Romance: Gentle and Inspirational

These bestselling, popular, and/or award-winning gentle romances do not include explicit sexual content. 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/).

# The Inheritance by Tamera Alexander

Read by Gabriella Cavallero

11 hours, 25 minutes

1877. McKenna "Kenny" Ashford and her troublesome teenage brother leave Missouri to join their cousin Janie in Copper Creek, Colorado. Then Janie dies, leaving Kenny her bankrupt ranch and five-year-old daughter. Kenny doesn't need any more complications--but widowed marshal Wyatt Caradon falls in love with her. Rita Award. 2009.

[Download from BARD: The Inheritance](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.74009)

Also available on digital cartridge DB074009

# He Married a Doctor by Faith Baldwin

Read by Rosemary Schwartzel

9 hours, 2 minutes

Romantic story of a doctor torn between the responsibilities of her medical career and the demands of her marriage. At first her husband seems to understand how important medicine is to her, but later he is tempted by the charms of another woman, who is prepared to devote all her time to him. 1972.

[Download from BARD: He Married a Doctor](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.18899)

Also available on digital cartridge DB018899

Also available in braille BR005101

# A Cousin’s Promise: Indiana Cousins Book 1 by Wanda E. Brunstetter

Read by Michael McCullough

8 hours, 6 minutes

Wayne Lambright loses his leg in a car accident during a weekend getaway from his Indiana Amish community. Afraid his injuries will prevent him from being a good husband, Wayne breaks his engagement to Loraine Miller. Loraine hopes to reconcile, but the return of her ex-boyfriend complicates her feelings. 2009.

[Download from BARD: A Cousin’s Promise: Indiana Cousins Book1](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.70301)

Also available on digital cartridge DB070301

# Against the Tide by Elizabeth Camden

Read by Kristin Allison

9 hours, 24 minutes

Boston, 1891. Lydia Pallas works as a translator for the Navy Yard. When Lieutenant Alexander Banebridge requires Lydia's skills for a case, she becomes his assistant. As Lydia is drawn deeper into Bane's mission to end the opium trade, a relationship develops between them. RITA Award, Christy Award. 2012.

[Download from BARD: Against the Tide](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.77493)

Also available on digital cartridge DB077493

# The Bargain Bride A New Camfield Novel of Love by Barbara Cartland

Read by Ilona Dulaski

3 hours, 51 minutes

David, the Earl of Blakeney, has lost all of his money. Blake Hall is in ruins, and the creditors are arriving on the morrow to demand he sell everything that is left to pay his debts. With Blake Hall to be sold, what is to become of David and his sister, Lady Aleda? Then, along with the creditors, comes Doran Winton, who makes an offer David and Aleda cannot refuse.

[Download from BARD: The Bargain Bride a New Camfield Novel of Love](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.31646)

Also available on digital cartridge DB031646

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR08348](https://bard.loc.gov/)

Also available in braille BR008348

# The Captive Heart by Dale W. Cramer

Read by Ray Childs

12 hours, 3 minutes

1920s. After leaving Ohio for Mexico in Paradise Valley (DB 74303), the Amish Bender family settles down. When bandits attack Aaron and kidnap his teenage sister Rachel, Amishman Jake Weaver and hired hand Domingo pursue the gang. Meanwhile, Miriam loves Domingo but doesn't want her family to shun her. 2012.

[Download from BARD: The Captive Heart](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.75341)

Also available on digital cartridge DB075341

# Ice Palace by Edna Ferber

Read by Peter Johnson

14 hours, 1 minutes

In Baranof, halfway up the Alaskan coast, a young girl of Norwegian and Eskimo ancestry is reared by two devoted grandfathers, pioneers of the new land. A young Seattle politician and a part-Eskimo pilot vie for her affections. 1958.

