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### Classics: Pre-20<sup>th</sup> Century English Novels

Featured here are classic British novels from the likes of Dickens, Austen, Defoe, and many more. To order any of these titles, contact the library by email, phone, mail, in person, or order through our [online catalog](#). Most titles can be [downloaded from BARD](#).

#### **Flatland a Romance of Many Dimensions by Edwin Abbot Abbott**

Read by James DeLotel

3 hours, 48 minutes

An imaginative science fiction tale about life in a two-dimensional world, where women are straight lines and polygonal priests terrorize the populace.

[Download from BARD: Flatland a Romance of Many Dimensions](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB040571

#### **Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen**

Read by Jennifer Mendenhall

12 hours, 8 minutes

A classic novel of social customs in late eighteenth-century England. Depicts the personality clash between Elizabeth Bennet, one of five daughters of a country gentleman, and prosperous, aristocratic landowner Fitzwilliam Darcy, which eventually develops into courtship. 1813.

[Download from BARD: Pride and Prejudice](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB050549

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR11521](#)

Also available in braille BR011521 or BR001583

### **Three Gothic Novels by William Beckford**

Read by Norman Barrs

11 hours, 55 minutes

Three examples of nineteenth-century Gothic literature--Walpole's 'Castle of Otranto', Beckford's 'Vathek', and Polidori's 'Vampyre'--plus a fragment of a novel by Lord Byron.

[Download from BARD: Three Gothic Novels](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB016603

### **Lorna Doone a Romance of Exmoor by R. D. Blackmore**

Read by Patrick Horgan

26 hours, 2 minutes

Historical romance set in the times of Charles II and James II. John Ridd is a dashing young Exmoor yeoman whose father has been killed by the Doones, a clan of robbers and murderers. The vengeance which John vows he will exact is complicated by his love for Lorna Doone, whose kind heart is at odds with her evil family. First published in 1869. 1967.

[Download from BARD: Lorna Doone a Romance of Exmoor](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB027302

### **Jane Eyre by Charlotte Brontë**

Read by Jennifer Mendenhall

20 hours, 15 minutes

Nineteenth-century English novel about a plain and intelligent woman who becomes the governess at an estate, is caught up in the mysteries of the manor, and falls in love with the master of the house.

[Download from BARD: Jane Eyre](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB047868

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR10514](#)

Also available in braille BR010514 or BR001216

## **Wuthering Heights by Emily Brontë**

Read by Dale Hodges

14 hours, 47 minutes

This 19th-century English novel, set in the wild moor country of Yorkshire, is about Heathcliff, a foundling raised in the Earnshaw home who passionately loves Catherine and dedicates his life to the realization of that love and revenge on those who oppose him.

[Download from BARD: Wuthering Heights](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB025178

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR11902](#)

Also available in braille BR011902 OR BR001218

## **The Pilgrim's Progress from this World to that Which is to Come &, Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners by John Bunyan**

Read by Michael Scherer

17 hours, 26 minutes

Two classic works by English Puritan John Bunyan (1628-1688). In the allegorical tale Pilgrim's Progress, the protagonist, burdened by sin, leaves the City of Destruction to find Zion, the city of God. His journey embodies Christian teachings. In Grace Abounding, Bunyan recounts his conversion and spiritual growth. 2004.

[Download from BARD: The Pilgrim's Progress from this World to that...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB059950

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR15964](#)

Also available in braille BR015964

## **Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and, Through the Looking Glass, and What Alice Found There by Lewis Carroll**

Read by Yvonne Fair Tessler

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...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB050842

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR12746](#)

Also available in braille BR001412 OR BR012746

## **The Canterbury Tales by Geoffrey Chaucer**

Read by Patrick Horgan

15 hours, 19 minutes

A poetic comedy from fourteenth-century England. During the annual April pilgrimage to Thomas a Becket's shrine at Canterbury, the travelers stop at the Tabard Inn, where their host suggests a story-telling contest. The jovial tellers of the ribald tales include a friar, summoner, nun's priest, and miller. 1977.

