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# Books Referenced in *The End of Your Life Book Club*

*The End of Your Life Book Club* by [Will Schwalbe](http://www.amazon.com/Will-Schwalbe/e/B0052Y7THQ/ref=sr_ntt_srch_lnk_1?qid=1403717692&sr=8-1) (DB075762) is a popular book about a mother and son discussing fascinating literature, contemporary and classic, while the mother is being treated for cancer. To order any of these titles, contact the library by email, phone, mail, in person, or order through our [online catalog](http://www.btbl.library.ca.gov/klasweb). Select titles can be [downloaded from BARD.](https://bard.loc.gov/)

**Little Women** By Louisa May Alcott

Read by Patricia Beaudry Reading time 18 hours, 40 minutes

The author's home life in New England is the basis of this book, which has been popular for more than a century. The tale tells the story of the four March sisters-quick tempered Jo, who is restless for freedom; Beth, who loves her home and family; Meg, who longs for pretty clothes; and self-absorbed Amy. For grades 6-9 and older readers.

[Download from BARD: Little Women](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.18128)

Also available on cassette RC018128

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR11778](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR001038 OR BR009758 OR BR011778

**The Divine Comedy** By Dante Alighieri

Read by Gordon Gould Reading time 16 hours, 32 minutes

John Ciardi's faithful translation of Dante's classic epic poem in its entirety. Dante describes being lost in a frightening forest, meeting the poet Virgil, and being conducted by Virgil through hell (The Inferno), purgatory (The Purgatorio), and paradise (The Paradiso). 1970.

[Download from BARD: The Divine Comedy](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.30589)

Also available on digital cartridge DB030589

Also available on cassette RC030589

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR12134](http://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR012134

**Continental Drift** By Russell Banks

Read by Robert O'Keefe Reading time 14 hours, 49 minutes

A decent thirty-year-old, burnt-out oil repairman uproots his family from a bleak life in a New Hampshire mill town and moves to Florida. Lured there by the shallow promises of a shady brother, Bob tries to do what is wanted of him, but messes up at every turn. And then he falls in love with Vanise, a young Haitian woman. Some strong language and explicit descriptions of sex.

[Download from BARD: Continental Drift](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.23867)

Also available on cassette RC023867

**The Elegance of the Hedgehog** By Muriel Barbery

Read by Gabriella Cavallero Reading time 8 hours, 50 minutes

Middle-aged widow Renee Michel, a closet intellectual, works as a concierge for a small luxury apartment building in Paris. Twelve-year-old tenant Paloma realizes the absurdity of life and plans on suicide. But when Kakuro Ozu moves in, he befriends and transforms them both. Translated from the French. Bestseller. 2008.

[Download from BARD: The Elegance of the Hedgehog](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.68224)

Also available on digital cartridge DB068224

**A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier** By Ishmael Beah

Read by Dominic Hoffman Reading time 7 hours, 58 minutes

The author recalls experiences as a war refuge and as a thirteen-year-old soldier forced to join the Sierra Leone army. Beah describes participation in mass slaughters, his rehabilitation, immigration to America, and involvement with UNICEF. Commercial audiobook. Violence, strong language, and some descriptions of sex. 2007.

[Download from BARD: A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Solider](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.63512)

Also available on cassette RC063512

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR17077](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR017077

**The Uncommon Reader** By Alan Bennett

Read by Jill Fox Reading time 2 hours, 30 minutes

England. When the royal dogs stray into a mobile library parked near the palace, the Queen feels obligated to borrow a book. She soon develops an obsession with reading that changes her worldviews, distracts her from official duties, and prompts her to write her own masterpiece--with surprising consequences. Bestseller. 2007.

[Download from BARD: The Uncommon Reader](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.66149)

Also available on digital cartridge DB066149

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR17649](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR017649

**The Holy Bible Containing the Old and New Testaments : Translated Out of the Original Tongues with the Former Translations Diligently Compared and Revised**

Read By Alexander Scourby Reading time 79 hours, 2 minutes

The King James Version of the Old and New Testaments as read by Alexander Scourby in the early 1950s. Combined reissue of RC 40842 and RC 40843. 1611.

[Download from BARD: The Holy Bible Containing the Old and New…](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.68777)

Also available on digital cartridge DB068777

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR14943](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR014943 (24 vols.)

**The Savage Detectives** By Roberto Bolaño

Read by Lewis Grenville Reading time 27 hours, 40 minutes

1976. Mexican student Juan García Madero and poets Arturo Belano and Ulises Lima search for literary icon Cesárea Tinajero, who disappeared in the Sonora Desert in the 1920s. The trio is joined by a prostitute fleeing from her pimp. Explicit descriptions of sex and strong language. Bestseller. 1998.

[Download from BARD: The Savage Detectives](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.64504)

Also available on cassette RC064504

**March** By Geraldine Brooks

Read by Gregory Gorton Reading time 10 hours, 34 minutes

Reverend March, the husband and father from Louisa May Alcott's Little Women (RC 58830) leaves Connecticut to become an army chaplain during the Civil War. An assignment to teach freed slaves on a plantation changes March's view of humanity while hardship hurts his family. Strong language and some violence. Pulitzer Prize. 2005.

[Download from BARD: March](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.64617)

Also available on cassette RC064617

**People of the Book a Novel** By Geraldine Brooks

Read by Lisette Lecat Reading time 16 hours, 16 minutes

Australian book conservator Hanna Heath analyzes a Hebrew manuscript created in medieval Spain and saved from destruction in 1990s Sarajevo. Hanna's discoveries--an insect wing, salt crystals, and wine and blood stains--reveal the codex's past and the lives of its guardians. Some descriptions of sex and some violence. Bestseller. 2008.

[Download from BARD: People of the Book](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.66059) a Novel

Also available on digital cartridge DB066059

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR17613](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR017613

**Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland and, Through the Looking Glass, and What Alice Found There** By Lewis Carroll

Read by Yvonne Fair Tessler Reading time 6 hours, 11 minutes

Extraordinary things happen when a little girl falls down a rabbit hole and encounters the White Rabbit, the Cheshire Cat, the Mad Hatter, and other unusual characters. Alice's second adventure takes her to a land with a peculiar back-to-front order in which everything is reversed. For grades 3-6 and older readers. 1865.

[Download from BARD: Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland and Through…](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.50842)

Also available on cassette RC012392 OR RC050842

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR12746](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR001412 OR BR012746

**Mastering the Art of French Cooking, v. 1** By Julia Child

8 vols. of braille

Classic cookbook, originally written in 1961, offering advice and recipes for beginners and experienced cooks. Presents step-by-step instructions for each recipe, with special attention to basic recipes that are the backbone of French cuisine. Discusses equipment and the buying and handling of ingredients. Companion to Mastering the Art of French Cooking, Volume 2 (BR 12230).

