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Fantasy: Steampunk Fiction

Steampunk is a subgenre of fantasy that includes certain industrial age technologies, like steam power, along with more science fiction and fantasy elements, like magic, airships, automatons, and golems. 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](#).

Karen Memory by Elizabeth Bear

Read by Marsha Rehns

10 hours, 15 minutes

In a steampunk nineteenth-century Seattle, airships fly and mechanicals roam. Karen works in a high-class bordello. Trouble erupts when a girl seeks sanctuary, chased by a man with a machine that can control a person's mind and actions. Strong language, some violence, and some descriptions of sex. 2015.

[Download from BARD: Karen Memory](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB081420

The Six-Gun Tarot by R.S. Belcher

Read by Patrick Downer

15 hours, 57 minutes

1869. On the run from his past in the Nevada desert, fifteen-year-old Jim Negrey is rescued and taken to the town of Golgotha. But when a dark menace threatens, Jim discovers that while he can outrun his past, he may not live to see the future. Violence. 2013.

[Download from BARD: The Six-Gun Tarot](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB076240

The Manual of Detection by Jedediah Berry

Read by Jack Fox

8 hours, 46 minutes

Meticulous Charles Unwin has worked as detective Travis Sivart's clerk for twenty years. When Sivart vanishes, Unwin is inexplicably promoted to take his place. Unwin--unaware of the magical workings of their agency--decides to find Sivart and convince him to return. 2009.

[Download from BARD: The Manual of Detection](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB074609

Iron Seas Series. Books 1-4 by Meljean Brook

Read by Alec Volz.

74 hours, 9 minutes

Four steampunk romances written between 2010 and 2014. In The Iron Duke, former airship pirate Rhys Trahaearn and Detective Inspector Mina Wentworth uncover a conspiracy against England. Also includes Heart of Steel, Riveted, and The Kraken King. Some violence, some strong language, and some explicit descriptions of sex. 2014.

[Download from BARD: Iron Seas Series. Books 1-4](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB084388

Cogheart by Peter Bunzl

Read by Jill Fox

8 hours, 15 minutes

London, 1896. Schoolgirl Lily teams up with a clockmaker's son, Robert, and her mechanimal fox, Malkin, to solve the mysterious disappearance of her father and his world-changing invention, a perpetual motion machine called the Cogheart. For grades 5-8. 2016.

[Download from BARD: Cogheart](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB095646

The Aeronaut's Windlass by Jim Butcher

Read by Euan Morton

21 hours, 41 minutes

Captain Grimm commands a merchant airship and sides with Spire Albion in their war with Spire Aurora. After his ship is grounded, Albion offers Grimm a position on a team of agents with a vital mission to the conflict. Meanwhile, an ancient enemy of humanity begins to stir. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2015.

[Download from BARD: The Aeronaut's Windlass](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB082604

Soulless; Changeless; Blameless by Gail Carriger

Read by Catherine Byers

33 hours, 58 minutes

First three books in a romantic steampunk series. In *Soulless*, Alexia Tarabotti accidentally kills a vampire, and Lord Maccon--a werewolf--investigates. In *Changeless*, Alexia's new husband disappears in Scotland. In *Blameless*, a scandal forces Alexia from her home, and vampires want her dead. Descriptions of sex and some violence. 2014.

[Download from BARD: Soulless; Changeless; Blameless](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB081166

The Clockwork Dagger by Beth Cato

Read by Faith Potts

10 hours, 16 minutes

Octavia Leander is taking an airship to her new posting as a "medician" when she finds herself caught up in political intrigues. Agents from the Wastes seem to be after her for her abilities to channel magical healing powers, but she finds an ally in Alonzo Garrett. Some violence. 2014.

[Download from BARD: The Clockwork Dagger](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB081126

Her Sky Cowboy the Glorious Victorious Darcys by Beth Ciotta

Read by Jill Fox

10 hour, 58 minutes

Alternate Victorian era. Instead of succumbing to her mother's matchmaking, Miss Amelia Darcy is determined to recover the family's lost fortune by discovering a missing Leonardo da Vinci invention. Traveling on her kitecycle, Amelia makes the acquaintance of infamous airship captain Tucker Gentry. Some violence and some strong language. 2012.

