to lead an extraordinary life, and on almost every occasion he was the first blind person involved in whatever was going on. As an adult he became an internationally recognized mathematician and successful university professor. 2012. DBC02932

**Unforeseen: The First Blind Rhodes Scholar; A Memoir  
by James J. Barnes**

An historian's memoir of becoming the first blind Rhodes Scholar in the mid-1950s. Describes the deterioration of the author's eyesight during his first year at Oxford and his determination to press on. Relates his subsequent personal and educational achievements, including a PhD from Harvard and a distinguished forty-four-year teaching career.

DB90729

**226: How I Became First Blind Person to Kayak the Grand Canyon  
by Lonnie Bedwell**

A personal chronicle of the life of Indiana veteran Lonnie Bedwell as he takes on a variety of life challenges after being blinded in a hunting accident to the culmination of his becoming the first blind person to kayak the Grand Canyon. Some violence.

DBC12182

**Now I See  
by Charley Boswell**

Boswell tells the story of his life, beginning with being blinded in 1944 and abandoning his hopes for a baseball career. After painful readjustment, he went on to become a successful businessman, father of three children, and National Blind Golf Champion. Boswell's account is based on his conviction that "lives frustrated by physical misfortune can be turned into new directions by new interests."

BR09370

DB37739

**Harnessing courage: overcoming adversity with grit & gratitude  
by Laura Bratton**

At the age of nine, Laura Bratton was diagnosed with an eye disease and faced the difficult reality that she would become blind. Over the next ten years Laura experienced the traumatic transition of adjusting to life without sight. In the following chapters, Laura shares the incredible

journey of the first thirty years of her life. It is a journey that has been difficult, frustrating, overwhelming, and yet full of courage, joy, and love. Each page of the book shares the different ways that Laura experienced grit and gratitude in the face of adversity. You will learn how to apply grit to each difficult situation and experience gratitude moment by moment regardless of the circumstances. Each chapter of this book gives real life stories that you can apply to your daily life as you overcome adversity. With determination, perseverance, and gratefulness you will overcome difficult circumstances.

DBC05220

**Shades of Darkness: A Black Soldier's Journey through Vietnam, Blindness, and Back  
by George E. Brummell**

Memoir of Staff Sergeant George Brummell, who was blinded in Vietnam. Recalls growing up in segregated Federalsburg, Maryland, before joining the army at age seventeen. Highlights his rehabilitation, quest for a college degree, and career with the Blinded Veterans Association. Violence, strong language, and some descriptions of sex. 2006.

BR16819

DB63743

**Brother Ray: Ray Charles' Own Story  
by Ray Charles**

Candid autobiography of Georgia-born Grammy-winning musician Ray Charles (1930–2004). Describes overcoming poverty, blindness, his parents' deaths, and addiction to succeed in performing his unique blend of blues, jazz, and country styles. Includes discography and co-author David Ritz's 2004 postscript, "The Last Days of Brother Ray." Descriptions of sex and strong language. 1978.

BR16278

DB16618

**Breaking Through  
by Harry C. Cordellos**

The autobiography of a renowned blind athlete. Cordellos describes his transformation from a timid, fumbling youngster with glaucoma to the accomplished and confident athlete he is today. His accomplishments in sports are as diverse as waterskiing, gymnastics, distance running, and diving.

BR05865

DB20843

**That God's work be displayed: what I saw after I lost my sight  
by John H. Erickson**

Summary: Personal account of the spiritual journey of a man who was given Last Rites at age sixteen following a series of medical challenges that led to vision loss and seizures. Saved by a risky experimental procedure and guided by faith, Erickson finds renewal and a deep sense of purpose.

DB 78979

**A brush with darkness: learning to paint after losing my sight  
by Lisa Fittipaldi**

Author discusses her life after being diagnosed with vasculitis in her forties. Describes her feelings of despair during her first two years of blindness. Relates that a gift from her husband-- a child's watercolor set--became the catalyst for her new career as a renowned painter, and for her new outlook.

BRG02047

DB 60724

### **Lights Out: Living in a Sightless World**

**by Travis Freeman**

Travis was a typical 12-year-old in Corbin, KY, looking forward to playing middle-school football, when a serious illness resulted in the loss of his sight. Travis relates how he and his family used their faith in God to prove that disability does not equal inability. He went on to play high school football, be an equipment manager for the UK football team, and earn a PhD. The movie '23 Blast' is based on his story.