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR12229](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Available in braille BR012229

**The Great Santini** By Pat Conroy

Read by Roy Avers Reading time 16 hours, 49 minutes

Marine Lieutenant Colonel W.P. (Bull) Meecham rules his family with absolute power. Fortunately for their kids, his wife Lillian is able to keep a cool head or they would be in real trouble, especially Ben. Yet all of them endure Meecham's tyranny in the name of family harmony and loyalty to the Corps. Strong language and some descriptions of sex. 1976.

[Download from BARD: The Great Santini](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.30051)

Also available on digital cartridge DB030051

Also available on cassette RC030051

**Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** By Roald Dahl

Read by John Polk Reading time 3 hours, 24 minutes

Charlie Bucket's tour of Mr. Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory sends him on adventures beyond his wildest dreams. For grades 4-7. 1964.

[Download from BARD: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.33498)

Also available on digital cartridge DB033498

Also available on cassette RC033498

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR11466](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR001461 OR BR011466

**Auntie Mame an Irreverent Escapade** By Patrick Dennis

Read by Ray Hagen

The narrator describes a series of hilarious episodes in his boyhood, beginning in the 1920s when he went to live with his highly eccentric aunt. He also satirizes would-be avant garde intellectuals, suburban racial prejudice, and snobbism in general.

Available on cassette RC025837

**A Book of Common Prayer** By Joan Didion

Read by Laura Giannarelli Reading time 6 hours, 36 minutes

A contemporary American woman who has survived two disastrous marriages becomes caught in the inner conflicts of the aristocracy of a Central American country. Some strong language.

[Download from BARD: a Book of Common Prayer](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.44419)

Also available on cassette RC044419

Also available in braille BR003459

**The Year of Magical Thinking** By Joan Didion

Read by Anne Hancock Reading time 5 hours, 26 minutes

Writer reflects on her emotional response to the unexpected death of her husband, John Gregory Dunne, after a visit to their comatose daughter. Discusses the shock of suddenly facing a crisis, the memory of their time together as a family, and the meaning of marriage. Nat'l Book Award. Bestseller. 2005.

[Download from BARD: The Year of Magical Thinking](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.61740)

Also available on digital cartridge DB061740

Also available on cassette RC061740

**Murder in the Cathedral** By T.S. Eliot

Read by George Holmes Reading time 2 hours, 2 minutes

A verse play by Nobel Prize-winner T.S. Eliot (1888-1965) about the 1170 murder of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas Becket, at the royal behest of Henry II. Concerns issues of faith, politics, and the common good. 1935.

[Download from BARD: Murder in the Cathedral](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.55554)

Also available on cassette RC055554

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR14494](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR014494

**Chitty Chitty Bang Bang** By Ian Fleming

Read by Barry Bernson Reading time 2 hours, 6 minutes

The adventures of a spirited British family in their magical car that not only rides, but also flies and sails. They set out for a quiet picnic by the English Channel but end up in Paris in pursuit of a gang of criminals. For grades 4-7.

[Download from BARD: Chitty Chitty Bang Bang](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.26681)

Also available on cassette RC026681

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR15513](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR015513 or BR000222

**The Pillars of the Earth** By Ken Follett

Read by Merwin Smith Reading time 40 hours, 34 minutes

Historical novel set in twelfth century England. Philip, prior of the monastery at Kingsbridge, and Tom, a master mason, would like to build a new cathedral. They are helped along when Tom's stepson torches the current cathedral. They are hindered, however, by a powerful and jealous bishop, and Ellen--who witnessed an ancient treachery. Some violence, some strong language, and some descriptions of sex.

[Download from BARD: the Pillars of the Earth](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.30999)

Also available on digital cartridge DB030999

Also available on cassette RC030999

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR15513](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR015513 or BR000222

**Johnny Tremain** By Esther Forbes

Read by Lynn Schrichte Reading time 8 hours, 26 minutes

After a burn severely cripples his right hand, Tremain becomes a courier for the Committee of Public Safety and a hero in the early days of the American Revolution. The excitement he experiences includes the Boston Tea Party and the Battle of Lexington. For grades 4-7. Newbery Award.

[Download from BARD: Johnny Tremain](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.22808)

Also available on cassette RC022808

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR15252](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR006225 or BR015252

**Paul Revere And The World He Lived In** By Esther Forbes

Read by John Horton Reading time 21 hours, 15 minutes

Biography-Paul Revere- Biogr. of the Boston silversmith,etcher, bell caster, powder maker and Revolutionary hero whose famous ride has been his best-known claim to fame. Pulitzer Prize.

[Download from BARD: Paul Revere And The World He Lived In](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.20775)

Also available on cassette RC020775

**Howards End** By E.M. Forster

Read by Andrew Sofer Reading time 12 hours, 19 minutes

Members of three different social classes intermingle at Howards End, a country house owned by the Wilcox family. The aristocratic Wilcoxes; the cultured, idealistic Schlegel sisters; and impoverished, unemployed bank clerk Leonard Bast find their lives shaped by romance, societal barriers, and violence. Includes a 2007 afterword. 1910.

[Download from BARD: Howards End](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.34285)

Also available on digital cartridge DB034285

Also available on cassette RC034285

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR18502](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR018502

**The Diary of a Young Girl** By Anne Frank

Read by Jill Fox or Suzanne Toren Reading time 9 hours, 38 minutes

In a remarkable account begun on her thirteenth birthday in 1942, a Jewish girl in German-occupied Amsterdam records her hopes, fears, and growing pains during two years of close confinement with her family hiding from the Nazis in a secret apartment. Original version edited by her father. For grades 6-9 and older readers. 1947.

[Download from BARD: The Diary of a Young Girl](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.57022)

Also available on digital cartridge DB057022

Also available on cassette RC057022 or RC040424

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR015076](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR015076 or BR010113 or BR000927

**Lord of the Flies** By William Golding

Read by Christopher Walker Reading time 7 hours, 18 minutes

With horrifying implications, this novel relates the experiences of a group of English boys who are wrecked on a desert island and have to establish their own system of government. For junior and senior high and older readers.

[Download from BARD: Lord of the Flies](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.48388)

Also available on digital cartridge DB048388

Also available on cassette RC048388 OR RC014817

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR09480](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR009480 or BR001595

**"A" is for Alibi: a Kinsey Millhone Mystery** By Sue Grafton

Read by 7 hours, 43 minutes Reading time Mitzi Friedlander

When prominent divorce attorney Laurence Fife was murdered in the picturesque Southern California town of Santa Teresa, his young and beautiful wife was convicted and sent to prison. Eight years later and out on parole, Nikki Fife hires attractive private eye Kinsey Millhone to find out who really killed her late husband. Some strong language and some explicit descriptions of sex.

[Download from BARD: “A” is for Alibi a Kinsey Millhone Mystery](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.35069)

Also available on digital cartridge DB035069

Also available on cassette RC035069

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR05587](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR005587

**The Tin Drum** By Gunter Grass

Read by Mark Ashby Reading time 22 hours, 31 minutes

Mental institution inmate and indomitable drummer Oskar Matzerath, who chose to stop growing at age three, writes his memoirs of Danzig, Germany, during the Nazi regime. Nobel Prize-winner's 1959 novel in a 2009 translation by Breon Mitchell. Violence and descriptions of sex. 2009.