[Download from BARD: Ice Palace](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.28439)

Also available on digital cartridge DB028439

# Until Tomorrow by Robin Jones Gunn

Read by Nanette Savard

7 hours, 51 minutes

Nineteen-year-old college student Christy Miller has been studying in Switzerland when her friends Katie and Todd join her for a vacation. Christy is jealous and unsure of her relationship with Todd--but puts her trust in God. For senior high and older readers. 2000.

[Download from BARD: Until Tomorrow](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.55037)

Also available on digital cartridge DB055037

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR14443](https://bard.loc.gov)

Also available in braille BR014443

# On Mystic Lake by Kristin Hannah

Read by Anne Hancock

12 hours, 8 minutes

Their teenage daughter has just left for a school term in London when Blake informs Annie he wants a divorce. Seeking solace, Annie heads home to Mystic, Washington. There she meets an old friend, a recent widower, and his young daughter. Soon all three are rebuilding their lives--for a while. Some strong language.

[Download from BARD: On Mystic Lake](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.48609)

Also available on cassette DB048609

# Promised to Me: Coming to America by Robin Lee Hatcher

Read by Laura Giannarelli

8 hours, 19 minutes

1908. Karola Breit leaves Germany for Idaho after waiting eleven years for her beloved, farmer Jakob Hirsch, to send for her. Karola wants romance--but when she arrives she discovers that Jakob is widowed and has three children who need a mother. 2003.

[Download from BARD: Promised to Me: Coming to America](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.76436)

Also available on digital cartridge DB076436

# God’s Gift by Dee Henderson

Read by Don Feldheim

7 hours, 31 minutes

Missionary James Graham returns home on medical leave with a debilitating illness and meets Rachel Ashcroft, the woman who sent him care packages in Africa. Rachel, a money manager and aspiring novelist, recently lost her fiancé. Before committing to love, James and Rachel must first confront their individual pain. 1998.

[Download from BARD: God’s Gift](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.62783)

Also available on digital cartridge DB062783

# Arabella by Georgette Heyer

Read by J. Michael McCullough

11 hours, 36 minutes

Arabella, the oldest of Reverend Henry Tallant's four pretty daughters, is sent to stay with her godmother Lady Bridlington in London and find a husband. Arabella impetuously pretends to be an heiress when she meets wealthy dandy Robert Beaumaris. 1949.

[Download from BARD: Arabella](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.76648)

Also available on digital cartridge DB076648

Also available in braille BR002069

# Catch of the Day by Kristan Higgins

Read by Margaret Strom

11 hours, 28 minutes

Maine. Thirty-two-year-old Maggie Beaumont, who has been single since her high school boyfriend dumped her, keeps busy by running a diner, volunteering, and helping with her twin sister's family. Maggie doesn't notice her brother's colleague, lobsterman Malone, although Malone is acutely aware of her. Some strong language. Rita Award. 2007.

[Download from BARD: Catch of the Day](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.68034)

Also available on digital cartridge DB068034

# Blue Ruin by Grace Livingston Hill

Read by Annie Wauters

9 hours, 19 minutes

As Dana Whipple and Lynette Brooke plan their lives together, it becomes increasingly clear that overbearing Dana hopes to mold Lynette into a perfect, obedient preacher's wife. When Dana becomes smitten with a sophisticated New Yorker, Lynette's family sends her to Europe, where she too, meets a captivating stranger. 1928.

[Download from BARD: Blue Ruin](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.69180)

Also available on digital cartridge DB069180

# Summer Harbor. Books 1-3 by Denise Hunter

Read by Theresa Conkin and Madelyn Buzzard

28 hours, 15 minutes

Three novels, written in 2015 and 2016, of inspirational romance set in the small Maine town of Summer Harbor. In Falling like Snowflakes, Eden Martelli and her son are stranded in Summer Harbor at Christmas. Also includes The Goodbye Bride and Just a Kiss. 2016.

