



Adventure: Apocalypse and Disaster Novels

Read about epic disasters, the end of civilization, and new world orders in these apocalypse-themed novels. To order any of these titles, contact the library by email, phone, mail, in person, or order through our [online catalog](#). Select titles can be [downloaded from BARD](#).

Wastelands: Stories of the Apocalypse By John Joseph Adams

Read by John Polk

Reading time 18 hours, 29 minutes

Twenty-two short stories of postapocalyptic fiction. In Stephen King's "The End of the Whole Mess," Howard Forny recounts the life of his genius brother, Bobby, before his intelligence destroyed the world. Includes tales by Orson Scott Card, Dale Bailey, and others. Violence, strong language, and descriptions of sex. 2008.

[Download from BARD: Wastelands: Stories of the Apocalypse](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB070734

Things We Didn't See Coming By Steven K. Amsterdam

Read by Alec Volz

Reading time 5 hours, 49 minutes

Nine connected apocalyptic stories centering on a boy and his family that begin on New Year's Eve 1999 and span three decades. Extreme weather, disease, government control, and a plethora of other disasters plague the narrator as he struggles to survive. Some strong language. 2009.

[Download from BARD: Things We Didn't See Coming](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB071496

Oryx and Crake a Novel By Margaret Atwood

Read by Richard Davidson Reading time 12 hours, 32 minutes

In the near future, a lone human amidst genetically engineered creatures torments himself with memories of the devastation of the natural world. Calling himself "Snowman," he recalls the role of his best friend Crake and mourns the loss of their mutually beloved Oryx. Some descriptions of sex and some strong language. 2003.

[Download from BARD: Oryx and Crake a novel](#)

Also available on cassette RC056234

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The Windup Girl By Paolo Bacigalupi

Read by Jonathan Davis Reading time 19 hours, 38 minutes

In a post-oil world where calories are currency, agriculture manager Anderson Lake searches a politically unstable Thailand for new food sources. He meets Emiko, a bioengineered "windup" girl, who works in a Bangkok brothel. Violence, strong language, and some explicit descriptions of sex. Commercial audiobook. 2009.

[Download from BARD: The Windup Girl](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB071063

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR19099](#)

Also available in braille BR019099

Day By Day Armageddon Origin to Exile By J.L. Bourne

Read by Peter Johnson Reading time 16 hours, 13 minutes

Two previously published books, Day by Day Armageddon and Day by Day Armageddon: Beyond Exile, in one volume. Accounts of the zombie apocalypse and human survival in journal-entry format. Violence and strong language. 2004.

[Download from BARD: Day By Day Armageddon Origin to Exile](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB077105

World War Z an Oral History of the Zombie War By Max Brooks

Read by Jim Zeiger

Reading time 13 hours, 51 minutes

Author of The Zombie Survival Guide (RC 64675) records firsthand interviews with survivors of humanity's devastating clash with the undead. Personal accounts from all over the world reveal the scope of the conflict, from the first zombie outbreak to the aftermath of war. Strong language and some violence. 2006.

[Download from BARD: World War Z an Oral History of the Zombie War](#)

Also available on cassette RC065111

The Passage a Novel By Justin Cronin

Read by Martha Harmon Pardee Reading time 34 hours, 39 minutes

Six-year-old orphan Amy Harper Bellafonte becomes humanity's last hope after the North American populace is decimated by a terrifying viral infection--the product of a secret military experiment housed in a remote compound in the Colorado mountains. Violence, strong language, and some descriptions of sex. Bestseller. 2010.

[Download from BARD: The Passage a Novel](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB071422

After Nineteen Stories of Apocalypse and Dystopia By Ellen Datlow

Read by Erin Jones

Reading time 11 hours, 25 minutes

Nineteen tales by well-known authors of young adult and adult literature explore the lives of teens raised after a catastrophe. In Carolyn Dunn's "Before" an Indian girl dreams of life before her imprisonment by plague victims. Some violence and some strong language. For senior high and older readers. 2012.

[Download from BARD: After Nineteen Stories of Apocalypse and...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB075737

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR19690](#)

Also available in braille BR019690

The Darwin Elevator the Dire Earth Cycle: One By Jason M. Hough

Read by Gregory Gorton

Reading time 16 hours, 10 minutes

Australia, 2283. Earth has fallen to a plague. The only human city left is Darwin, where an alien space elevator protects against the disease. Skyler Luiken--one of the rare "immunes"--leads a scavenging crew to help Darwin survive. Then the elevator begins to malfunction. Violence and strong language. 2013.

[Download from BARD: The Darwin Elevator the Dire Earth Cycle: One](#)

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Also available on digital cartridge DB077294

The Stand the Complete and Uncut Edition By Stephen King

Read by Bruce Huntley

Reading time 46 hours, 37 minutes

An experimental virus called superflu hits the world--rapidly wiping out the whole of civilization except for the few who are immune. Expansion of novel originally published in 1978. Strong language, some explicit descriptions of sex, and some violence. 1990.

[Download from BARD: The Stand the Complete and Uncut Edition](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB056081

The Road By Cormac McCarthy

Read by Michael Kramer

Reading time 6 hours, 12 minutes

A father and his young son journey south after the destruction of the civilized world. Their survival kit consists of a few blankets, a pistol, a cart of scavenged food, and their love for each other. Their values are tested by occasional encounters with other desperate survivors. Bestseller. Pulitzer Prize. 2006.

[Download from BARD: The Road](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB063649

Also available on cassette RC063649

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR17072](#)

Also available in braille BR017072

A Canticle for Leibowitz By Walter M. Miller

Read by John Horton

Reading time 11 hours, 50 minutes

This futuristic novel is set in a monastery after the destruction of the present civilization. The central theme is the church's role as preserver of wisdom and spiritual life. Some violence.

[Download from BARD: A Canticle for Leibowitz](#)

Also available in braille BR008614

Ashes, Ashes By Jo Treggiari

Read by Theresa Conkin

Reading time 9 hours, 11 minutes

In a future world devastated by illness and environmental catastrophes, Lucy "Lucky" Holloway lives alone. But when she befriends a group of survivors, she faces a new threat--the Sweepers, who kidnap healthy individuals to experiment on. Some violence. For senior high and older readers. 2011.

[Download from BARD: Ashes, Ashes](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB074353

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Partials By Dan Wells

Read by Jill Fox

Reading time 13 hours, 28 minutes

War with engineered organic beings called Partials and a deadly virus that targets newborns have decimated the population, but a few survivors are trying to keep the human race alive. Medic-in-training Kira searches for solutions at any cost. For senior high and older readers. 2012.

[Download from BARD: Partials](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB074651

The Day of the Triffids By John Wyndham

Read by David Palmer

Reading time 7 hours, 43 minutes

In this English science fiction work, a blinding blast from meteors causes the earth to be overrun by great flesh-eating plants, which almost exterminate humankind. The survivors are fighting not only against a hostile form of life, but also against each other and themselves.

[Download from BARD: The Day of the Triffids](#)

Also available on cassette RC033690

Also available in braille BR008820

Blood Red Road Dustlands By Moira Young

Read by Nicola Daval

Reading time 11 hours, 22 minutes

After four horsemen kidnap eighteen-year-old Lugh, his twin sister Saba and their nine-year-old sister Emmi track Lugh across the bleak Sandsea. Then Saba is taken captive to be a cage fighter--but her friends have an escape plan. Some violence and some strong language. For senior high and older readers. 2011.

[Download from BARD: Blood Red Road Dustlands](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB073839