DBC08408

### **But You Can Feel It: A Statement of My Mother When I Returned Empty Handed Saying, "I Can't See It"**

**by Emil B. Fries**

Blind author recounts his life from his boyhood in a log cabin and struggles for an education to international recognition in the field of vocational training for visually impaired persons.

Chronicles his establishment in 1949 of the Emil Fries Piano Hospital and Training Center for piano servicing and tuning. 1980.

BR16643

DB64162

### **Running Around in Family Circles with Friends in Pursuit**

**by Georgia Griffith**

Author, born blind, recalls her life from childhood in the 1930s through the 1990s. Griffith discusses growing up in a sighted family, attending a school for the blind, obtaining a degree in music education, becoming a braille music proofreader for the National Library Service, and organizing and managing computer discussion groups for CompuServe. 2003.

BR15247

### **Twilight: losing sight, gaining insight**

By Henry Grunwald

Former editor and ambassador describes his life after developing age-related macular degeneration. Shares his research into the disease and discusses medical treatments, assistive devices, and helpful agencies. Deprived of visual experiences, he admits that the emotional effects are profound, but advises disabled people to stay involved in the world.

DB 49236

### **Blind Ambition: One Woman's Journey to Greatness despite Her Blindness**

**by Ever Lee Hairston**

Decades after losing her eyesight, a woman works her way up to an executive position in the N.J. Department of Health and Human Services Division, helping others overcome obstacles to realize the purpose of their lives.

DBC01886

**The Unseen Trail: The Story of a Blind Hiker's Journey on the Appalachian Trail  
by Michael O. Hanson**

Minneapolis-based attorney Mike Hanson set out along the Appalachian Trail in the spring of 2010. Using only a GPS device and trekking poles, the visually impaired Hanson plotted and completed the majority of the Appalachian Trail without outside assistance, making an important point about the power of technology and the independence of those without sight. 2013.

DBC02612

**White Coat, White Cane  
by David Hartman**

Account of the obstacles the blind author encountered in becoming a psychiatrist. He credits a "persistent brattiness" and bouts with a competitive sister for his considerable drive. Some strong language. 1978.

DB14631

**Blind man's bluff: a memoir**

By James Tate Hill.

"A writer's humorous and often-heartbreaking tale of losing his sight-and how he hid it from the world. At age sixteen, James Tate Hill was diagnosed with Leber's hereditary optic neuropathy, a condition that left him legally blind. After high school friends stopped calling and a disability counselor advised him to aim for Cs in his classes, Hill used his remaining blurry peripheral vision to pretend he could still see. Feigning eye contact, memorizing common routes, filling shelves with paperbacks he read via tape cassettes, he organized his life around passing for sighted. A wealth of pop culture knowledge allowed him to steer conversations from what he couldn't see. For fifteen years, Hill hid his blindness from friends, colleagues, and lovers, even convincing himself that if he stared long enough, things would come into focus. At thirty, faced with a stalled writing career, a crumbling marriage, and a growing fear of leaving his apartment, he began to wonder if there was a better way" -- Provided by publisher.

DB 106263

**Thunder Dog: The True Story of a Blind Man, His Guide Dog, and the Triumph of Trust at Ground Zero**

**by Michael Hingson**

Michael Hingson recounts his escape from the North Tower of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. Hingson, blind since birth, describes his and his guide dog Roselle's experience as she led him down seventy-eight flights of stairs to safety. 2011.

BR19434

DB73300

**I Am Potential**

**by Patrick Henry Hughes**

Born with multiple physical birth defects and blind due to anophthalmia, Patrick Henry Hughes exemplifies the triumph of human potential. At the age of nine months Patrick's family discovered he possessed an astounding musical talent that would eventually lead Patrick to perform at the Grand Old Opry, march in the University of Louisville marching band with the help of his father, and appear on the TV show *Extreme Home Makeover*. 2008.

DBC03683

### **On sight & insight: a journey into the world of blindness**

By John M. Hull.