[Download from BARD: The Canterbury Tales](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB020461

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR13235](#)

Also available in braille BR000466 or BR013235

## **The Woman in White by Wilkie Collins**

Read by Patrick Horgan

25 hours

A Victorian melodrama concerning a mysterious woman in white who bears an uncanny resemblance to the fiancée of Count Fosco, a sophisticated fortune hunter. First published as a serial between 1859 and 1860, this chronicle of evil, suspense, and villainy is believed to be the first English novel to deal with crime detection. 1859.

[Download from BARD: The Woman in White](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB020577

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR09083](#)

Also available in braille BR009083

## **Heart of Darkness, and The Secret Sharer by Joseph Conrad**

Read by Jack Hrkach

6 hours, 40 minutes

Two short allegorical novels based on real events and related by the central characters. 'Heart of Darkness' concerns a journey into the center of the Congo. The further Marlow, the narrator, penetrates into the interior, the more compelling becomes his confrontation with the potential for inhumanity in himself and others. In 'The Secret Sharer' a sea captain faces his own nature when he conceals an escaping murderer with whom he identifies.

[Download from BARD: Heart of Darkness, and The Secret Sharer](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB012613

### **Robinson Crusoe by Daniel Defoe**

Read by Harold Parker

12 hours, 38 minutes

Crusoe runs away to sea, is shipwrecked, and leads a solitary existence on an uninhabited island near the Orinoco River for twenty-four years. He meets the difficulties of primitive life with ingenuity and at length finds a companion in a native whom he saves from cannibals.

[Download from BARD: Robinson Crusoe](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB027138

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR09250](#)

Also available in braille BR009250

### **A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens**

Read by John Horton

14 hours, 15 minutes

Englishman Sydney Carton and Frenchman Charles Darnay, who bear a strong physical resemblance to each other, love the same woman, Lucie Manette. The sacrifice by Carton for his friends is the climax of this story set in late-eighteenth-century London and Paris during the French Revolution. 1859.

[Download from BARD: A Tale of Two Cities](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB049497

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR10640](#)

Also available in braille BR000818 or BR010640

### **The Mill on the Floss by George Eliot**

Read by Flo Gibson

20 hours, 10 minutes

Classic Victorian novel about Maggie Tulliver, a young woman from a working-class family in a small English town, who is dominated by her coarse older brother. In her pursuit of beauty and love, Maggie finds herself rejected by her brother and condemned by the respectable townspeople. 1860.

[Download from BARD: The Mill on the Floss](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB051267

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR14969](#)

Also available in braille BR014969

### **Tom Jones by Henry Fielding**

Read by David Cutler

42 hours, 54 minutes

Modernized edition of English comic, picaresque epic. Tom Jones, an orphan taken in by Squire Allworthy, is expelled from Allworthy's country estate for his wild indiscretions. Thus begins a series of adventures in which Tom loses his money, joins the army, and pursues his beloved to London. 1996 introduction. 1748.

[Download from BARD: Tom Jones](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB065165

### **Cousin Phillis and Other Stories by Elizabeth Cleghorn Gaskell**

Read by Kristin Allison

13 hours, 7 minutes

Five Victorian short stories and the title novella by English novelist Elizabeth Gaskell (1810-1865). In Cousin Phillis seventeen-year-old Paul Manning meets his mother's distant relatives. Includes "Lizzie Leigh," "Morton Hall," "My French Master," "Half a Life-Time Ago," and "Manchester Marriage" and 2010 introduction and notes by Heather Glen. 1865.

[Download from BARD: Cousin Phillis and Other Stories](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB076813

### **The Vicar of Wakefield by Oliver Goldsmith**

Read by Patrick Weddington

6 hours, 41 minutes

A pastoral novel narrated by an unwordly, generous, and kindly vicar. He and his family are forced to move to humbler dwellings. The vicar's fortitude prevails despite the seduction of his daughter and his imprisonment for debt.