[Download from BARD: The Tine Drum](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.671622)

Also available on digital cartridge DB071622

Also available on cassette RC011512

**The Coldest Winter America and the Korean War** By David Halberstam

Read by Bill Wallace Reading time 33 hours, 37 minutes

Historian's account of the Korean War highlights the strife between U.S. president Harry Truman and American commander Douglas MacArthur. Details miscalculations that led to lost battles, relates American soldiers' struggles in Siberian-cold winters, and describes the ferocity and relentlessness of Chinese troops. Violence and some strong language. Bestseller. 2007.

[Download from BARD: The Coldest Winter America and the Korean War](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.65355)

Also available on digital cartridge DB065355

Also available on cassette RC065355

**The Etiquette of Illness What to Say When You Can't Find the Words** By Susan P. Halpern

Read by Margaret Strom Reading time 7 hours, 2 minutes

Cancer survivor and psychotherapist addresses how individuals can best respond with sensitivity and compassion to a sick friend or relative. Demonstrates making a potentially awkward situation more comfortable through effective speech and behavior. Includes suggestions for talking to children about illness. 2004.

[Download from BARD: The Etiquette of Illness What to Say When You…](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.58522)

Also available on cassette RC058522

**The Reluctant Fundamentalist** By Mohsin Hamid

Read by Alec Volz Reading time 4 hours, 44 minutes

Lahore, Pakistan. Changez reminisces to an American about his time in the United States. Although a Princeton graduate with an impressive job and a wealthy girlfriend, Changez sympathized with the Islamic extremists behind the 9/11 terrorists attacks and returned home. Some descriptions of sex and some strong language. Bestseller. 2007.

[Download from BARD: The Reluctant Fundamentalist](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.64621)

Also available on cassette RC064621

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR17252](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR017252

**The Talented Mr. Ripley ; Ripley Under Ground ; Ripley's Game** By Patricia Highsmith

Read by MaryBeth Wise Reading time 29 hours, 36 minutes

Three complete psychological crime novels featuring the well-mannered and unscrupulous Tom Ripley. In the first, Ripley is commissioned to persuade a young expatriate in Italy to return to his family in the States. But Ripley is so taken with Dickie Greenleaf and his comfortable existence, he decides to become Dickie--by murdering him. Some violence. 1974.

[Download from BARD: The Talented Mr. Ripley ; Ripley Under Ground…](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.50315)

Also available on digital cartridge DB050315

Also available on cassette RC050315

**The Kite Runner** By Khaled Hosseini

Read by Richard Hauenstein Reading time 11 hours, 52 minutes

An Afghan in California recalls a fateful 1975 day in Kabul that seared his soul at age twelve--the day he won a kite tournament and abandoned a younger companion to rape. That cowardice keeps haunting him during exile in America until the opportunity for atonement arises--back in Taliban-controlled Afghanistan. Violence and some strong language. Alex Award. 2003.

[Download from BARD: The Kite Runner](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.57457)

Also available on digital cartridge DB057457

Also available on cassette RC057457

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR15785](https://bard.loc.gov/)

**A Thousand Splendid Suns** By Khaled Hosseini

Read by Yolande Bavan Reading time 13 hours, 33 minutes

Afghanistan, 1970s-2000s. At age fifteen Mariam is married off to much-older, abusive shoemaker Rasheed. Rasheed takes a second wife, Laila, a student who lost her family and true love. The women bond as violence escalates at home and in wartorn Kabul. Some violence and some strong language. Bestseller. 2007.

[Download from BARD: A Thousand Splendid Suns](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.64803)

Also available on digital cartridge DB064803

Also available on cassette RC064803

**Hedda Gabler** By Henrik Ibsen

Read by Margaret Webster

A 19th-century Norwegian drama about a ruthless neurotic who indulges herself at everyone's expense. When her marriage for status proves inadequate, she scrambles destructively to satisfy her compulsive desires

Available on cassette RC015349

Also available in braille BR000159

**A Prayer for Owen Meany a Novel** By John Irving

Read by Bob Askey Reading time 25 hours, 12 minutes

When he was eleven years old, Owen Meany hit a foul ball that struck and killed the mother of his best pal, Johnny Wheelwright the story's narrator. Thereafter, Owen believes himself to be an instrument of God. What happens to the two pals after that accident is extraordinary and terrifying. Some strong language and some descriptions of sex. Book club selection.

[Download from BARD: a Prayer for Owen Meany a novel](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.29012)

Also available on cassette RC029012

**The Berlin Stories The Last of Mr. Norris [and] Goodbye to Berlin** By Christopher Isherwood

Read by Fred Major Reading time 14 hours, 11 minutes

Two fictionalized memoirs of 1930s Berlin and its people and dangers when Adolph Hitler was beginning his moves to power. Some characters, among them Sally Bowles, are featured in the musical Cabaret. Foreword by the author written in 1954 after a postwar visit. 1935.

[Download from BARD: The Berlin Stories the Last of Mr. Norris…](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.54128)

Also available on cassette RC054128

**Christopher and His Kind, 1929-1939** By Christopher Isherwood

Read by Ray Hagen

Autobiography that describes ten eventful years in Isherwood's life. Offers a glimpse of his creative world and describes his relationship and adventures with a German boy named Heinz.

Available on cassette RC015270

**Three Men in a Boat (To Say Nothing of the Dog)** By Jerome K. Jerome

Read by Peter Lavezzoli Reading time 5 hours, 45 minutes

Tale of three overworked Englishmen who take a boating holiday on the Thames. George, William, and the narrator--accompanied by Montmorency, the dog--anticipate the joys of long, lazy summer days but instead face uncooperative camping equipment, inclement weather, rampant hypochondria, and other disasters. 1889.

[Download from BARD: Three Men in a Boat (To Say Nothing of the Dog)](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.66776)

Also available on digital cartridge DB066776

**Fear of Flying** By Erica Jong

Read by Lois Smith

During a professional convention in Vienna, a psychiatrist's wiferuns off with another shrink in a zany adventure through Europe. She searches for her own identity as a woman and as a writer. Explicit descriptions of sex.

Available on cassette RC008853

**Full Catastrophe Living Using the Wisdom of Your Body and Mind to Face Stress, Pain, and Illness** By Jon Kabat-Zinn

Read by Kurt Elftmann Reading time 19 hours, 8 minutes

Founding director of the Stress Reduction Clinic at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center describes the philosophy of mindfulness meditation developed there and the ways he believes it can improve physical and mental health. 1990.