[Download from BARD: Her Sky Cowboy the Glorious Victorious Darcys](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB076219

Clockwork Angel by Cassandra Clare

Read by Colleen Delany

14 hours, 38 minutes

When Tessa Gray's older brother suddenly vanishes, her search for him leads her into Victorian-era London's dangerous supernatural underworld. Tessa discovers she is a powerful Downworlder and must learn to trust demon-killing Shadowhunters if she wants to find her brother. Some violence. For senior high and older readers. 2010.

[Download from BARD: Clockwork Angel](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB072530

Queen Victoria's Book of Spells edited by Ellen Datlow and Terri Windling

Read by Kelly Collins Lintz

13 hours, 21 minutes

Award-winning editors collect eighteen stories of historical fantasy, also known as "gaslamp fantasy." The authors in this anthology include Elizabeth Bear, James Blaylock, Jeffrey Ford, Ellen Kushner, Tanith Lee, Gregory Maguire, Delia Sherman, and Catherynne M. Valente, among others. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2013.

[Download from BARD: Queen Victoria's Book of Spells](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB081758

Mechanica by Betsy Cornwell

Read by Mare Trevathan

7 hours, 6 minutes

Nicolette's horrible stepsisters have nicknamed her "Mechanica" because of her fondness for creating mechanical inventions. On her sixteenth birthday, Nicolette discovers her mother's hidden workshop in the cellar, and it may just be the key to her chance at freedom. For grades 6-9 and older readers. 2015.

[Download from BARD: Mechanica](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB086365

The Difference Engine by William Gibson

Read by James DeLotel

15 hours, 57 minutes

Although most of London remains firmly in the 1850s, the industrial revolution has taken a dramatic step forward, and Charles Babbage has perfected his analytical engine--the computer. A set of program cards finds its way to paleontologist Edward Mallory, who becomes the primary target of some Luddites who are not ready for the computer age. Strong language, violence, and explicit descriptions of sex.

[Download from BARD: The Difference Engine](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB036050

The Clockwork Scarab: a Stoker & Holmes Novel by Colleen Gleason

Read by Teresa Willis

8 hours, 35 minutes

London, 1889. Young women are turning up dead, and Evaline Stoker, relative of Bram, and Mina Holmes, niece of Sherlock, are summoned to investigate the clue of the not-so-ancient Egyptian scarabs before more deaths occur. For senior high and older readers. 2013.

[Download from BARD: The Clockwork Scarab: a Stoker & Holmes Novel](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB079548

The Greyfriar by Clay Griffith and Susan Griffith

Read by Erik Sandvold

12 hours, 50 minutes

2020. In the Great Killing of 1870, vampires conquered the north, causing humans to flee to the tropics and the British Empire to rebuild itself as the Empire Equatoria. While on a goodwill tour in the north, Princess Adele, the empire's heir, is ambushed by a vampire clan. Violence. 2010.

[Download from BARD: The Greyfriar](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB072490

Steeplejack by A.J. Hartley

Read by Noma Dumezweni

11 hours, 26 minutes

Seventeen-year-old Ang finds her new steeplejack apprentice dead on the same night that a historical icon is stolen, and she jumps at the chance to investigate when an ambitious politician offers her the job. Commercial audiobook. For junior and senior high and older readers. 2016

[Download from BARD: Steeplejack](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB086278

A Study in Silks by Emma Jane Holloway

Read by Angele Masters

21 hours, 40 minutes

Evelina Cooper, secret practitioner of magic and the niece of Sherlock Holmes, is staying with her best friend Imogen's family in London when she discovers the dead body of a servant. Evelina must solve the servant's murder as conspiracy looms around her. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2013.

[Download from BARD: A Study in Silks](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB078656

Fiendish Schemes by K.W. Jeter

Read by Justine Eyre

11 hours, 22 minutes

George Dower, from *Infernal Devices* (DB 26584), is living in self-imposed exile from steam-powered Victorian London. With the prospect of erasing the debt he has accumulated, George is drawn into an intrigue to find his father's Vox Universalis invention. Some strong language. Commercial audiobook. 2013.