"In 1983, finally forced to accept his now total blindness, John Hull began to keep a cassette diary. In it he recorded his daily experiences, his thoughts and impressions, things that puzzled or delighted him. This book is the result. It is not the journal of how a blind man struggled against and overcame the new difficulties he encountered; rather it offers a unique journey into the 'other world' of blindness, an insight into the almost spiritual transition from being a sighted person who cannot see, to being a blind person. John Hull presents a world where people have no faced, including himself; a world of vivid dreams; a world in which his perception of sound, silence, time and space are gradually but dramatically transformed as his sight fades. He relates his interactions with other people and the practical details of his changed life, such as moving around at a party and walking home. And most fascinating of all, he describes his relationships with his young children, and their growing understanding of his blindness and what it means. For the sighted reader, *On Sight and Insight* not only provides a moving portrayal of the experience of being blind, it also gives a heightened awareness of the role of sight in our lives, which goes way beyond the ability to see." -- Dust jacket.

DB 115529

### **Touching the Rock: An Experience of Blindness**

by John M. Hull

In 1983, after about three years as "a sighted person who could not see," Hull made the transition to being blind. He began to keep a journal—recording his reactions to what delighted or puzzled him and his thoughts about his relationships, his job as a university lecturer, his dreams, his self-image, his faith, his anguish, and his eventual acceptance of his blindness.

BR08522

DB33014

### **Blind Courage**

by Bill Irwin

A variety of problems involving family, alcoholism, and blindness prompted middle-aged Bill Irwin's decision to tackle the 2,000-mile-long Appalachian Trail with his dog guide Orient. For eight months in 1990, the self-proclaimed non-hiker made his way along the sometimes treacherous trail—a feat he credits to God—and became the first blind individual to hike the Trail. In describing the trip, Irwin stresses the helpfulness of the other "thru-hikers" he met.

DB36368

### **Songs of the blind snowbird**

By Robert Michael Jacobs.

A gay former graphic designer who lost his eyesight in 1995 from CMV retinitis shares anecdotes that were published in his Key West newspaper column. Jacobs's accounts reveal his personal struggle to reinvent himself after the diagnosis and relate his emotional and physical experiences of being blind.

BR 16406

DBC04349

### **Kenneth Jernigan: The Master, the Mission, the Movement**

by Kenneth Jernigan

Collection of Dr. Jernigan's writings composed mostly during the 1990s. Includes numerous

speeches and excerpts from the *Kernel Books*. In an introduction, Marc Maurer, of the National Federation of the Blind, describes Jernigan as a man who “changed the lives of blind people through his example and inspiration.”

BR12404

**Mexico by Touch: True Life Experiences of a Blind American Deejay  
by Larry P. Johnson**

Larry Johnson relates his personal account of moving to Mexico City in 1957. Details how Johnson spent the next seventeen years advancing his bilingual broadcasting career in radio and TV, becoming the first blind newscaster on Mexican television. 2003.

BR15306

DB04882

**Blind sighted: one man's journey from sight to insight**

By Marty Klein

In 1976, by the age of twenty-eight, Marty Klein was completely blind. In 1990 he began writing his life story to explain how he changed from a sighted, confident, rebellious, and self-centered young man of the 1960s to a compassionate and responsible man in the 1990s--who happens to be blind. In his account, Klein discusses three main topics: the Vietnam War, drugs, and fate.

DB 39917

**Cockeyed: a memoir**

by Ryan Knighton.

Canadian professor's account of going blind in adolescence from retinitis pigmentosa. Describes attending college in the early 1990s, living with a deaf girl, and teaching English to children in South Korea. Offers his assessment of others' perceptions of his disability.

BRG01633

DB 62851

**To Race the Wind: An Autobiography**

by Harold Krents

Recollections of a former Harvard law student who is blind. Krents fell in love, graduated with honors, and passed the New York State bar exam. Recalls childhood loneliness and being taunted in public school. Credits family support for his perseverance. Krents's experiences inspired the popular play and movie *Butterflies Are Free* (DB06188).

DB53815

**Planet of the Blind**

by Stephen Kuusisto

Although legally blind since birth, poet Kuusisto passed as sighted for more than thirty years. He describes his refracted visual perceptions and how pretending to see actually interfered with his participation in the sighted world. Then, by using a white cane and, eventually, a guide dog, he experienced new acceptance and mobility. Some descriptions of sex and some strong language.

