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Mysteries: Agatha Award Winning Books

These mystery books have won the Agatha Award, an award conferred upon traditional mysteries with content that does not include explicit sex or gore. 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](#).

Naughty in Nice By Rhys Bowen

Read by Gabriella Cavallero Reading time 9 hours, 12 minutes
The French Riviera, 1933. While searching for the Queen's missing snuff box and necklace, Lady Georgiana Rannoch must also solve a murder and model for Coco Chanel. 2011.

[Download from BARD: Naughty in Nice](#)

Also available in digital cartridge DB077092

Queen of Hearts By Rhys Bowen

Read by Martha Harmon Pardee Reading time 9 hours, 1 minute
Accompanying her actress mother to Reno for her quickie divorce, Lady Georgiana Rannoch is caught up in the secret investigation run by her beau, Darcy, of a suspected jewel thief. Meanwhile her mother is cast by a Hollywood movie mogul--but he ends up dead. 2014.

[Download from BARD: Queen of Hearts](#)

Also available in digital cartridge DB079668

The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie By Alan C. Bradley

Read by Kristin Allison
minutes

Reading time 9 hours, 31

England, 1950. Eleven-year-old aspiring chemist Flavia de Luce overhears her father in a heated argument with a stranger, who turns up dead in the garden of the Luces' decaying estate. When Flavia's father is charged with murder, she seeks clues in their village and his past to exonerate him. 2009.

[Download from BARD: The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie](#)

Also available in digital cartridge DB070410

Also available on cassette RC070410

Murder on a Girls' Night Out By Anne George

Read by Ruth Ann Phimister Reading time 7 hours, 31 minutes

Retired Alabama schoolteacher Patricia Anne Hollowell has a mystery to solve when, shortly after her flamboyant sister Mary Alice buys a country-and-western bar, the previous owner is found dead in a wishing well. Commercial audiobook. 1996.

[Download from BARD: Murder on a Girls' Night Out](#)

Also available in digital cartridge DB076848

Dead Man's Island By Carolyn G. Hart

Read by Mitzi Friedlander Reading time 9 hours, 20 minutes

Media magnate Chase Prescott invites old flame retired reporter Henrietta O'Dwyer Collins--Henrie O--to his private South Carolina island to ferret out his would-be murderer from among the family and associates assembled there. Henrie O questions fellow guests as a ferocious hurricane draws near. Some strong language. 1993.

[Download from BARD: Dead Man's Island](#)

Also available in digital cartridge DB063926

Also available on cassette RC063926

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR09684](#)

Also available in braille BR009684

Learning to Swim By Sara J. Henry

Read by Michael J. McCullough Reading time 10 hours, 48 minutes

Freelance writer Troy Chance is on a ferry crossing Lake Champlain when she sees a small boy fall off a passing boat. Troy rescues him, then--convinced he was thrown overboard--takes the traumatized French Canadian child home with her rather than turning him over to the police. Some violence. 2011.

[Download from BARD: Learning to Swim](#)

Also available in digital cartridge DB076342

Dating Dead Men By Harley Jane Kozak

Read by Gillian Green Reading time 9 hours, 29 minutes

Los Angeles greeting card artist Wollie Shelley, busy with a dating research project, dashes off to visit her institutionalized, schizophrenic brother. She finds a body on the road and fears that her sibling could be involved. As Wollie investigates, a colorful cast of characters gradually enters her life. 2004.

[Download from BARD: Dating Dead Men](#)

Also available on cassette RC059695

Death of a Cozy Writer a St. Just Mystery By G. M. Malliet

Read by Martha Harmon Pardee Reading time 8 hours, 44 minutes

British mystery writer Sir Adrian Beauclerk-Fisk invites his grown children to his wedding. The four siblings are not happy about the bride and her possible threat to their inheritance. When Sir Adrian and his eldest son are both murdered, Detective Chief Inspector Arthur St. Just investigates. Some strong language. 2008.

[Download from BARD: Death of a Cozy Writer a St. Just Mystery](#)

Also available in digital cartridge DB069655

Three-Day Town By Margaret Maron

Read by Martha Harmon Pardee Reading time 8hours, 19 minutes

Judge Deborah Knott and deputy sheriff Dwight Bryant arrive at a friend's New York City apartment for their honeymoon. When Deborah arranges to hand over a package she is delivering for a NYPD detective's ill grandmother, the package disappears and the building's superintendent is killed. Some strong language. 2011.

[Download from BARD: Three-Day Town](#)

Also available in digital cartridge DB075672

The Body in the Snowdrift: A Faith Fairchild Mystery By Katherine Hall

Page

Read by Barbara Caruso Reading time 8 hours, 43 minutes

Caterer Faith Fairchild and her extended family gather at a ski resort in Vermont to celebrate her father-in-law's seventieth birthday. But after Faith finds the body of a local lawyer, the chef disappears, and another corpse turns up on the slopes, the clan starts bickering. Includes recipes. 2005.