[Download from BARD: Fiendish Schemes](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB077327

Arabella of Mars: the Adventures of Arabella Ashby by David D Levine

Read by Barrie Kreinik

10 hours, 34 minutes

A century after mankind first flew ships to Mars in the late 1600s, young Arabella Ashby lives on a plantation in the flourishing British colony on the Martian frontier. To remedy Arabella's wild nature, her mother sends her to the exotic city of London. Some violence. Commercial audiobook. 2016.

[Download from BARD: Arabella of Mars: the Adventures of Arabella...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB087670

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR21748](#)

Also available in braille BR021748

God Save the Queen by Kate Locke

Read by Courtney Patterson

11 hours, 38 minutes

2012. Queen Victoria, a vampire, rules Britain with an iron fist. Werewolves and vampires make up the aristocracy, and their half-blood offspring serve as functionaries. When Royal Guard member Xandra's sister is presumed dead, Xandra searches for the truth--and uncovers conspiracies threatening the queen. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2012.

[Download from BARD: God Save the Queen](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB077392

Iron and Blood: a Jake Desmet Adventure by Gail Z. Martin and Larry N. Martin

Read by Joyce Broadus

15 hours, 42 minutes

New Pittsburgh, 1898. When Jake Desmet's latest treasure-hunting commission leads to his father's murder, Jake and his friends are drawn into a conspiracy where dark magic, industrial sabotage, and the monsters that prey on the night threaten the whole world. Some strong language and violence. 2015.

[Download from BARD: Iron and Blood: a Jake Desmet Adventure](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DBC010056

Airborn by Kenneth Oppel

Read by Robert Sams

10 hours, 41 minutes

Teenaged Kate is a first-class passenger on the same airship where Matt is cabin boy. When the airship is captured by pirates then crashes on a remote island, Matt puts aside helping Kate search for legendary flying creatures to focus on survival. For grades 6-9. Printz Honor Book. 2004.

[Download from BARD: Airborn](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB059792

The Buried Life by Carrie Patel

Read by Mark Delgado

8 hours, 54 minutes

Inspector Liesl Malone investigates the murder of a renowned historian in the underground city of Recoletta, but finds herself blocked by the Directorate of Preservation. When a second murder occurs, Malone and her partner, Rafe Sundar, must proceed with caution against both the criminals and their own government. 2015

[Download from BARD: The Buried Life](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB082882

Boneshaker by Cherie Priest

Read by Mare Trevathan

12 hours, 25 minutes

Alternate 1800s. Inventor Leviticus Blue unleashes a zombie-generating gas and decimates Seattle with his Incredible Bone-Shaking Drill Engine. His son Zeke runs into danger trying to clear his father's name, while Zeke's mother Briar rushes to rescue her son within the city's walls. Some violence and some strong language. 2009.

[Download from BARD: Boneshaker](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB070887

The Watchmaker of Filigree Street by Natasha Pulley

Read by Jordan Leigh

10 hours, 5 minutes

London, 1883. Thaniel Steepleton receives the anonymous gift of a gold pocket watch that saves him from a bombing attack. He tracks down the watchmaker, Keita Mori, a craftsman with an unusual gift: he remembers the future. They become friends, but the police think Mori was behind the bombing. 2015

[Download from BARD: The Watchmaker of Filigree Street](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB083048

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR21231](#)

Also available in braille BR021231

Mortal Engines: a Novel by Philip Reeve

Read by Vanessa Maroney

9 hours, 26 minutes

In the distant future, when big cities rove about on wheels and chase smaller towns, apprentice Tom Natsworthy is shoved out of London by Head Historian Thaddeus Valentine. Aided by disfigured Hester Shaw, Tom seeks answers to the planet's plight in the perilous Out-Country. For junior and senior high readers. 2001.