DB45500

**The country of the blind: a memoir at the end of sight**

by Andrew Leland

"We meet Andrew Leland as he's suspended in the liminal state of the soon-to-be blind: he's midway through his life with retinitis pigmentosa, a condition that ushers those who live with it from sightedness to blindness over years, even decades. He grew up with full vision, but starting in his teenage years, his sight began to degrade from the outside in, such that he now sees the world as if through a narrow tube. Soon—but without knowing exactly when—he will likely have no vision left. Full of apprehension but also dogged curiosity, Leland embarks on a sweeping exploration of the state of being that awaits him: not only the physical experience of blindness but also its language, politics, and customs. He negotiates his changing relationships with his wife and son, and with his own sense of self, as he moves from his mainstream, "typical" life to one with a disability. Part memoir, part historical and cultural investigation, *The Country of the Blind* represents Leland's determination not to merely survive this transition but to grow from it—to seek out and revel in that which makes blindness enlightening. Thought-provoking and brimming with warmth and humor, *The Country of the Blind* is a deeply personal and intellectually exhilarating tour of a way of being that most of us have never paused to consider—and from which we have much to learn." -- Provided by publisher.

BR 25166

DB 115575

### **Whistling in the Dark**

**by Fred Lowery**

The talented, blind whistler tells of his life from his early days of poverty to his rise as a featured musician with the big show bands. He includes accounts of his early radio career, his tours with the big bands, his hit recordings, and his acquaintances among famous show business personalities.

DB19749

### **What to look for in winter: a memoir in blindness**

**by Candia McWilliam**

DB 74742 (15 hours, 59 minutes)

Summary: Memoir of Scottish novelist McWilliam, who became functionally blind in 2006 because of the involuntary closing of her eyelids from a condition known as blepharospasm. McWilliam reviews her life, describes undergoing a two-part operation to restore her vision, and explores a possible psychological basis for her sightlessness.

### **Guide Dogs and Guns**

**by Carey McWilliams**

Autobiography of Carey McWilliams (b. 1973), blind since age ten and the first totally blind person in the USA to acquire a concealed-carry permit. Describes his civilian and military weapons training, the shooting qualifying exams, and the ensuing Second Amendment debate. Discusses his passion for scuba diving, his guide dogs, and his wife, Victoria. Some strong language.

DB65699

### **All for love**

**by Ved Mehta**

Blind since the age of four, the *New Yorker* staff writer continues his autobiographical series. Mehta scrutinizes failed love affairs with four women to determine "the truth of exactly what happened...the effect of love on one's sense of self."



BR 13773

**Daddyji  
by Ved Mehta**

A memoir about the author's father, an Indian public health officer whose work in the problems of cholera, malaria, the plague, and tuberculosis is notable. The author also tells about being sent at a young age to a school for the blind when illness robbed him permanently of his eyesight.

DB 31252

**Dark harbor: building house and home on an enchanted island  
by Ved Mehta**

In this continuation of his Continents of Exile memoir series, Mehta, a blind writer, recounts his undertaking to build a house on a small Maine island in 1984 and the importance of this home in his marriage and family life.

BR 15118

**The red letters: my father's enchanted period  
by Ved Mehta**

Concluding volume in Continents of Exile series--the blind author's memoirs. Mehta recounts finding forty-year-old love letters that reveal his father's passionate love affair in Simla, India, in the 1930s. This discovery changes the author's perceptions of his father and mother, and even of himself.

BR 16081

**Remembering Mr. Shawn's New Yorker: the invisible art of editing  
by Ved Mehta**

Born in India and blind since early childhood, writer Ved Mehta portrays his relationship with William Shawn, editor-in-chief of the New Yorker. He begins with their first meeting in 1959, when Mehta was anxious about earning a livelihood. Sequel to Up at Oxford (BR 9455) in his autobiographical series.

BR 16215

**Sound Shadows of the New World  
by Ved Mehta**

Continuing the story of his life, Mehta recounts his three years in Little Rock attending the Arkansas School for the Blind, a setting that felt as alien to his Hindu sensibilities as did his life in India to Western readers. Focuses on his adolescent yearnings, gradual acculturation, and his steadfast determination to get an education.