[Download from BARD: Full Catastrophe Living Using the Wisdom of…](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.77295)

Also available on digital cartridge DB077295

**Wherever You Go, There You Are Mindfulness Meditation in Everyday Life** By Jon Kabat-Zinn

Read by Don Feldheim Reading time 7 hours, 26 minutes

Guide to achieving a state of "mindfulness"--an awareness of the present moment. Explains traditional Buddhist meditation techniques and exercises, such as postures that help cultivate consciousness. Offers suggestions for incorporating mindfulness into daily life to gain wisdom and find direction. First published in 1994; includes 2005 afterword. 1994.

[Download from BARD: Wherever You Go, There You Are Mindfulness…](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.64586)

Also available on cassette RC064586

**The Secret of the Old Clock** By Carolyn Keene

Read by Kristin Allison or Joan Fleming Reading time 3 hours, 32 minutes

When Nancy Drew witnesses a near-accident on a country road, she becomes involved with a missing will and the theft of some valuable silver pieces. For grades 3-6. 1930.

[Download from BARD: The Secret of the Old Clock](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.50914)

Also available on cassette RC050914

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR12806](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR012806

**Profiles in Courage** By John F. Kennedy

Read by Don Hagen Reading time 8 hours, 17 minutes

Biographical sketches of historic statesmen who demonstrated great political courage at crucial moments in U.S. history. Includes John Quincy Adams, Daniel Webster, and others. Written by then-senator Kennedy while convalescing from the effects of war wounds. 2003 introduction by Caroline Kennedy; 1964 foreword by Robert F. Kennedy. Pulitzer Prize. 1955.

[Download from BARD: Profiles in Courage](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.58855)

Also available on cassette RC058855

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR15716](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR000016 OR BR015716

**Interpreter of Maladies** By Jhumpa Lahiri

Read by Annie Wauters Reading time 6 hours, 35 minutes

Nine tales of brief encounters with lasting effects, set in India and America. Each emphasizes cultural transition and loss. In the title piece, while American-born Mr. and Mrs. Das and their three young children are tourists in India, Mrs. Das confides a disquieting secret to their guide. Pulitzer Prize. Bestseller. 1999.

[Download from BARD: Interpreter of Maladies](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.50087)

Also available on cassette RC050087

**The Namesake** By Jhumpa Lahiri

Read by Yolande Bavan Reading time 12 hours, 5 minutes

Thirty years in the life of Gogol Ganguli, born to Calcutta immigrants shortly after their 1960s arrival in Boston. Gogol's name is a constant burden to him, so he legally changes it to Nikhil. Yet as a first-generation American stumbling along the path to maturity, he remains defined by the name Gogol. Some descriptions of sex and some strong language. Bestseller. 2003.

[Download from BARD: The Namesake](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.56937)

Also available on cassette RC056937

**Unaccustomed Earth** By Jhumpa Lahiri

Read by Gabriella Cavallero Reading time 10 hours, 46 minutes

Eight short stories by Pulitzer Prize-winning author explore the nature of family and love. In the title story, a mother in Seattle nervously hosts her widowed father, who helps tend her garden but hides a secret. Bestseller. 2008.

[Download from BARD: Unaccustomed Earth](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.66192)

Also available on digital cartridge DB066192

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR17928](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR017928

**Traveling Mercies Some Thoughts on Faith** By Anne Lamott

Read by Martha Harmon Pardee

Lamott first relates her childhood and her vacillation with Christianity, and describes the night of her conversion following an abortion and a week of drugs and alcohol. She then explains how she continues to struggle with the faith that now sustains her. Some strong language. Bestseller.

Available on cassette RC047831

**The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo** By Stieg Larsson

Read by Mary Kane Reading time 16 hours, 32 minutes

Stockholm. Wealthy octogenarian Henrik Vanger hires disgraced journalist Mikael Blomkvist and antisocial computer hacker Lisbeth Salander to investigate the disappearance of his great-niece as a teenager forty years ago. They uncover damaging secrets about the family--and themselves. Originally published in Swedish. Violence, strong language, and explicit descriptions of sex. Bestseller. 2008.

[Download from BARD: The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.67759)

Also available on digital cartridge DB067759

Also available on cassette RC067759

\*Watch the Movie: The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo DVD00172\*

**The Complete Chronicles of Narnia** By C.S. Lewis

Read by Erik Sandvold Reading time 35 hours, 32 minutes

Seven stories presented in the chronological order in which C.S. Lewis intended them to be read. The first is The Magician's Nephew, telling how the journeys between the two worlds began and how the wardrobe came to be a doorway leading into Narnia. For grades 4-7. 1998.

[Download from BARD: The Complete Chronicles of Narnia](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.50083)

Also available on digital cartridge DB050083

Also available on cassette RC050083

**The Guns of Navarone ; Force 10 from Navarone** By Alistair MacLean

Read by David Cutler Reading time 17 hours, 47 minutes

Two classic World War II adventures. In The Guns of Navarone, a British sabotage team must destroy Nazi weapons so that a small Greek island can be evacuated. In Force 10 from Navarone, three allied spies are assigned an impossible mission in Yugoslavia. Some violence and some strong language. 1968.

[Download from BARD: The Guns of Navarone; Force 10 from Navarone](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.51660)

Also available on cassette RC051660

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR13330](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR013330

**Where Eagles Dare** By Alistair MacLean

The harrowing exploits of double and triple agents during World War II, as they infiltrate Gestapo headquarters in a snowbound castle in the Alps. Assisted by an American lieutenant, a British major leads the expedition to rescue an American general before he is forced to talk.

Available in braille BR000590

**The Autobiography of Malcolm X** By Malcolm X

Read by L.J. Ganser Reading time 20 hours, 2 minutes

The life of African American religious leader Malcolm X (1925-1965). The author describes his boyhood in Lansing, Michigan, street life in Harlem, conversion to the Black Muslim movement while imprisoned for robbery, and evolution into a high-profile spokesman for black dignity, power, and separatism. Foreword by Alex Haley. 1964.

[Download from BARD: The Autobiography of Malcolm X](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.65510)

Also available on digital cartridge DB065510

Also available on cassette RC065510

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR17499](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR004416 OR BR017499

**Death in Venice and Other Tales** By Thomas Mann

Read by Fred Major Reading time 13 hours, 26 minutes

Death in Venice relates the story of a lonely German artist in search of spiritual fulfillment in Venice, where he becomes spellbound by a beautiful Polish boy. Includes eleven other stories displaying the Nobel-Prize-winning writer's use of irony, subtle characterizations, and complex plots. Uncensored 1998 translation by Joachim Neugroschel. 1911.

[Download from BARD: Death in Venice and Other Tales](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.60162)

Also available on cassette RC060162

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR09105](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR009105

**Joseph and His Brothers** By Thomas Mann

Read by Gordon Gould

This famous prose epic is a modern version of the Biblical tale of Joseph, Jacob's son who was sold by his jealous brothers into Egypt where he rose to high honors. Consists of "The Tales of Jacob, "Young Joseph", "Joseph in Egypt", and "Joseph the Provider."

