



BRAILLE AND TALKING BOOK LIBRARY

(800) 952-5666; btbl.ca.gov; btbl@library.ca.gov

Classics by Russian Authors

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](#).

The Complete Poems of Anna Akhmatova. v. I by Anna Andreevna. Akhmatova

Read by Suzanne Toren

11 hours, 25 minutes

Poet and translator Judith Hemschemeyer's preface and editor Roberta Reeder's lengthy introduction place the Russian writer's poems in their historical and biographical context. The lyric verses, written over a period of more than sixty years, appear in English translations. Original thematic cycles, such as "Petersburg" and "Rosary" are retained.

[Download from BARD: The Complete Poems of Anna Akhmatova. v. I](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB033626

The Master and Margarita by Mikhail Bulgakov

Read by Robert Blumenfeld

15 hours, 25 minutes

Satire on Soviet politics and society published posthumously in Russia in 1966, following years of suppression. The Devil and his cronies create havoc visiting Moscow's theater district. Interwoven in this tale is a reenactment of the Pontius Pilate theme, in which a philosopher is executed in Jerusalem during Passover. The Master of the title is confined to a psychiatric clinic, while Margarita flits between Moscow and Jerusalem. Some strong language.

[Download from BARD: The Master and Margarita](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB037107

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR19148](#)

Also available in braille BR019148

Collected Poems in English by Joseph Brodsky

Read by Steven Carpenter

12 hours, 29 minutes

A collection of all the poems by Brodsky (1940-1996) that appeared in book form in English during his lifetime. Includes mainly translations but also poems composed in English by the Russian-born Nobel Prize winner who served as Poet Laureate of the United States in 1991 and 1992. 2000.

[Download from BARD: Collected Poems in English](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB051984

The Gentleman from San Francisco and Other Stories by Ivan Bunin

2 vols. of braille

A selection of seventeen short stories spanning this Russian Nobel laureate's writing career from 1915 to 1944. In "The Primer of Love," Ivlev interrupts his carriage ride in the country to acquire a memento of a man unhinged by love for his maidservant, Lushka. 1984.

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR12728](#)

Also available in braille BR012728

The Complete Short Novels by Anton Pavlovich Chekhov

Read by John Horton

18 hours, 24 minutes

Works by Russian playwright and author Anton Chekhov (1860-1904). In My Life a delusional idealist seeks utopia in the country. Includes The Steppe, The Story of an Unknown Man, The Duel, and Three Years, which concerns a young merchant's experiences in love. Translated by Richard Pevear and Larissa Volokhonsky. 2004.

[Download from BARD: The Complete Short Novels](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB067646

The Adolescent by Fyodor Dostoyevsky

Read by Andy Pyle or Ken Kliban

30 hours,

Nineteen-year-old Arkady Dolgoruky, the illegitimate son of an idealistic landowner and the gardener's wife, forgoes university education and travels to St. Petersburg, where he hopes to confront his estranged father and find his place in Russian society. First published in 1874. Translated by Richard Pevear and Larissa Volokhonsky. 2003.

[Download from BARD: The Adolescent](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB071959

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR11248](#)

Also available in braille BR011248

The Collected Tales of Nikolai Gogol by Nikolai Vasilevich Gogol

Read by Michael Scherer

16 hours, 41 minutes

Thirteen stories newly translated by Richard Pevear and Larissa Volokhonsky. Four from Evenings on a Farm near Dikanka (1831-32): "St. John's Eve," "The Night before Christmas," "The Terrible Vengeance," and "Ivan Fyodorovich Shponka and His Aunt." From the Petersburg tales: "Nevsky Prospect," "The Diary of a Madman," "The Nose," and "The Overcoat" among others. 1998.

[Download from BARDL The Collected Tales of Nikolai Gogol](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB050339

Mother by Maksim Gorky

Read by Jack Hrkach

13 hours, 33 minutes

First published in 1907, this work portrays the lives of a group of dedicated socialists in Russia. Until the death of her husband the mother lives in fear, but when her son Pavel is also changed by socialism she grows in courage and understanding.

[Download from BARD: Mother](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB008875

Life and Fate: a Novel by Vasily Grossman

Read by Robert O'Keefe

33 hours, 13 minutes

A Russian author and wartime journalist, who died in 1964, witnessed firsthand the historical events that inspired this epic novel. Completed in 1960, and smuggled out of the USSR, it chronicles the confrontation between Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union, two countries with totalitarian, anti-Semitic governments during the fierce battle of Stalingrad. Violence

[Download from BARD: Life and Fate: a Novel](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB.24335

Also available in braille BR006492

A Hero of Our Time: a Novel by Mihail Lermontov

Read by Phyllis Thurston

6 hours, 41 minutes

First published in 1839, this is considered the first major prose novel in Russian literature. The Caucasian wilderness provides a backdrop for an intriguing rascal of a hero, Pechorin, who lacks principle and conscience. Bandits, adventures, beautiful ladies, and wicked comrades abound.