[Download from BARD: Summer Harbor. Books 1-3](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.88637)

Also available on digital cartridge DB088637

# If I Had You by Lynn Kurland

Read by Kristin Allison

12 hours, 17 minutes

England, 1225. Anne of Fenwyck returns to her childhood home of Artane and her foster brother Robin, whom she secretly loves. He, too, has feelings but won't admit them. When someone tries to hurt Anne, who walks with a limp, overly protective Robin makes a mess of things. 2000.

[Download from BARD: If I Had You](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.71893)

Also available on digital cartridge DB071893

# The Fiddler by Beverly Lewis

Read by Anne Hancock

8 hours, 14 minutes

When her car gets a flat tire, classical violin prodigy Amelia is rescued by Michael, a young Amish man. Amelia, who secretly fiddles in a country band, stays at Hickory Hollow, Pennsylvania, for a few days before returning to the English world. But she misses the simple life. 2012.

[Download from BARD: The Fiddler](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.74860)

Also available on digital cartridge DB074860

# The Parting by Beverly Lewis

Read by Gabriella Cavallero

8 hours, 16 minutes

Nellie Mae Fisher, still struggling with guilt and grief over her younger sister's death, dreams of marrying handsome Caleb Yoder. But some people in their Pennsylvania Amish community don't want them together--including Caleb's father. Rebellion against Old Order ways threatens to tear them, and their church, apart. 2007.

[Download from BARD: The Parting](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.66456)

Also available on digital cartridge DB066456

# A Key to Many Doors by Emilie Baker Loring

Read by Bets Thompson

6 hours, 38 minutes

Almost resigned to her life as a spinster nurse, Nancy impulsively proposes to diplomat artist Peter Gerad. Trapped in a 'marriage of convenience,' she realizes that she is falling in love with him. 1967.

[Download from BARD: A Key to Many Doors](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.17946)

Also available on digital cartridge DB017946

Also available in braille BR001956

# Heart of Texas Volume 1 by Debbie Macomber

Read by Madelyn Buzzard

12 hours, 31 minutes

Two tales of romance set in Promise, Texas. In Lonesome Cowboy, Savannah Weston falls in love with ranch hand Laredo Smith. In Texas Two-Step, feed store owner Ellie Frasier develops feelings for rancher Glen Patterson. 2007.

[Download from BARD: Heart of Texas Volume 1](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.72055)

Also available on digital cartridge DB072055

# A Cedar Cove Christmas by Debbie Macomber

Read by Catherine Byers

5 hours, 9 minutes

Pregnant Mary Jo Wyse comes to Cedar Cove, Washington, on Christmas Eve seeking David Rhodes, the father of her baby. Librarian Grace Harding takes in Mary Jo, who gives birth that night with help from paramedic Mack McAfee. Then Mary Jo’s three brothers arrive to welcome the newborn. Bestseller. 2008.

[Download from BARD: A Cedar Cove Christmas](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.68061)

Also available on digital cartridge DB068061

# Edge of Honor by Gilbert Morris

Read by Mark Ashby

11 hours

New York, 1865. Quent Larribee, studying to be a doctor, is conscripted into the army. Unable to find peace after accidentally killing a Confederate soldier, Quent moves to Arkansas where he plans to help the widow and her children. Yet in solving one problem he creates another. Christy Award. 2000.

[Download from BARD: Edge of Honor](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.60296)

Also available on digital cartridge DB060296

# When Tomorrow Comes by Janette Oke

Read by Janis Gray

8 hours, 25 minutes

As World War II escalates, dilemmas face adopted siblings Christine and Henry Delaney. Henry, a Mountie, prepares to marry, and Christine relies on faith to navigate the uncertainties of work and love and to decide about a return to northern Canada. Sequel to Beyond the Gathering Storm (DB 57470). 2001.

[Download from BARD: When Tomorrow Comes](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.58150)

Also available on digital cartridge DB58150

# How to Bake a Perfect Life by Barbara O’Neal

Read by Dale Allen

11 hours, 30 minutes

Bakery owner Ramona Gallagher of Colorado Springs is struggling financially. When her daughter Sofia's husband is wounded in Afghanistan and Sofia leaves for Germany to tend to him, Ramona takes in her thirteen-year-old step-granddaughter and falls in love with a long-lost friend. Includes recipes. Rita Award. 2011.

