Read-Alikes for Nicholas Sparks

Nicholas Sparks is known for his romantic dramas and heart-warming human relationship novels. These novels share style and content similarities, and one of them might be your next favorite book if you enjoy Nicholas Sparks. To order any of these titles, contact the library by email, phone, mail, in person, or order through our [online catalog](https://www.btbl.library.ca.gov/). Most titles can be [downloaded from BARD](https://bard.loc.gov/).

# Evening Class by Maeve Binchy

Read by Anne Flosnik

15 hours, 23 minutes

For many people in Dublin, life is the same day after day, but that changes dramatically for forty-eight-year old Aidan Dunne, when he is passed over for a school principal position. He and Nora O’Donoghue, just returned from twenty-six years in Italy, begin a series of evening classes teaching Italian. Together, they help many other Dubliners make transitions, too. Some strong language.

[Download from BARD: Evening Class](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.44308)

Also available on digital cartridge DB044308

# Coast Road: a Novel by Barbara Delinsky

Read by Erik Sandvold

13 hours, 20 minutes

When his ex-wife, artist Rachel Keats, falls into a coma after a car accident, overworked architect Jack McGill retreats to Big Sur to take care of his fifteen- and thirteen-year-old daughters, Samantha and Hope. Once there Jack realizes how much he’s missed his family and tries to regain their love. Some strong language and some descriptions of sex. Bestseller.

[Download from BARD: Coast Road: a Novel](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.46755)

Also available on digital cartridge DB046755

# The Horse Whisperer by Nicholas Evans

Read by David Hartley-Margolin

12 hours, 39 minutes

Thirteen-year-old Grace Maclean loses her leg when she and her horse, Pilgrim, are struck by a truck. Pilgrim is also injured-- mentally and physically. Grace’s mother, magazine editor Annie Graves, learns of a horse whisperer--Tom Booker--who might be able to restore Pilgrim. In hopes that he will also help Grace, Annie takes both of them to his ranch in Montana. Strong language, violence, and some explicit descriptions of sex.

[Download from BARD: The Horse Whisperer](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.41402)

Also available on digital cartridge DB041402

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR11816](https://bard.loc.gov)

Also available in braille BR011816

# The Christmas List by Richard Paul Evans

Read by Jack Fox

4 hours, 26 minutes

Three weeks before Christmas, the newspaper erroneously publishes the obituary of Utah real-estate developer James Kier. Kier discovers what others really think of him and sets about making amends to the people he has hurt, including the cancer-stricken wife he's divorcing and his estranged son. 2009.

[Download from BARD: The Christmas List](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.70292)

Also available on digital cartridge DB070292

# The Walk by Richard Paul Evans

Read by Guy Williams

5 hours, 38 minutes

Seattle advertising executive Alan Christoffersen has everything--until his beloved wife dies, his business partner steals their clients, and his house is repossessed. Alan decides to walk across America to Key West, Florida, in search of new meaning while keeping a journal and befriending people along the way. 2010.

[Download from BARD: The Walk](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.71348)

Also available on digital cartridge DB071348

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR19058](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR019058

# ****Angel Flying Too Close to the Ground**** by Annie Garrett

Read by Ann Hodapp

4 hours, 12 minutes

Successful celebrity journalist Tess Boone is reluctant to interview her next subject, country music star Buck Campbell. Buck is actually Jamie, the boy whose heart Tess broke when she chose college over marrying him and staying in their small Arkansas town. Some strong language and some descriptions of sex.

[Download from BARD: Angel Flying Too Close to the Ground](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.49147)

Also available on digital cartridge DB049147

# Home to Harmony a Harmony Novel by Philip Gulley

Read by Derald Breneman

6 hours, 37 minutes

Quaker minister Sam Gardner and his family move back to Sam's small midwestern hometown. There Sam relives his childhood in a series of vignettes and introduces town residents including a narrow-minded church elder and Dr. Neely, who was Harmony's only doctor for fifty years. 2002.

[Download from BARD: Home to Harmony a Harmony Novel](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.59650)

Also available on digital cartridge DB059650

# The Wedding Date by Jasmine Guillory

Read by Janina Edwards

8 hours, 31 minutes

When they are stuck together in a hotel elevator, Drew Nichols impulsively asks Alexa Monroe if she would pretend to be his girlfriend at his ex’s wedding. However, what starts as a fake relationship soon becomes real. Commercial audiobook. 2018.

[Download from BARD: The Wedding Date](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.90130)

Also available on digital cartridge DB090130

# Winter Garden by Kristin Hannah

Read by Susan Ericksen

14 hours, 46 minutes

Sisters Meredith, a homebody, and Nina, a world-traveling photojournalist, reunite at their father's deathbed along with Anya, their coldhearted Russian mother. Anya promises her husband that she will tell the girls the story of her past in war-torn Leningrad. Strong language, some violence, and some explicit descriptions of sex. Commercial audiobook. 2010.

[Download from BARD: Winter Garden](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.70583)

Also available on digital cartridge DB070583

# The Kiss Quotient by Helen Hoang

Read by Carly Robins

9 hours, 39 minutes

Stella Lane, an econometrician with Asperger’s, has little experience with dating. She decides the practical solution is to hire a male escort. Michael Phan can’t afford to turn down her offer, but they are both surprised when Stella’s logical checklist turns into a real relationship. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2018.

[Download from BARD: The Kiss Quotient](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.91563)

Also available on digital cartridge DB091563

# ****The Ambassador’s Daughter**** by Pam Jenoff

Read by Jill Fox

11 hour, 19 minutes

After World War I Margot Rosenthal accompanies her father, a German diplomat, to a peace conference in Paris. Margot, whose wounded fiancé is recuperating at home, unwittingly becomes involved in espionage and falls in love. Some descriptions of sex. 2013.