Available on cassette RC016508

**The Magic Mountain** By Thomas Mann

Read by Faith Potts Reading time 36 hours, 27 minutes

Recounts the formative years of young Hans Castorp, who travels to Davos, Switzerland, for a three-week visit with his cousin Joachim Ziemssen. Instead, Hans finds himself spending seven introspective years at the tuberculosis sanatorium. New translation of Der Zauberberg, published in 1924 by the 1929 Nobel Prize winner.

[Download from BARD: The Magic Mountain](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.48618)

Also available on cassette RC048618

Also available in braille BR006190

**Collected Short Stories. v. 2.** By W. Somerset Maugham

Read by Patrick Horgan Reading time 18 hours, 40 minutes

Twenty-four stories, most of them written in the period 1920-1947 and many conveyed in the first person singular. Maugham's writing style delivers rich, heavily detailed narratives, often set in exotic locales. First published as a collection in 1951.

[Download from BARD: Collected Short Stories V. 2](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.25613)

Also available on cassette RC025613

**Of Human Bondage** By W. Somerset Maugham

Read by George Holmes Reading time 25 hours, 14 minutes

Philip Carey is a sensitive, talented, orphan with a club foot who cannot find his true vocation. He begins a love affair with a waitress hardly suspecting it will drastically alter the course of his life. This semi-autobiographical novel of tortured, obsessive love was first published in 1915.

[Download from BARD: Of Human Bondage](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.24363)

Also available on cassette RC024363

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR16190](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR016190

**The Painted Veil** By W. Somerset Maugham

Read by Erin Jones Reading time 6 hours, 54 minutes

Hong Kong, 1920s. After an affair with career politician Charles Townsend, frivolous Kitty Fane accompanies her husband, Walter, to battle a cholera epidemic in a remote area of China. Walter dies there, and Kitty returns home to England, where she begins to reexamine her life. 1925.

[Download from BARD: The Painted Veil](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.65022)

Also available on cassette RC065022

**The Color of Water a Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother** By James McBride

Read by Chuck Young

One of twelve siblings in Brooklyn, the author was confused about his mother's race. She called herself light-skinned and refused to discuss her past. Years later she admitted to being an Orthodox rabbi's daughter whose family shunned her after her marriage to the first of her two black husbands. Some strong language.

Available on cassette RC042713

**On Chesil Beach** By Ian McEwan

Read by Ian McEwan Reading time 4 hours, 29 minutes

England, 1962. Twenty-two-year-old musician Florence Ponting and twenty-three-year-old history student Edward Mayhew, both sexually innocent, fall in love and travel to the Dorset coast for their honeymoon. A momentary misunderstanding on their wedding night changes everything. Commercial audiobook. 2007.

[Download from BARD: On Chesil Beach](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.64458)

Also available on cassette RC064458

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR17227](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR017227

**Billy Budd, Sailor and Other Stories** By Herman Melville

Read by Bob Askey Reading time 13 hours, 34 minutes

Title story is a classic nineteenth-century novel about naive, innocent, young Billy Budd, who is cruelly antagonized and unjustly accused by his evil master-at-arms, John Claggart. Speechless with rage, Billy strikes and kills Claggart, forcing Captian Vere to order his execution. Also included are "Bartleby," "The Piazza," "The Encantadas," "The Bell-Tower," and "Benito Cereno."

[Download from BARD: Billy Budd, Sailor and Other Stories](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.34260)

Also available on cassette RC034260

**Death of a Salesman: Certain Private Conversations in Two Acts and a Requiem** By Arthur Miller

Read by Ralph Bell Reading time 4 hours, 3 minutes

A modern drama which indicts the optimism and materialism of American society. Willy Loman, a traveling salesman, experiences a profound sense of failure as he recognizes signs of aging in himself and decides to take stock of his accomplishments. Pulitzer Prize. 1977.

[Download from BARD: Death of a Salesman: Certain Private…](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.23130)

Also available on digital cartridge DB023130

Also available on cassette RC023130

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR02719](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR002719

**A Fine Balance** By Rohinton Mistry

Read by Yolande Bavan

India, 1975. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has declared a state of emergency, and the resulting upheavals thrust together four struggling people. Dina, a widowed seamstress in her forties, takes in Maneck, the college-age son of a school friend, along with two low-caste tailors, Ishvar and his nephew Om. Some violence. 1995.

Available on cassette RC053004

**Gone with the Wind** By Margaret Mitchell

Read by Mitzi Friedlander Reading time 42 hours, 45 minutes

A romantic Civil War epic in which Scarlet O' Hara, a forceful and ruthless heroine, and Rhett Butler, a war profiteer, play out their tempestuous love affair against the background of the war-torn South. Pulitzer Prize. .

[Download from BARD: Gone with the Wind](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.33082)

Also available on digital cartridge DB033082

Also available on cassette RC033082

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR11427](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR008519

**The Tender Bar a Memoir** By J. R. Moehringer

Read by Erik Sandvold Reading time 17 hours, 27 minutes

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist recalls finding male role models at the local bar in Manhasset, Long Island, where his uncle worked. Describes the education he received from the tavern patrons as he struggled to cope with abandonment by his father and life with his mother's dysfunctional family. Strong language. Bestseller. 2005.

[Download from BARD: The Tender Bar a Memoir](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.61119)

Also available on cassette RC061119

**In Other Rooms, Other Wonders** By Daniyal Mueenuddin

Read by Barry Bernson Reading time 7 hours, 53 minutes

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. 2009.

[Download from BARD: In Other Rooms, Other Wonders](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.72710)

Also available on digital cartridge DB072710

**Too Much Happiness:Stories** By Alice Munro

Read by Celeste Lawson Reading time 10 hours, 28 minutes

Ten short stories about family and relationships by Canadian author and winner of the 2009 Man Booker International Prize. The title piece imagines the professional and personal life of late-nineteenth-century Russian mathematician Sophia Kovalevsky. Some strong language. Bestseller. 2009.

[Download from BARD: Too Much Happiness](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.69954): Stories

Also available on digital cartridge DB069954

**Suite Française** By Irène Némirovsky

Read by Michele Schaeffer Reading time 15 hours, 2 minutes

When the Germans invade France in 1940, Parisians flee to the countryside amid chaos. The following year, the Nazis occupy a provincial village, where a woman--who is hiding another villager wanted for the murder of an enemy soldier--falls in love with a German officer. Published posthumously in 2006. Bestseller. 1942.

[Download from BARD: Suite Française](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.62505)

Also available on cassette RC062505

**The Railway Children** By E. Nesbit

Read by Jennifer Mendenhall Reading time 6 hours, 26 minutes

When a happy family is suddenly broken up by the mysterious departure of the father, the three children fill their days with adventure at a nearby railway station. For grades 5-8.