[Download from BARD: A Body in the Snowdrift: A Faith Fairchild...](#)

Also available in digital cartridge DB061863

Also available on cassette RC061863

The Beautiful Mystery By Louise Penny

Read by Andy Pyle Reading time 16 hours, 17 minutes

Chief Inspector Armand Gamache and his protégé Jean-Guy Beauvoir travel to the remote monastery of Saint-Gilbert-Entre-les-Loups, where twenty-three cloistered monks mourn the recent murder of the twenty-fourth, choirmaster Brother Mathieu. Mathieu had recruited the best singers to join the monastery for its main focus--singing Gregorian chants. Some strong language. 2012.

[Download from BARD: The Beautiful Mystery](#)

Also available in digital cartridge DB075464

A Brutal Telling By Louise Penny

Read by Anne Hancock

Reading time 14 hours, 22 minutes

Québec. Chief Inspector Armand Gamache investigates the murder of an old man found bludgeoned in a bistro. At a remote cabin purportedly owned by the deceased, Gamache and his team find a cache of rare books, priceless antiques--and blood. Some strong language. 2009.

[Download from BARD: A Brutal Telling](#)

Also available in digital cartridge DB070226

Bury Your Dead By Louise Penny

Read by Anne Hancock

Reading time 13 hours, 54 minutes

Chief Inspector Gamache, on leave in Quebec City, helps investigate the murder of an archaeologist who was searching for the remains of Samuel de Champlain. Meanwhile Gamache sends his colleague Jean-Guy Beauvoir to Three Pines to revisit the case described in *The Brutal Telling* (DB0 70226). Some strong language. 2010.

[Download from BARD: Bury Your Dead](#)

Also available in digital cartridge DB072936

The Virgin of Small Plains by Nancy Pickard

Read by Ray Childs

Reading time 12 hours, 38 minutes

Small Plains, Kansas. Mitch Newquist--banished from his hometown for witnessing the cover-up of a young girl's murder--returns when his mother dies. Together with his former girlfriend, Mitch searches for the killer and uncovers disturbing secrets of the town's most prominent men. Strong language and some violence. 2006.

[Download from BARD: The Virgin of Small Plains](#)

Also available in digital cartridge DB064701

Also available on cassette RC064701

Truth be Told By Hank Phillippi Ryan

Read by Martha Harmon Pardee Reading time 12 hours, 54 minutes

Boston reporter Jane Ryland is covering the removal of an evicted family's belongings when the police find a dead body in the closet. Meanwhile, one bank employee is secretly stopping foreclosures, while another is exploiting them. Detective Jake Brogan and Jane juggle these investigations with a cold-case confession. Strong language. 2014.

[Download from BARD: Truth Be Told](#)

Also available in digital cartridge DB079865

The Wrong Girl By Hank Phillippi Ryan

Read by Ray Foushee Reading time 13 hours, 5 minutes

Reporter Jane Ryland's former coworker Tuck asks Jane to investigate an adoption agency that Tuck claims reunited her with the wrong birth mother. Jane also covers the story of a mother of two young children who was killed in her kitchen. Detective Jake Brogan conducts parallel investigations. Strong language. 2013.

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

Also available on digital cartridge DB077432

A Question of Honor By Charles Todd

Read by Martha Harmon Pardee Reading time 10 hours, 27 minutes

India, 1908. Lieutenant Wade, one of the men serving under Bess Crawford's father, is suspected of murdering his parents. He escapes but soon after is reported dead. A decade later, when Bess learns from a dying soldier that Wade is very much alive, she investigates. Agatha Award. 2013.

[Download from BARD: A Question of Honor](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB077563

Birds of a Feather By Jacqueline Winspear

Read by Jill Fox

Reading time 10 hours, 50 minutes

London, 1930s. Wealthy Joseph Waite hires private investigator Maisie Dobbs, a former battlefield nurse, to locate his missing thirty-two-year-old daughter, Charlotte. Maisie finds chilling links to Scotland Yard inspector Stratton's latest murder case and the Great War's terrible legacy. 2004.

[Download from BARD: Birds of a Feather](#)

Also available in digital cartridge DB067834

Maisie Dobbs, a Novel By Jacqueline Winspear

Read by Jill Fox

Reading time 9 hours, 28 minutes

Thirteen-year-old Maisie is lucky to be a maid in the home of a wealthy London suffragette who sees to her education. Maisie becomes a private investigator in 1929 after serving as a nurse during the Great War. Her first case involves a shelter for wounded veterans. 2003.

[Download from BARD: Maisie Dobbs a Novel](#)

Also available in digital cartridge DB067808

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR15352](#)