[Download from BARD: How to Bake a Perfect Life](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.76646)

Also available on digital cartridge DB076646

# Heavens to Betsy by Beth Pattilo

Read by Margaret Strom

8 hours, 49 minutes

Beautiful and single, the Reverend Betsy Blessing of Nashville tends to her flock while contemplating leaving the ministry. Betsy discovers she feels more than friendship for her former divinity school classmate David, but she refuses to marry a fellow minister--even if he is perfect for her. Rita Award. 2005.

[Download from BARD: Heavens to Betsy](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.63801)

Also available on digital cartridge DB063801

# Westward the Dream by Judith Pella

Read by Michele Schaeffer

9 hours, 29 minutes

In 1862 Brenton Baldwin and his sister Jordana leave the east to join relatives Victoria and Kiernan O’Connor in California. Accompanying them is Kiernan’s sister Caitlan, newly arrived from Ireland. Brenton photographs the expanding railroad as they travel west, trusting God to protect them. For senior high and older readers. 1998.

[Download from BARD: Westward the Dream](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.55028)

Also available on digital cartridge DB055028

# A Daughter's Inheritance: The Broadmoor Legacy by Tracie Peterson

Read by Theresa Conkin

11 hours, 26 minutes

Rochester, New York; 1897. Orphaned Fannie inherits a share of her grandfather's fortune, but her jealous uncle is appointed her guardian until she turns eighteen. He conspires to steal her money--and thwart her love for Michael, the family's boatkeeper--but Fannie's faith in God sees her through. 2008.

[Download from BARD: A Daughter’s Inheritance: The Broadmoor…](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.72273)

Also available on digital cartridge DB072273

# True Believer by Nicholas Sparks

Read by David Aaron Baker

9 hours, 34 minutes

New York journalist Jeremy Marsh travels to North Carolina to investigate the appearance of ghostly lights in an old cemetery. Meanwhile Boone Creek town librarian Lexie Darnell believes her happiness lies there with those she loves. When Jeremy and Lexie meet, they begin to question their future plans. Bestseller. Commercial audiobook. 2005.

[Download from BARD: True Believer](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.60188)

Also available on digital cartridge DB060188

# Sunset in St. Tropez by Danielle Steel

Read by Erin Jones

5 hours, 17 minutes

Three New York couples--Diana and Eric Morrison, Pascale and John Donnally, and Anne and Robert Smith--decide to vacation in France one summer. But Anne dies before the trip, so Robert causes turmoil when he invites his new girlfriend, an actress, to join them. 2002.

[Download from BARD: Sunset in St. Tropez](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.54338)

Also available on digital cartridge DB054338

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR14193](https://bard.loc.gov)

Also available in braille BR014193

# Finding Stefanie by Susan Mary Warren

Read by Theresa Conkin

10 hours, 55 minutes

Rancher Stefanie Noble and the residents of Phillips, Montana, deal with disruption in their town. Movie star Lincoln Cash--who is hiding his multiple sclerosis--plans a film festival. And three runaway siblings accidentally burn down Cash's newly purchased ranch house. Meanwhile, someone is plotting more serious trouble. Rita Award. 2008.

[Download from BARD: Finding Stefanie](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.71718)

Also available on digital cartridge DB071718

# Lakeside Cottage by Susan Wiggs

Read by Kristin Allison

9 hours, 30 minutes

Unemployed journalist Kate Livingston and her nine-year-old son are spending the summer at her family's Washington state cottage. Nearby, military medic J.D. Harris seeks refuge from the press after saving the president's life. The two meet and fall in love despite obstacles. Some strong language. Rita Award. 2005.

[Download from BARD: Lakeside Cottage](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.63442)

Also available on digital cartridge DB063442