[Download from BARD: The Vicar of Wakefield](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB016498

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR11061](#)

Also available in braille BR011061

### **Jude the Obscure by Thomas Hardy**

Read by Grover Gardner

16 hours, 13 minutes

The author's last novel first published in 1896, dramatizes the tragic conflict between the carnal and spiritual life of Jude Fawley, who is torn between love for his cousin and a yearning to become a priest. The subject of marriage is treated with a candor unusual for its late Victorian context. 1978.

[Download from BARD: Jude the Obscure](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB022745

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR18655](#)

Also available in braille BR018655

### **Beowulf by Seamus Heaney**

Read by Patrick Horgan

7 hours, 38 minutes

Nobel laureate Heaney presents a bilingual edition of the tenth-century Anglo-Saxon epic, which includes the original poem in Old English along with his new modern English verse translation. The poem chronicles the feats of Scandinavian warrior Beowulf, who battles with monsters and brings wisdom to leadership. Whitbread Award. Bestseller. 2000.

[Download from BARD: Beowulf](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB049742

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR12591](#)

Also available in braille BR012591

### **Tom Brown's Schooldays by Thomas Hughes**

Read by Patrick Horgan

9 hours 54 minutes

Tom Brown is from a long line of Browns who claim that the British nation owes much of its greatness to them. As a young boy, Tom, the son of a squire, is encouraged to play with the village boys. But at the age of nine, Tom is packed off to Rugby, where he fears but learns to respect the famous Dr. Arnold; develops long-lasting friendships; and gets involved in typical English schoolboy adventures, including the inevitable fights.

[Download from BARD: Tom Brown's Schooldays](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB037100

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR09429](#)

Also available in braille BR009429

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

Read by Peter Lavezzoli

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 \(To Say Nothing of the Dog\)](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB066776

### **Le Morte d'Arthur by Sir Thomas Malory**

Read by Andrew Sofer

31 hours, 26 minutes

While Malory's fifteenth-century compilation of Arthurian legends has held its own since 1485, this new edition is designed for non-specialized modern readers. Editor R.M. Lumiansky also considers a manuscript discovered in Winchester, England, in 1934. Malory begins with the birth of Arthur, retells medieval tales of the Knights of the Round Table (including their quest for the Holy Grail), and concludes with King Arthur's death.

[Download from BARD: Le Morte d'Arthur](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB035429

### **The Ordeal of Richard Feverel by George Meredith**

Read by Susan Gorsky

18 hours, 3 minutes

In this classic novel written in 1859, egotistic Sir Austin Feverel brings up his son Richard on an abstract and rigid system of education which breaks down when the boy reaches adolescence and first love.

[Download from BARD: The Ordeal of Richard Feverel](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB016298



### **The Mysteries of Udolpho by Ann Ward Radcliffe**

Read by Eda Seasongood

28 hours, 25 minutes

Classic Gothic mystery centers upon Emily St. Aubert, a young orphan born of Gascon parents and imprisoned by her despotic aunt in the somber castle of Udolpho in the Apennines.

[Download from BARD: The Mysteries of Udolpho](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB014457

### **Clarissa or, The History of a Young Lady by Samuel Richardson**

Read by Anne Chodoff

25 hours, 10 minutes

First published in 1747, this is a classic novel about a well-brought-up young lady with high moral standards whose parents attempt to force her to marry a man she greatly dislikes.

[Download from BARD: Clarissa, or The History of a Young Lady](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB013407

### **Ivanhoe by Sir Walter Scott**

Read by Patrick Horgan

21 hours, 35 minutes

England during the time of Richard I is the background for this novel of chivalry. Among the characters are Robin Hood, King Richard, and Rebecca and Rowena, two beautiful women who both love Ivanhoe. First published in 1819.