[Download from BARD: The Railway Children](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.33568)

Also available on cassette RC033568

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR17683](https://BARD.loc.gov)

Also available in braille BR017683

**Dreams From My Father: a Story of Race and Inheritance** By Barack Obama

Read by Bob Moore Reading time 15 hours, 28 minutes

Obama, his father a Kenyan student and his mother a white Kansan, struggles with issues of identity and ethnicity. A Harvard Law School graduate, community organizer, and civil rights lawyer, Obama recounts a life-changing pilgrimage to Kenya to meet relatives from his father's other marriages. Some strong language.

[Download from BARD: Dreams From My Father a Story of Race and…](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.43877)

Also available on digital cartridge DB043877

Also available on cassette RC043877

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR18106](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR018106

**Appointment in Samarra a novel** By John O’Hara

Read by Michael Russotto Reading time 8 hours, 34 minutes

Fast-moving first novel by journalist/critic John O'Hara (1905-1970) set in 1930s small-town Pennsylvania. As Gibbsville celebrates Christmas with parties, music, and liquor, aristocratic drunkard Julian English breaks with polite society in one rash moment, beginning his rapid descent to self-destruction. 1991 introduction by John Updike. Some strong language. 1934.

[Download from BARD: Appointment in Samarra a novel](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.58197)

Also available on cassette RC058197

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR15398](https://BARD.loc.gov)

Also available in braille BR015398

**New and Selected Poems** By Mary Oliver

Read by Gabriella Cavallero Reading time 2 hours, 21 minutes

Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award winner presents forty-two unpublished poems and sixty-nine selections from six of her past eight volumes. Her poem "Why I Wake Early," from the book of the same title, celebrates the start of a new day. Sequel to New and Selected Poems (RC 35781). 2005. Nat'l Book Award.

[Download from BARD: New and Selected Poems](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.72765)

Also available on digital cartridge DB072765

**The Last Lecture** By Randy Pausch

Read by John Polk Reading time 5 hours, 3 minutes

Carnegie Mellon computer professor Pausch provides personal lessons and stories for his young children to learn from as they go through life. Continues the message of his widely circulated taped lecture on achieving childhood dreams that he delivered after he learned he was dying of pancreatic cancer. Bestseller. 2008.

[Download from BARD: The Last Lecture](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.66601)

Also available on digital cartridge DB066601

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR17828](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR017828

**Swallows and Amazons** By Arthur Ransome

Read by Patrick Horgan Reading time 9 hours, 7 minutes

Two English families and their lively children spend the summer camping out on Wild Cat Island. They explore their miniature world, hunt for a hidden treasure, and follow the mysterious doings of an uncle suspected of being a pirate. For grades 4-7. 1930.

[Download from BARD: Swallows and Amazons](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.22220)

Also available on cassette RC022220

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR13904](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR013904

**Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Sex But Were Afraid to Ask** By David R. Reuben

Read by Steven Carpenter Reading time 11 hours, 55 minutes

Updated edition of classic text about human sexuality. Physician answers questions regarding anatomy, sexual intercourse, homosexuality, birth control, sexually transmitted diseases, menopause, and sex in later life. Explicit descriptions of sex. 1999.

[Download from BARD: Everything You Always Wanted to Know About ...](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.55443)

Also available on cassette RC055443

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR14408](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR014408

**Gilead** By Marilynne Robinson

Read by Roy Avers Reading time 9 hours, 22 minutes

1950s. Dying seventy-six-year-old Gilead, Iowa, minister John Ames writes a parting letter to his young son. John reflects on the tensions between his pacifist father and militant abolitionist grandfather (both preachers), the death of his first wife and child, the gospel, a friend's transgressions, and life's eternal mystery. Pulitzer Prize. Bestseller. 2004.

[Download from BARD: Gilead](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.59561)

Also available on digital cartridge DB059561

Also available on cassette RC059561

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR16160](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR016160

**Home** By Marilynne Robinson

Read by Jill Fox Reading time 12 hours, 7 minutes

Events take place concurrently with those in Pulitzer Prize-winning Gilead (RC 59561, BR 16160). Like his friend and fellow minister John Ames, Robert Boughton is dying. Boughton's daughter and his long-estranged son return home to care for him--and to take refuge from their own troubled lives. 2008.

[Download from BARD: Home](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.67811)

Also available on digital cartridge DB067811

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR18203](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR018203

**Housekeeping** By Marilynne Robinson

Read by Erin Jones Reading time 5 hours, 53 minutes

Ruth and her younger sister, Lucille, are haphazardly raised by their extended family in the small, lakeside town of Fingerbone. Their grandmother cares for them until her death, then two bumbling great aunts take over, and finally eccentric aunt Sylvie looks after them. 1980.

[Download from BARD: Housekeeping](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.68564)

Also available on digital cartridge DB068564

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR16132](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR016132

**Big Russ and Me: Father and Son : Lessons of Life** By Tim Russert

Read by Gregory Gorton Reading time 10 hours, 46 minutes

Television journalist's memoir celebrating his bond with his father, "Big Russ," a WWII veteran whom Russert calls "endlessly hardworking and eternally optimistic." Author recollects his own 1950s Buffalo childhood in a close-knit Irish Catholic neighborhood and recalls teachers who inspired him throughout his life. Bestseller. 2004.

[Download from BARD: Big Russ and Me: Father and Son: Lessons of Life](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.58298)

Also available on digital cartridge DB058298

Also available on cassette RC058298

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR15446](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.58298)

Also available in braille BR015446

**In the Night Kitchen** By Maurice Sendak

Read by Christopher Hurt

Mickey's dream tumbles him into the night kitchen, where three singing bakers mistake him for milk. Mickey sets them straight and flies to the Milky Way in an airplane made from dough to find milk for the bakers. For grades K-3. A Caldecott Honor Book.

Available on cassette RC043615

Also available in print/braille BR010036

**Where the Wild Things Are** By Maurice Sendak

Read by J. Michael McCullough, Reading time 4 minutes

After being sent to bed without supper for misbehaving, Max puts on his wolf suit and sails away "through night and day and in and out of weeks and almost over a year" to where the wild things are. An imaginative fantasy for grades K-3. Caldecott Medal 1964.

[Download from BARD: Where the Wild Things Are](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.22906)

Also available on cassette RC022906

Also available in print/braille BR016352

**Equus a Play** By Peter Shaffer

Read by Jack Hrkach

A psychiatrist relentlessly explores the tortured mind of a seventeen-year-old stableboy who has blinded six horses with a metal spike. Tony Award Winner 1973.

Available on cassette RC014814

Also available in braille BR003434

**Five Finger Exercise** By Peter Shaffer

Read by Patrick Horgan

A German orphan who comes to England as tutor to a rich family hopes to be adopted by his new country and absorbed into a loving family. However, his arrival triggers selfish passions within the family, and the self-centered mother and her boorish husband battle for control of their son and daughter. Winner of the New York Critics' Circle Award as "Best Foreign Play of the Year," 1958.

Available on cassette RC019746

**King Lear** By William Shakespeare

Read by Jon Beryl Reading time 5 hours 41 minutes

A tragedy concerning a petulant king and his three daughters. Amid much other, more political action, Lear is taken in by false avowals of love from two of his daughters, and disinherits a third because of her refusal to flatter him. 1960.