[Download from BARD: Mortal Engines: a Novel](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB058198

All Men of Genius by Lev AC Rosen

Read by Jill Fox

16 hours. 30 minutes

In this steampunk reimaging of Victorian England, Violet Adams disguises herself as her twin brother Ashton to attend Illyria College, a male-only institution. But keeping her gender a secret proves difficult, especially after Violet finds herself attracted to a young duke. Some strong language. 2011.

[Download from BARD: All Men of Genius](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB074534

The Iron Wurm Affair by Lilith Saintcrow

Read by Moira Quirk

10 hours, 57 minutes

Sorceress Emma Bannon is directed by the spirit of Britannia--via Queen Victrix--to protect mentath Dr. Archibald Clare, an unregistered logic genius, and discover who is behind the deaths of others like him. Clare and Bannon must learn to trust each other to survive. Strong language and some violence. Commercial audiobook. 2012.

[Download from BARD: The Iron Wurm Affair](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB077063

The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick

Read by Jeff Woodman

2 hours, 53 minutes

Paris, 1931. Orphaned Hugo survives inside a train station's walls, keeping the clocks running and stealing food and toys. His secrets--including a notebook of drawings and a mechanical man--are jeopardized when he becomes ensnared with a toy seller and his goddaughter Isabelle. Commercial audiobook. For grades 4-7. Caldecott Medal. 2007.

[Download from BARD: The Invention of Hugo Cabret](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB066423

Everfair by Nisi Shawl

Read by Allyson Johnson

12 hours, 46 minutes

In a Neo-Victorian alternate history, Fabian Socialists from Great Britain join forces with African American missionaries to purchase a piece of land known as Everfair from Belgian Congo's "owner," King Leopold II. They hope to turn it into a utopian safe haven for natives and escaped slaves. Violence and some descriptions of sex. Commercial audiobook. 2016.

[Download from BARD: Everfair](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB088813

The Diamond Age by Neal Stephenson

Read by Mary Kane

20 hours, 11 minutes

Mid-twenty-first-century Shanghai is home to myriad social tribes, including a neo-Victorian upper class that maintains its power through information technology. When young Nell gets a stolen educational computer designed by a neo-Victorian engineer, she is introduced to a magical realm and goes on a quest that will have far-reaching effects for her own life and the future of her world. Strong language and some explicit descriptions of sex.

[Download from BARD: The Diamond Age](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB041956

Steampunk by Ann VanderMeer

Read by Mary Kane

14 hours, 32 minutes

Tales about an alternate Victorian era with mechanical wonders, steam-driven robots, and other anachronistic technologies. Michael Chabon's "The Martian Agent, a Planetary Romance" depicts the aftermath of Custer's failed mutiny against the Crown. Features works by James P. Blaylock and Michael Moorcock. Violence, some strong language, and some descriptions of sex. 2008.

[Download from BARD: Steampunk](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB068444

The Mammoth Book of Steampunk by Sean Wallace

Read by Kate Kiley

20 hours, 49 minutes

Thirty tales focusing on worlds that run on steam and clockwork power. In "Clockwork Chickadee" by Mary Robinette Kowal, the title character makes a deal with a mouse. Jay Lake's "Tom Edison and His Amazing Telegraphic Harpoon" features the inventor in an alternate America. Violence. 2012.

[Download from BARD: The Mammoth Book of Steampunk](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB075037

Leviathan by Scott Westerfeld

Read by Mark Ashby

hours, 39 minutes

Alek Ferdinand, prince of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, escapes in a Cyklop Stormwalker from the clutches of the Clanker powers who are plotting global domination. He forms an uneasy alliance with Deryn, a girl disguised as a boy fighting genetically engineered beasts like the airship Leviathan. For senior high readers. 2009.

[Download from BARD: Leviathan](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB070906

Tales of the Ketty Jay. Books 1-2 by Chris Wooding

Read by Robert Sams

33 hours, 12 minutes

The first two novels in a series about airship pirates, written between 2009 and 2010. In Retribution Falls, Captain Darian Frey takes a seemingly easy job to hijack an airship carrying valuable cargo. Also includes The Black Lung Captain. Some violence and some strong language. 2010.

[Download from BARD: Tales of the Ketty Jay. Books 1-2](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB089160