[Download from BARD: Ivanhoe](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB025304

Also available in braille BR006805

### **Frankenstein, or, The Modern Prometheus by Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley**

Read by Ronald B. Meyer

8 hours, 32 minutes

Classic horror story. A monster, endowed with life by a young scientist named Frankenstein, later turns on his creator. Originally published in 1818.

[Download from BARD: Frankenstein, or, The Modern Prometheus](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB025835

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR12173](#)

Also available in braille BR012173

### **Roderick Random by Tobias George Smollett**

Read by Mark Waldrip

20 hours, 44 minutes

Eighteenth-century picaresque novel follows the career of an apprentice who goes out to seek his fortune. Story alternates between action on the high seas, where Roderick becomes a surgeon's assistant on a man-of-war, and the pleasures of the boudoir.

[Download from BARD: Roderick Random](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB019293

### **The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman by Laurence Sterne**

Read by Alan Haines

19 hours, 40 minutes

This classic tale, written in 1760, created a scandal when it was first published. Masquerading as an autobiography, Tristram's novel is a chaotic and droll account of his life from the time of his conception. In mock disdain for all rules of writing a novel, he creates highly original characters, digresses to offer his opinions at the slightest whim, and yields to suggestive humor.

[Download from BARD: The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB014401

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR08812](#)

Also available in braille BR008812

### **Dracula by Bram Stoker**

Read by John C. Reed

17 hours, 3 minutes

A tale of vampires set in the late 19th century. Jonathan Harker, an English solicitor, visits Count Dracula in his Transylvania castle to transact some business, and soon learns that Dracula is not the ordinary man he appears, but a monster. His horror increases when Dracula moves to England. 1897.

[Download from BARD: Dracula](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB031689

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR08277](#)

Also available in braille BR008277

### **Gulliver's Travels by Jonathan Swift**

Read by Bradley Bransford

14 hours, 32 minutes

Published in 1726 as a scornful satire on humankind, this novel follows the travels of Captain Lemuel Gulliver into remote and fanciful nations of the world. On his voyages he encounters miniature people, giants, horses with human reason, and a flying island. 1967.

[Download from BARD: Gulliver's Travels](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB023150

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR12766](#)

Also available in braille BR012766 or BR002929

### **Vanity Fair a Novel Without a Hero by William Thackeray**

Read by Patrick Horgan

30 hours, 27 minutes

Classic English novel of the contrasting lives of two young women, one gentle and innocent and the other clever and unscrupulous. Both seek husbands and happiness in Europe around the time of the Napoleonic campaigns. A sarcastic view of the social hypocrisy and sham of the time. First published in the 1840s.

[Download from BARD: Vanity Fair a Novel Without a Hero](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB022286

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR12598](#)

Also available in braille BR012598

### **The Warden by Anthony Trollope**

Read by George Patterson

8 hours, 13 minutes

The warden, a gentle and innocent old cleric living a quiet and contented life, is suddenly attacked by the newspapers for receiving the profits of a sinecure. Half in fear and half because of his scruples, he resigns his income and accepts penury.

[Download from BARD: The Warden](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB012363

Also available in braille BR008866

## **The Invisible Man by H.G. Wells**

Read by David Cutler

6 hours, 43 minutes

Classic story about the scientist Griffin, who discovers a process that makes him invisible. At first he is euphoric about the wild and wonderful things his invisibility allows him to do, but he soon wishes he could change back. First published in 1897.

[Download from BARD: The Invisible Man](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB047064

## **The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde**

Read by David Cutler

8 hours, 42 minutes

First published in the late nineteenth century. A beautiful youth has his portrait painted by an artist with a flair for the morbid. The portrait becomes the mirror of its innocent-appearing subject's inner life. Introduction by Edmund White. 1999.

[Download from BARD: the Picture of Dorian Gray](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB056794

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR17780](#)

Also available in braille BR017780 or BR009281