[Download from BARD: The Ambassador’s Daughter](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.77230)

Also available on digital cartridge DB077230

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR20098](https://bard.loc.gov/)

# At Home in Mitford by Jan Karon

Read by Gary Tipton

15 hours, 54 minutes

After years as a priest in the Southern village of Mitford, Father Tim wonders if he should move on. Then on the day a letter from the bishop tells him to "hang in there . . . give it a year," things begin to change, including an interest in his neighbor, Cynthia, and the arrival of Barnabas, a rather large dog. Prequel to A Light in the Window (RC 44195).

[Download from BARD: At Home in Mitford](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.44194)

Also available on digital cartridge DB044194

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR12269](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR012269

# Where the Heart Is by Billie Letts

Read by Madelyn Buzzard

9 hours, 27 minutes

Novalee Nation is seventeen and seven months pregnant when her boyfriend abandons her at a Wal-Mart in Sequoyah, Oklahoma. While living in the store, Novalee befriends many of the town’s quirky residents who help her out after her baby is born. Some violence and some strong language. Bestseller.

[Download from BARD: Where the Heart Is](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.47380)

Also available on digital cartridge DB047380

# The Christmas Wedding by James Patterson

Read by Gabriella Cavallero

4 hours, 27 minutes

Fifty-four-year-old widow Gaby creates a video to invite her grown children and their families to her Massachusetts farm for Christmas. She informs them that they will also be attending her wedding, but refuses to tell them who the groom is--right up until the ceremony. Strong language. Bestseller. 2011.

[Download from BARD: The Christmas Wedding](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.74075)

Also available on digital cartridge DB074075

# Mercy by Jodi Picoult

Read by Madelyn Buzzard

16 hours, 5 minutes

Wheelock, Massachusetts. Police Chief Cameron MacDonald secretly suffers from wanderlust. He astonishes himself by having an affair with Mia, his wife Allie's new assistant. Meanwhile, Allie throws herself into supporting Cam's cousin Jamie, who committed euthanasia on his terminally ill wife. Strong language and some explicit descriptions of sex. 1996.

[Download from BARD: Mercy](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.71178)

Also available on digital cartridge DB071178

# Sandcastles by Luanne Rice

Read by Ann Marie Lee

12 hours, 20 minutes

After her husband John leaves her and their three daughters, Honor Dillon moves the family and takes a teaching position at a convent school run by her sister-in-law Sister Bernadette. Eleven years later John returns and family turmoil ensues. Strong language, some explicit descriptions of sex, and some violence. Commercial audiobook. 2006.

[Download from BARD: Sandcastles](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.62148)

Also available on digital cartridge DB062148

# The Three Weissmanns of Westport by Cathleen Schine

Read by Barbara Rappaport

11 hours, 40 minutes

After forty-eight years of marriage Joseph Weissman divorces his wife, Betty, for a younger woman. Betty moves into a cousin's run-down Connecticut beach cottage, where her middle-aged daughters Miranda and Annie join her out of sympathy. Affairs, bankruptcy, and love ensue. Strong language. Bestseller. 2010.

[Download from BARD: The Three Weissmanns of Westport](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.71095)

Also available on digital cartridge DB071095

# Off Season by Anne Rivers Siddons

Read by Mary Kane

10 hours, 42 minutes

After her beloved husband Cam dies, Lilly takes his ashes to her family's beach cottage in Maine. Comforted by conversations with ghosts, Lilly thinks back over her marriage, her relationship with her parents, and long-ago tragedies--and learns about something that Cam kept from her. Some strong language. Bestseller. 2008.

[Download from BARD: Off Season](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.67528)

Also available on digital cartridge DB067528

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR17861](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR017861

# The House by Danielle Steel

Read by Erik Singer

9 hours, 56 minutes

San Francisco. A client has left workaholic lawyer Sarah Anderson an unexpected inheritance with the caveat to have fun with the money. Sarah decides to renovate a mansion and becomes absorbed in its history. Soon she finds herself falling in love with architect Jeff Parker. Descriptions of sex, strong language, and some violence. Bestseller. Commercial audiobook. 2006.

[Download from BARD: The House](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.61324)

Also available on digital cartridge DB061324

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR16461](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR016461

# The Orchard by Jeffrey Stepakoff

Read by Kate Kiley

9 hours, 15 minutes

Workaholic Grace Lyndon is a sought-after flavor expert in Atlanta. After eating an apple from Dylan Jackson's organic orchard, Grace tracks down the grieving widower in rural Georgia. With the encouragement of Dylan's daughter Carter, Grace and Dylan begin a relationship. 2011.

[Download from BARD: The Orchard](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.77127)

Also available on digital cartridge DB077127

# Friday Nights a Novel by Joanna Trollope

Read by Terry Donnelly

12 hours, 15 minutes

Six British women who have been meeting regularly on Friday nights over the years have formed complex friendships. The group's dynamics change when single mom Paula begins dating Jackson, who becomes part of all of their lives in different ways. 2008.

[Download from BARD: Friday Nights a Novel](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.68091)

Also available on digital cartridge DB068091

# The Bridges of Madison County by Robert James Waller

Read by Bob Askey

4 hours, 14 minutes

Robert Kincaid, a photographer for National Geographic, arrives in Madison County, Iowa, on August 16, 1965, to photograph covered bridges. He stops at the home of Francesca Johnson to ask directions, but stays for four wonderful days--days that awaken within them a deep and abiding love, which creates another being called "us." But she is married, and they must let go of one another. Some descriptions of sex. Bestseller.

[Download from BARD: The Bridges of Madison County](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.35861)

Also available on digital cartridge DB035861

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR09823](https://bard.loc.gov)

Also available in braille BR009823