[Download form BARD: King Lear](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.29214)

Also available on cassette RC029214

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR09396](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR001525 or BR009396

**Othello** By William Shakespeare

Read by John Horton or Alexander Scourby Reading time 5 hours, 7 minutes

An early seventeenth-century play. Othello, a high-ranking Moorish soldier, marries Desdemona, daughter of a Venetian senator who opposes the marriage. Othello wins over her family, but a frustrated ensign, Iago, sabotages his happiness by insinuating that Desdemona is having an affair with Cassio, another officer. Jealousy, racial overtones, confusion, fear, and lies eventually destroy love, honor, friendship, and respect. 1984.

[Download form BARD: Othello](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.35241)

Also available on cassette RC035241 or RC036695

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR10163](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR010163 or BR001105

**Saint Joan a Chronicle Play in Six Scenes and an Epilogue** By Bernard.Shaw

Read by George Rose Reading time 5 hours, 41 minutes

The Irish playwright's dramatic presentation of Joan of Arc as peasant, genius, saint, and fifteenth century feminist.

[Download from BARD: Saint Joan a Chronicle Play in Six Scenes and…](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.12654)

Also available on cassette RC012654

Also available in braille BR000165

**Love, Medicine, & Miracles Lessons Learned About Self-Healing From a Surgeon's Experience with Exceptional Patients** By Bernie S. Siegel

Read by Jim Bond Reading time 9 hours 22 minutes

A surgeon and professor at Yale Medical School, the author became interested in cancer victims who had regained their health, although diagnosed as incurable. He founded ECaP (Exceptional Cancer Patients), which inspired creative programs based on the belief that miracles occur when the mind is focused on healing. Bestseller 1986.

[Download from BARD: Love, Medicine, & Miracles Lessons Learned…](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.26318)

Also available on cassette RC026318

Also available in braille BR006561

**The No. 1 Ladies’ Detective Agency** By Alexander McCall Smith

Read by Mitzi Friedlander Reading time 7 hours, 28 minutes

Mma "Precious" Ramotswe opens a detective agency in Botswana when she inherits her father's cattle. People consult her about straying husbands, fraudulent business associates, and missing children. Along the way she learns their life stories and tales of Africa. Bestseller. 1998.

[Download from BARD: The No. 1 Ladies’ Detective Agency](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.55503)

Also available on digital cartridge DB055503

Also available on cassette RC055503

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR15865](https://bard.loc.gov/)

**The Gulag Archipelago, 1918-1956. Vol. 1, parts I-II an Experiment in Literary Investigation, I-II** By Aleksandr Isaevich Solzhenitsyn

Read by Ken Kliban Reading time 29 hours, 24 minutes

A scathing portrayal of the Soviet prison system drawn from eyewitness accounts and the Nobel Prize winner's own recollection of his eleven-year internment in the Archipelago. Prequel to The Gulag...Volume 2, Parts 3-4 (DB 49270). Bestseller. 1973.

[Download from BARD: The Gulag Archipelago, 1918-1956. Vol. 1, Parts…](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.49269)

Also available on cassette RC049269

**Crossing to Safety** By Wallace Stegner

Read by Fred Major Reading time 11 hours, 22 minutes

Story of acceptance and affirmation of two couples who meet in 1937 when they are young and whose friendship lasts a lifetime. Sid and Charity Lang and Larry and Sally Morgan, although from different backgrounds, befriend each other when the men are professors in Madison, Wisconsin.

[Download from BARD: Crossing to Safety](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.49441)

Also available on cassette RC049441

Also available in braille BR007155

**Olive Kitteridge** By Elizabeth Strout

Read by Martha Harmon Pardee Reading time 10 hours, 1 minute

Thirteen stories set in a small community on the Maine coast are linked by the presence of Olive Kitteridge, retired teacher and pharmacist's wife. In "Tulips" Olive struggles in the aftermath of her husband's stroke and with their son's response to his father's nursing-home confinement. Some strong language. Pulitzer Prize. 2008.

[Download from BARD: Olive Kitteridge](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.67392)

Also available on digital cartridge DB067392

**Brat Farrar** By Josephine Tey

Read by Anne Flosnik Reading time 8 hours, 24 minutes

Simon Ashby is about to turn twenty-one and come into his late parents' horse farm and considerable inheritance. Unexpectedly, a stranger claiming to be his dead twin, Patrick, appears and causes consternation in Simon, upheaval in the family, and violence in the quiet English countryside.

[Download from BARD: Brat Farrar](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.45380)

Also available on cassette RC045380

**Man Gone Down** By Michael Thomas

Read by Chuck Young Reading time 16 hours, 20 minutes

New York City. An unnamed black protagonist has a short time frame to earn enough money to pay his kids' school fees, buy an apartment, and patch things up with his estranged white wife. Memories of an abusive childhood mingle with his current plight. Strong language. Impac Dublin Prize. 2007.

[Download from BARD: Man Gone Down](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.66053)

Also available on cassette RC066053

**The Blackwater Lightship** By Colm Tóibín

Declan, hospitalized in the final stages of AIDS, sends for his sister Helen and their estranged mother. His request to visit his grandmother's house on the Irish coast creates an uncomfortable situation, bringing the three generations together--along with two of his gay friends. Booker Prize finalist. 1999.

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR14354](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Available in braille BR014354

**Brooklyn a Novel** By Colm Tóibín

Read by Colleen Delany Reading time 8 hours, 15 minutes

1950s. Young Eilis Lacey emigrates from Enniscorthy, Ireland, to Brooklyn, New York, encouraged by her family and with a priest's help. Eilis is lonely and homesick but takes night courses, meets an Italian boy, and adjusts to American life--until a tragedy occurs back home. Some explicit descriptions of sex. Bestseller. 2009.

[Download from BARD: Brooklyn a Novel](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.69470)

Also available on digital cartridge DB069470

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR18385](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR018385

**The Master: a Novel** By Colm Tóibín

Read by Robert Blumenfeld Reading time 12 hours, 55 minutes

Eamon Redmond, an Irish judge, wonders where he fits in. He feels alienated from his family, past and present, and lately he's not so sure about the legal world. Even his wife questions his commitment. But slowly his repressed memories come to terms with a new order. Perhaps his new grandchild is the missing link. 1992.

[Download from BARD: The Master a Novel](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.61699)

Also available on cassette RC061699

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR15897](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR015897

**The Story of the Night a Novel** By Colm Tóibín

Read by John Horton Reading time 9 hours, 28 minutes

Half British-half Argentine homosexual Richard Garay lives the quiet life of an English teacher in Buenos Aires. As the Falklands War approaches, he is recruited by American agents who hope to benefit from his cultural insights. Caught in a web of intrigue, Garay suffers betrayal and tragedy. Violence, strong language, and descriptions of sex. 1996.

