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Mysteries: Agatha Award Winners

These mystery books have won the Agatha Award, an award conferred upon traditional mysteries with content that does not include explicit sex or gore and usually contains very little to no strong language. 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](#).

Do Unto Others by Jeff Abbott

Read by Dick Collins

9 hours, 10 minutes

When Jordan Poteet leaves his editorial job in a Boston publishing firm to return home to Mirabeau, Texas, he expects a peaceful, quiet life as the town's librarian. Serenity flees as Jordan is forced to lock horns with Miss Beta Harcher, the local religious fanatic, in a battle over book censorship. When Jordan finds her murdered body in the library, he learns that Beta is much more dangerous dead than she ever was alive -- especially to him, since he is the prime suspect in the crime. Strong language.

[Download from BARD: Do Unto Others](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DBC014672

Murder with Peacocks by Donna Andrews

3 volumes of braille

Meg is knocking herself out trying to be a bridesmaid for the weddings of her brother, mother, and best friend. As she tries to help her ditzy relatives prepare for their various outrageous festivities, one of the guests is murdered, old crimes are uncovered, and she falls in love. 1999.

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR13270](#)

Also available in braille BR013270

Track of the Cat by Nevada Barr

Read by Suzanne Toren

8 hours, 21 minutes

National park ranger Anna Pigeon is patrolling the West Texas backcountry when she discovers the body of a colleague apparently killed by a mountain lion. Disbelieving, Anna tracks a human killer as conflict erupts among park employees, hunters, ranchers, and conservationists. Some descriptions of sex and some strong language. 1993.

[Download from BARD: Track of Cat](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB065648

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR21546](#)

Also available in braille BR021546

Naughty in Nice by Rhys Bowen

Read by Gabriella Cavallero

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

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

9 hours, 31 minutes

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

Death al Dente by Leslie Budewitz

Read by Davis Donna

9 hours, 1 minute

The town of Jewel Bay, Montana - known as a Food Lovers' Village - is obsessed with homegrown and homemade Montana fare. When Erin Murphy takes over her family's century-old general store, she turns it into a boutique market filled with local delicacies. But Erin's freshly booming business might go rotten when a former employee turns up dead. Includes recipes.

[Download from BARD: Death al Dente](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DBC000744

Grime and Punishment: a Jane Jeffry Mystery by Jill Churchill

Read by Jill Fox

5 hours, 49 minutes

Jane Jeffry's friend Shelley Nowack hires the Happy Helper Cleaning Service, who instead of sending the regular maid sends substitute Ramona Thurgood. When Ramona is found strangled with a vacuum-cleaner cord in Shelley's house, Jane thinks the killer could be someone in the neighborhood. 1989.

[Download from BARD: Grime and Punishment: a Jane Jeffry Mystery](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB068692

A Lady's Guide to Etiquette and Murder by Dianne Freeman

Read by Sarah Zimmerman

8 hours, 7 minutes

The police receive an anonymous letter implicating Frances Wynn--the American-born Countess of Harleigh--in her husband's death. Frances assures them of her innocence, but must hide the scandalous circumstances of his demise. Her dashing new neighbor, George Hazelton, is one of only two other people aware of the full story. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2018.

[Download from BARD: A Lady's Guide to Etiquette and Murder](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB093885

Hollywood Homicide by Kellye Garrett

Read by Emily Ellet

9 hours, 32 minutes

Actress Dayna Anderson needs money: her short-lived stint in commercials is over, and her father's illness may lead to her parents losing their house. When Dayna sees a reward poster for a hit-and-run accident, she realizes she saw the involved car that night, and begins investigating. Some strong language. Agatha Award. 2017.

[Download from BARD: Hollywood Homicide](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB091058

Murder on a Girls' Night Out by Anne George

Read by Ruth Ann Phimister

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

A Great Deliverance by Elizabeth George

Read by Mitzi Friedlander

12 hours, 26 minutes

Inspector Thomas Lynley, the eighth Earl of Asherton, and Detective Sergeant Barbara Havers are investigating the murder of a Yorkshire man. Obese Roberta Teys was found sitting by the headless corpse of her father. Her first words were, "I did it. And I'm not sorry." Was it because of the incestuous abuse she and her sister endured?

[Download from BARD: A Great Deliverance](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB028547

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR07624](#)

Also available in braille BR007624

Dead Man's Island by Carolyn G. Hart

Read by Mitzi Friedlander

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

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

Also available in braille BR009684

Learning to Swim by Sara J. Henry

Read by Michael J. McCullough

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

Dreaming Spies: a Novel of Suspense Featuring Mary Russell and Sherlock Holmes by Laurie R. King

Read by Terry Donnelly

13 hours, 33 minutes

On board a ship in 1924, Russell and Holmes encountered a blackmailing earl, his wife, and a young Japanese woman who tutored the foreigners about her country. Russell suspected that Miss Sato Haruki was not all that she seemed--and a year later, the intrigue surrounding her continues. 2015

[Download from BARD: Dreaming Spies: a Novel of Suspense Featuring...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB080939

Dating Dead Men by Harley Jane Kozak

Read by Gillian Green

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 digital cartridge DB059695

The Semester of Our Discontent: a Lila Maclean Academic Mystery by Cynthia Kuhn

Read by Pat Jonietz

7 hours, 12 minutes

English professor Lila Maclean is thrilled about her new job at prestigious Stonedale University, until she finds one of her colleagues dead. She soon learns that everyone, from the chancellor to the detective working the case, believes Lila--or someone she is protecting--may be responsible for the horrific event, so she assigns herself the task of identifying the killer.