BR 06504

**The Stolen Light  
by Ved Mehta**

Covers Mehta's experiences as a blind student at Pomona College in the 1950s. Even without braille textbooks, he soared to the top of his class and participated in many college activities. Some descriptions of sex. Sequel to "Sound-Shadows of the New World."

BR 07793

DB 29519

**Up at Oxford  
by Ved Mehta**

Continues Mehta's autobiographical series and forms a sequel to *The Stolen Light* (RC 29519, BR 7793). For the author, simply getting to Oxford was the fulfillment of a dream, and meant England was to become his third spiritual home, after India and America. He recounts making friends, making history his chosen field of study, making do in a medieval city, and making an effort to hide his feelings about his inadequacies and frustrations.

BR 09455

DB 37366

### **Almost like a Song**

**by Ronnie Milsap**

Taken in by dirt-poor but loving grandparents after his mother rejected him, Ronnie was soon sent off to a school for the blind. There, among other things, he learned discipline, determination, and classical music—acquirements that shaped his boyhood, his career, and his success as a country music superstar. His inspiring story reveals little-known aspects of the music industry where he rose to the top.

DB32896

### **Seeing clearly: a memoir of vision loss, emotional blindness, and finding my true self by Christopher T. Monnette**

"At age 54, after emerging from one of the darkest periods of his life, Chris Monnette is diagnosed with neovascular macular degeneration, an incurable retinal disease that slowly robs him of his eyesight. As each cell in his macula dies and his vision diminishes, he is forced, literally and figuratively, to see the world through different eyes. Raised in the shadow of an emotionally stifled father, Chris learns early on to mirror the belief that vulnerability equals weakness, a philosophy reinforced during his time at the Virginia Military Institute and as an officer in the Marine Corps. Blind to his own emotions, he goes on to build an outwardly successful career one that masks a deeply unstable life marred by infidelity, divorce, and the painful fracture of his family. As Chris' field of vision shrinks, his sense of self blurs around the edges. Once an active person who loved to fly airplanes, ride motorcycles, and ski, he becomes increasingly dependent on others for even the most basic tasks and is left with no choice but to embrace the vulnerability he has so long avoided. In doing so, he is able to take ownership of his mistakes, find true intimacy, and create a life of abundance on the other side of fear. A piercingly honest meditation on the emotional legacy of stoicism, *Seeing Clearly* is much-needed proof that being a man and being vulnerable are one and the same."-- Provided by Amazon.

DBC25792

### **Surpassing Expectations: My Life w Dare to Dream: The Rose Resnick Story by Rose Resnick**

Resnick lost her sight in 1918 at the age of two—the result of measles. As a child growing up in New York City she attended public schools. Her musical talent was discovered at the New York Association for the Blind. Her love of music has aided her throughout her life in her careers in education and social work, and has brought her many awards.

BR08459

DB32877

### **Feeling Sports**

**by John Ross**

In his autobiography John Ross tells of being an avid athlete, freelance writer, teacher, journalist, and coach despite being blind since childhood. His love of sports led him to refine the

game of Beep Baseball, a sport adapted for players who are visually impaired.  
DBC00614

**Without Sight**  
**by Lawrence Scadden**

Autobiography of California-born (1939) Scadden, who was blinded at age five. Describes his career as a research psychologist with a doctorate degree. Discusses his work in developing assistive technology for visually impaired people and promoting science education. Examines the effects of blindness, Scadden's personal development, and his experiences abroad.

BR18597  
DB68883

**No End in Sight: My Life as a Blind Iditarod Racer**  
**by Rachael Scdoris**

Twenty-one-year-old author discusses her Oregon childhood, her experience with low vision, and her determination to become a professional sled dog racer. Describes being introduced to the sport by her father, becoming the youngest athlete to win a five-hundred-mile race, and the obstacles she overcame to qualify for the Iditarod.

DB61948

**To the Left of Inspiration**  
**by Katherine Schneider**

Psychologist pens memoir, providing opinions and "pearls of wisdom" acquired during some fifty years as a blind woman. Describes contracting fibromyalgia a decade ago. Discusses the impact of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, her career as a clinical psychologist, and personal experiences with guide dogs and grocery stores.