[Download from BARD: A Hero of Our Time: a Novel](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB014455

Lolita by Vladimir Vladimirovich Nabokov

Read by David Hartley-Margolin

14 hours, 34 minutes

Incarcerated and awaiting trial, widowed middle-aged professor Humbert Humbert tells of his erotic obsession with preadolescent girls--particularly twelve-year-old Dolly Haze, whom he calls Lolita. Humbert details his fascination with Lolita and describes their bizarre road trip. Includes 1992 introduction by Martin Amis. Some descriptions of sex and some violence. 1955.

[Download from BARD: Lolita](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB067388

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR13157](#)

Also available in braille BR013157

Dimanche (and Other Stories) by Irène Némirovsky

Read by Erin Jones

6 hours, 58 minutes

Ten short stories about family tensions in France in the World War II era by the author of *Suite Française* (DB 62505). In the title piece, household members make separate Sunday afternoon plans, revealing their inner turmoil and fraying ties to one another. Translated from French. 1942.

[Download from BARD: *Dimanche \(And Other Stories\)*](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB073274

Doctor Zhivago by Boris Leonidovich Pasternak

Read by Andy Pyle

26 hours, 35 minutes

Poet/physician Yuri Andreevich Zhivago takes his family from Moscow to the Ural Mountains for safety during the Russian Revolution but he is forcibly conscripted. He also falls in love with Lara, a revolutionary's wife. Translation of Boris Pasternak's acclaimed 1955 novel by Richard Pevear and Larissa Volokhonsky. 2010.

[Download from BARD: *Doctor Zhivago*](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB075275

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR09814](#)

Also available in braille BR009814

Eugene Onegin a Novel in Verse by Aleksandr Sergeevich Pushkin

Read by Ken Kliban

8 hours, 20 minutes

Recounts a tale of unrequited love by the romantic young Tatiana for the disillusioned Russian aristocrat Eugene. Years later it is Eugene who beseeches Tatiana for love, but she remains dutiful to her marriage vows. Basis for Tchaikovsky's opera. Translated by Vladimir Nabokov from the original 1833 publication by Pushkin. 1964.

[Download from BARD: *Eugene Onegin a Novel in Verse*](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB049534

And Quiet Flows the Don by Mikhail Aleksandrovich Sholokhov

Read by Ed Blake

20 hours, 47 minutes

Centered around Gregor Melekhov, a young Cossack, this is the story of a Don Cossack village from the Bolshevik Revolution through the First World War and the Civil War between Russia's Red and White armies. Prequel to *The Don Flows Home to the Sea* (RD 14834). Violence and strong language.

[Download from BARD: *And Quiet Flows the Don*](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB045866

Also available in braille BR008137

In the First Circle (The Restored Text) by Aleksandr Isaevich Solzhenitsyn

Read by Steven Carpenter

30 hours, 35 minutes

Moscow, Christmas 1949. Intellectual political prisoners, coerced to identify recorded voices, must either help dictator Joseph Stalin's repressive state or be sent to Siberian labor camps and certain death. Solzhenitsyn-restored text of 1958 original, which he cut in the 1960s to appease Soviet censors. Translated by Harry T. Willetts. 2009.

[Download from BARD: *In the First Circle \(The Restored Text\)*](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB072598

Anna Karenina by Leo Tolstoy

Read by Erin Jones or Suzanne Toren

35 hours, 32 minutes

In 1870s Russia, Anna disregards convention, preferring an adulterous affair with Count Vrónsky to her stifling marriage. Ostracized by society and separated from her beloved son, Anna gradually unravels. Tolstoy's classic novel in a 2000 translation by the award-winning team of Richard Pevear and Larissa Volokhonsky. 1877.

[Download from BARD: *Anna Karenina*](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB072059

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR12695](#)

Also available in braille BR012695

Fathers and Children by Ivan Sergeevich Turgenev

Read by Noah Siegel

8 hours, 12 minutes

Classic nineteenth-century Russian novel portraying the conflicting points of view of two generations. The protagonist, Bazarov, is a young, radical intellectual who tries in vain to convert his aristocratic father and his friend's uncle to his theories of a new social order.

[Download from BARD: Fathers and Children](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB035354

Also available in braille BR008809

The Big Green Tent by Ludmila Ulitskaya

Read by Andy Pyle

25 hours, 52 minutes

Three boys--Ilya, Sanya, and Mikha--meet in school in 1950s Russia. All three have artistic leanings, but they come of age in Soviet Russia, where secret police and paranoia rule. Originally published in Russian in 2010. Some strong language. 2015.

[Download from BARD: The Big Green Tent](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB083659