[Download from BARD: The Semester of Our Discontent: a Lila Maclean...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DBC003271

Tess Monaghan Books 1-4 by Laura Lippman

Read by Kristin Allison

37 hours, 57 minutes

The first four novels, originally published between 1997 and 1999, in the series featuring Baltimore reporter-turned-private eye Tess Monaghan. Includes Baltimore Blues, Charm City, Butchers Hill, and In Big Trouble. Tess's first foray into private investigation involves spying on a fellow rower's fiancée. Some violence and some strong language. 1999.

[Download from BARD: Tess Monaghan Books 1-4](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB082071

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

Read by Martha Harmon Pardee

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

Long Upon the Land by Margaret Maron

Read by Margaret Maron

6 hours, 47 minutes

Judge Deborah Knott's father, Kezzie, makes a shocking discovery on a remote corner of his farm: the body of a man bludgeoned to death. Investigating this crime, Deborah's husband, sheriff's deputy Dwight Bryant, soon uncovers a long-simmering hostility between Kezzie and the slain man over a land dispute. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2015

[Download from BARD: Long Upon the Land](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB082152

Storm Track by Margaret Maron

Read by Elisabeth Rodgers

6 hours, 45 minutes

North Carolina judge Deborah Knott helps detective Dwight Bryant investigate the murder of a Colleton County attorney's promiscuous wife, who was found strangled in a room of a local motel. Meanwhile, a second killer, Hurricane Fran, is threatening the coast. Some descriptions of sex and some violence. 2000.

[Download from BARD: Storm Track](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB066003

Three-Day Town by Margaret Maron

Read by Martha Harmon Pardee

8 hours, 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

Blanche on the Lam by Barbara Neely

Read by Eleanor Crawford

6 hours, 10 minutes

Blanche White, a middle-aged African American housekeeper with plenty of street smarts and prickly opinions, again proves to be a clever sleuth when murder disrupts her employers' wealthy North Carolina household. And she still finds time to take care of Mama, kids, and friends. Strong language and some descriptions of sex.

[Download from BARD: Blanche on the Lam](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DBC003735

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR19713](#)

Also available in braille BR019713

If I'd Killed Him When I Met Him: an Elizabeth MacPherson Novel by Sharyn McCrumb

Read by Madelyn Buzzard

7 hours, 26 minutes

Forensic anthropologist Elizabeth MacPherson helps her attorney brother, Bill, in a bigamy-murder case that echoes a long-ago arsenic poisoning in the defendant's family. Meanwhile Bill's partner, A.P., defends a woman who killed her arrogant ex-husband and his new wife.

[Download from BARD: If I'd Killed Him When I Met Him: an Elizabeth...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB044478

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

Read by Barbara Caruso

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

Rachel Goddard Books 1-3 by Sandra Parshall

Read by Kristin Allison

28 hours, 23 minutes

First three books, written between 2006 and 2010, in the series featuring veterinarian Rachel Goddard. In *The Heat of the Moon*, long-buried and troubling memories from Rachel's childhood begin to emerge. Also includes *Disturbing the Dead* and *Broken Places*. Strong language and some violence. Agatha Award. 2010.

[Download from BARD: Rachel Goddard Books 1-3](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB087639

The Beautiful Mystery by Louise Penny

Read by Andy Pyle

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

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 antiquities--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

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

Glass Houses by Louise Penny

Read by Louise Penny and Robert Bathurst

13 hours, 34 minutes

When a mysterious figure appears in Three Pines one cold November day, Armand Gamache and the rest of the villagers are curious but wary. Through rain and sleet, the figure stands unmoving, staring ahead. After the figure vanishes overnight, a body is discovered. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2017.

[Download from BARD: Glass Houses](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB088834

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR22095](#)

Also available in braille BR022095

The Virgin of Small Plains by Nancy Pickard

Read by Ray Childs

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

Truth be Told by Hank Phillippi Ryan

Read by Martha Harmon Pardee

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

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

In the Bleak Midwinter by Julia Spencer-Fleming

Read by Martha Harmon Pardee

10 hours, 24 minutes

Clare Fergusson, an ex-military pilot and the newly appointed Episcopal priest at St. Alban's Church in an upstate New York village, discovers an abandoned infant on the church steps. After the baby's mother is found murdered, Clare joins police chief Russ Van Alstyne in investigating the case. Strong language. 2002.

[Download from BARD: In the Bleak Midwinter](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB061372

Death on a Silver Tray by Rosemary Stevens

2 volumes of braille

London, 1805. George "Beau" Brummell is beseeched by his friend the duchess of York to clear a ladies' companion, whom she had recommended, of murder charges. The dreadful old Lady Wrayburn has been poisoned and the duchess wants to avoid a scandal. 2000.

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR13293](#)

Also available in braille BR013293

A Question of Honor by Charles Todd

Read by Martha Harmon Pardee

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

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

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

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