[Download from BARD: The Story of the Night a Novel](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.46287)

Also available on cassette RC046287

**The Hobbit or, There and Back Again** By J.R.R. Tolkien

Read by Carole Jordan Stewart Reading time 9 hours, 25 minutes

The wandering wizard Gandalf recruits Bilbo Baggins, a Hobbit, to be the fourteenth member of an expedition. Hobbits prefer comfort to adventures, but Bilbo joins the quest and encounters many perils, including a dragon. For junior and senior high readers. 1994.

[Download from BARD: The Hobbit or, There and Back Again](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.48978)

Also available on digital cartridge DB048978

Also available on cassette RC048978

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR07827](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR011595 OR BR007827

**The Fellowship of the Ring: Being the First Part of Lord of the Rings** By J.R.R. Tolkien

Read by David Palmer Reading time 18 hours, 35 minutes

As the Ring cycle begins, Frodo, a home-loving hobbit, inherits the magic ring that his Uncle Bilbo brought back from his adventures in The Hobbit (RC 11497). To protect the ring from the powers of darkness, Frodo must make a long, dangerous journey. Prequel to The Two Towers (RC 47487).1954.

[Download from BARD: The Fellowship of the Ring Being the First…](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.47486)

Also available on digital cartridge DB047486

Also available on cassette RC047486

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR09745](https://bard.loc.gov/)

**Felicia's Journey** By William Trevor

Read by Graeme Malcolm Reading time 6 hours, 57 minutes

When Felicia, a motherless Irish teenager, discovers that she is pregnant, her father scorns her. So she decides to look for her boyfriend, Johnny, who told her he works for a Birmingham factory but is actually in the British army. Felicia is helped by the understanding Mr. Hilditch, who has a habit of befriending girls whom no one will miss.

[Download from BARD Felicia's Journey](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.40430)

Also available on cassette RC040430

**Couples** By John Updike

Read by Timothy Hayes Lynch Reading time 18 hours, 26 minutes

When Foxy and Ken Whitman move to an outer suburb of Boston, they are taken in by a social set who indulge in partying, drinking, and adultery. Over time, Foxy succumbs to the advances of one of her neighbors, Piet Hanemas. Strong language and explicit descriptions of sex. Bestseller.

[Download from BARD: Couples](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.48643)

Also available on cassette RC048643

**My Father’s Tears and Other Stories** By John Updike

Read by Luke Daniels Reading time 8 hours, 51 minutes

Eighteen short stories ponder life and old age. In the title piece, a student leaving for Harvard recalls his dad's emotional response at the local train station. In "Free," widowed Henry visits a former lover and misses his wife. Strong language and some descriptions of sex. Commercial audiobook. 2009.

[Download from BARD: My Father’s Tears and Other Stories](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.69372)

Also available on digital cartridge DB069372

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR18508](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR018508

**Girls Like Us Carole King, Joni Mitchell, and Carly Simon--and the Journey of a Generation** By Sheila Weller

Read by Mary Kane Reading time 23 hours, 34 minutes

Intertwined biographies of singer-songwriters of the sixties and seventies. Discusses King's 1971 Grammy sweep for Tapestry, Simon's number-one hit "You're So Vain," and Mitchell's self-proclaimed pure opera of the soul in Blue. James Taylor figures as Mitchell's lover, Simon's husband, and collaborator for all three. Strong language. Bestseller. 2008.

[Download from BARD: Girls Like Us Carole King, Joni Mitchell, and…](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.66664)

Also available on digital cartridge DB066664

**The Night Trilogy** By Elie Wiesel

Read by Ken Kliban Reading time 10 hours, 5 minutes

"Night" is the story of a Jewish boy who is deported with his family and community from Hungary to the horrors of the infamous Auschwitz. In "Dawn," Elisha, the sole survivor of his family, becomes a Jewish terrorist in Palestine and is ordered to execute an Englishman. In "The Accident," a concentration camp survivor tries to rebuild his life in New York City. Some violence and some descriptions of sex.

[Download from BARD: The Night Trilogy](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.42074)

Also available on cassette RC042074

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR11185](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR011185

**A Streetcar Named Desire** By Tennessee Williams

Read by Kimberly Schraf Reading time 3 hours, 59 minutes

In this play, a recently widowed, faded southern belle visits her bohemian sister and lusty brother-in-law in the French Quarter of New Orleans. Seeking the lost gentility of her early life, she instead faces a mental breakdown because of the insensitivity of those around her. Pulitzer Prize. 1947.

[Download from BARD: A Streetcar Named Desire](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.46212)

Also available on cassette RC046212

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR11535](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR000172

**The Duke of Deception Memories of My Father** By Geoffrey Wolff

Read by John Stratton

The author recaptures the paradox of his brilliant father's turbulent life and resurrects the crises of his own seesaw childhood. Some strong language.

Also available on cassette RC014703

**The Caine Mutiny** By Herman Wouk

Read by Ed Blake Reading time 20 hours, 19 minutes

During World War II, the crew of the Caine mutinies against Captain Queeg, accusing him of incompetence. The novel reaches its climax during the court-martial when they must prove their charges. Pulitzer Prize.

[Download from BARD The Caine mutiny](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.31442)

Also available on cassette RC031442

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR08215](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR008215

**Marjorie Morningstar** By Herman Wouk

Read by Anne Hancock Reading time 27 hours, 34 minutes

Beautiful New York teenager Marjorie Morgenstern, a student at Hunter College in the late 1930s, decides to become an actress, repudiating the values of her traditional Jewish family. Joining a summer stock troupe, she embarks on a disastrous affair with its charismatic director. Some strong language. 1955.

[Download from BARD: Marjorie Morningstar](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.56674)

Also available on cassette RC056674 or RC011490

**The Winds of War** By Herman Wouk

Read by Roy Avers Reading time 41 hours, 46 minutes

In 1939, Commander Victor Henry of the U.S. Navy is assigned to Berlin as a naval attachó. After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, he sees sons Warren and Byron go off to war, his daughter, Madeline, caught in a love affair, and his wife, Rhoda, contemplating divorce. Some strong language. 1971.

[Download from BARD: The Winds of War](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.56737)

Also available on digital cartridge DB056737

Also available on cassette RC056737

**Others Authors Mentioned in the Book:**

1. Jane Austen
2. Elizabeth Bishop
3. Agatha Christie
4. Charles Dickens
5. Siobhan Dowd
6. Dave Eggers
7. Ralph Waldo Emerson
8. F. Scott Fitzgerald
9. Erle Stanley Gardner
10. Nikki Giovanni
11. Andrew Holleran
12. Dennis Lehane
13. Donna Leon
14. Ngaio Marsh
15. Val McDermid
16. James A. Michener
17. Toni Morrison
18. Iris Murdoch
19. Sara Paretsky
20. Thomas Pynchon
21. David Rohde
22. John Ruskin
23. David Sedaris
24. Wallace Stevens
25. William Makepeace Thackeray
26. Liv Ullmann
27. Leon Uris
28. P.G. Wodehouse