DB64437

**A blessed life updated: autobiography of a traveler to Emmaus**  
**by Linda Anne Monica Schneider**

"For once, Linda Anne Monica Schneider now is writing strictly about what she does know: her life and its circumstances. She tells the story of what it has been like for a middle-class American descended from Italian and German immigrants. It is the story of a girl who grew up and found her law vocation during the 50's through 70's and who happens to be blind and hard of hearing. During her life, she has used a series of wonderful guide dogs as traveling companions. Like the two discouraged, disillusioned pilgrims who fled from Jerusalem after the death and still disbelieved resurrection of Jesus, she is still in the lifelong process of finding the Lord. This book updates and supersedes the earlier version published in 2012 under a slightly different title." -- Provided by publisher.

DB 113207

BR 24816 in process

**Life at My Fingertips**  
**by Robert J. Smithdas**

Blind and deaf from the age of five, the author, a noted lecturer, public relations counselor, and administrator, recounts his training at various institutions where he learned to communicate through the sense of touch. He attended Perkins Institution, graduated from St. John's University, and was the first deaf and blind person to receive a master's degree. A matter-of-

face document of the achievements of an indomitable spirit.  
BR06957  
DB26059

**Hope Unseen: The Story of the U.S. Army's First Blind Active-Duty Officer  
by Scotty Smiley**

Account of U.S. Army Captain and Ranger Scotty Smiley, who after losing his sight during a suicide-bomber attack in Iraq became the first active-duty blind officer. Covers Smiley's post-injury accomplishments, including earning an MBA, winning an ESPY, climbing Mount Rainier, and teaching leadership at West Point. Discusses his faith. 2010.

BR19133  
DB71909

**Volver a correr  
by Carlos Serván**

Carlos Serván reflects upon his life's trajectory, including becoming blind as a result of a grenade blast as a Peruvian police cadet, and his subsequent career as an educator and blind advocate in the United States. Spanish language.

Resumen: Carlos Serván reflexiona sobre la trayectoria de su vida, incluyendo quedando ciego como resultado de una explosión de granada cuando era cadete de la policía peruana y su subsiguiente carrera como educador y defensor de los ciegos en los Estados Unidos.

DB 93150

**Running dreams: an immigrant's hurdles and triumphs, after blindness and amputation  
by Carlos R. Serván**

"For a world recovering from a paralyzing pandemic, this book reminds us of the power of hope, determination, courage, and the value of supportive friendships. Running Dreams is a memoir of a man raised in a humble, hard-working family, outside Lima, Peru, at a time of great national political, economic, and social instability. Readers glimpse into the author's formative years to discover the values and life lessons impressed on him by his family. In an instant, a grenade explosion severs his right hand and blinds him. With scant prospects, he leaves his family and true love to immigrate to the United States, facing a future alone. Beating the odds, he acquires the blindness skills, new culture, and new language necessary to pursue a college education, find a meaningful career, and build a purposeful life. We join Carlos in a treacherous, exhilarating journey to the United States, where he experiences continuous setbacks, but unexpected open hearts and hands restore him. He single-handedly battles hunger, poverty, homelessness, loneliness, prejudice, betrayal, language barriers, and immigration pitfalls.

In Running Dreams we experience the creation of an exceptional life of purpose and meaning. Those who cherish happy endings will not be disappointed." -- Provided by publisher.

DB 115614

**Lullaby of Birdland  
by George Shearing**

Reminiscences by congenitally blind jazz pianist Shearing about his 1920s English childhood and early success in London before he immigrated to America in 1947. Recounts hobnobbing in New York with jazz greats Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughan, Charlie Parker, and Dizzy Gillespie among others and recording with his famed quintet.

DB57996

**If You Could See What I Hear**

**by Tom Sullivan**

Autobiography of a young man who became blind shortly after birth. Gifted and refusing to accept limitations, he developed his abilities, becoming a champion wrestler, a dean's list student, a Harvard graduate, and a successful musician. He focuses on personal relationships—especially with his family—and experiences that have helped him maintain a positive outlook.

DB35991

**Privileged Hands: A Scientific Life**

**by Geerat J. Vermeij**

An esteemed evolutionary biologist and paleontologist, who has been blind since the age of four, describes his childhood and his career. Born in the Netherlands, Vermeij faced learning both a new language and contracted braille when he began third grade in the United States. But he brought with him a love of seashells, which became his life's work.

BR10669

DB42911