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Popular and Contemporary Fiction Favorites 2015 through 2017

Looking for a good book and not sure where to start? These titles are some of the most popular fiction books published between 2015 and 2017. To order any of these titles, contact the library by email, phone, mail, in person, or order through our [online catalog](#). Select titles can be [downloaded from BARD](#).

The Japanese Lover By Isabel Allende

Read by Anne Hancock

Reading time 9 hours, 13 minutes

San Francisco, 2010. A young Moldovan worker, Irina Bazili, encounters Alma Belasco in the Lark House nursing home. Irina uncovers the story of Alma's hidden relationship with Ichimei, the son of her family's gardener, which spanned nearly seventy years. Bestseller. 2015.

[Download from BARD: The Japanese Lover](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB084043

A Man Called Ove a Novel By Fredrik Backman

Read by David Hartley-Margolin Reading time 9 hours, 7 minutes

Ove has always been a grumpy man, and when he loses his wife and his job, he decides to commit suicide. But a lively family of new neighbors and a stray cat might give Ove a reason to keep living. First published in Swedish in 2012. 2013

[Download from BARD: A Man Called Ove a Novel](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB084392

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR21609](#)

Also available in braille BR021609

The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend By Katarina Bivald

Read by Lorelei King

Reading time 12 hours, 12 minutes

After Swedish immigrant Sara loses her bookstore, she decides to visit her pen pal Amy in the small Iowa town of Broken Wheel. She arrives, only to find that Amy has recently died. Sara decides to stay on and open a bookstore in her friend's memory. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2016.

[Download from BARD: The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB083448

The Hopefuls a Novel By Jennifer Close

Read by Jorjeana Marie

Reading time 11 hours, 35 minutes

Beth Kelly is not enthusiastic about the move from New York to Washington, D. C., but wants to support her husband's aspirations to a career in politics. The couple become friends with Ash Dillon and her charismatic husband, Jimmy, whose political star seems to be on the rise. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2016.

[Download from BARD: The Hopefuls a Novel](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB085096

The Invisible Library By Genevieve Cogman

Read by Deborah Desmone

Reading time 10 hours, 57 minutes

Irene works as an agent for the Invisible Library, tracking down rare manuscripts from alternate realities. She and her assistant travel to a version of Victorian London only to find that the book they seek has already been stolen. Some violence. 2016.

[Download from BARD: The Invisible Library](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB086252

Dark Matter a Novel By Blake Crouch

Read by Jon Lindstrom

Reading time 10 hours, 10 minutes

After being kidnapped, Jason Dessen wakes up to an unfamiliar life in which his wife is not his wife and he has no son. Rather than a college professor, Jason finds he is a celebrated genius of remarkable achievement. He struggles to determine which life is real. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2016.

[Download from BARD: Dark Matter a Novel](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB085205

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Also available in braille BR021643

This Is Your Life, Harriet Chance! a Novel By Jonathan Evison

Read by Suzanne Duvall Reading time 7 hours, 17 minutes

When recently widowed seventy-eight-year-old Harriet Chance wins an Alaskan cruise in a charity auction her husband entered before he died, she decides to go. Conversations with her husband's ghost reveal secrets that cause Harriet to reevaluate her life. Some strong language. 2015.

[Download from BARD: This Is Your Life, Harriet Chance! a Novel](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB083245

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR21276](#)

Also available in braille BR021276

The Little Paris Bookshop By Nina George

Read by Cassandra Campbell Reading time 10 hours, 57 minutes

Parisian bookseller Jean Perdu prescribes particular books to cure emotional ills, but he himself is haunted by his lost love, Manon. New neighbor Catherine convinces him to read a letter Manon left behind twenty years ago, setting him on a journey to make peace with his past. Explicit descriptions of sex and some strong language. Commercial audiobook. 2015.

[Download from BARD: The Little Paris Bookshop](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB081928

Homegoing By Yaa Gyasi

Read by Dominic Hoffman Reading time 13 hours, 13 minutes

In the 1700s, half sisters Esi and Effia are born in Ghana without knowing each other. Effia marries a wealthy Englishman, while Esi is imprisoned in the dungeon of the castle where Effia lives, before she is shipped to America and sold into slavery. Their descendants witness history. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2016.

[Download from BARD: Homegoing](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB084732

The Girl on the Train By Paula Hawkins

Read by Louise Brealey Reading time 11 hours, 1 minute

Rachel's train commute to London passes her former house--now inhabited by her ex-husband and his new family. She also observes a happy young neighboring couple--but then the wife goes missing. Rachel believes she witnessed a critical clue, but her alcoholic blackouts make her an unreliable witness. Strong language, descriptions of sex, and some violence. Commercial audiobook. 2015.

[Download from BARD: The Girl on the Train](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB080635

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR20688](#)

Also available in braille BR020688

Before the Fall By Noah Hawley

Read by Robert Petkoff Reading time 12 hours, 57 minutes

On a foggy summer night, eleven people--ten privileged, one a down-on-his-luck painter--depart Martha's Vineyard on a private jet for New York. The plane plunges into the ocean. The only survivors are the painter and a four-year-old boy, who is now the remaining member of an immensely wealthy media mogul's family. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2016.

[Download from BARD: Before the Fall](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB084691

The Fireman A Novel By Joe Hill

Read by Brandon Bujnowski Reading time 22 hours, 26 minutes

A pandemic known as Dragonscale has swept the planet, causing the afflicted to develop markings on their skin and then burst into flame. A nurse who contracts Dragonscale wants to avoid quarantine long enough to give birth to her child. Violence, strong language, and some explicit descriptions of sex. Bestseller. 2016.

[Download from BARD: The Fireman a Novel](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB084824

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR21654](#)

Also available in braille BR021654

The Tea Planter's Wife a Novel By Dinah Jefferies

Read by Avita Jay

Reading time 16 hours, 1 minute

Soon after she arrives in Ceylon with her new husband, nineteen-year-old Englishwoman Gwendolyn Hooper realizes she barely knows her husband. She uncovers tantalizing secrets, but soon she is asked to hide her own after a party gone awry. Gwen does not know whom to trust. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2016.

[Download from BARD: The Tea Planter's Wife a Novel](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB085768

The Most Dangerous Place on Earth by Lindsey Lee Johnson

Read by Cassandra Campbell

Reading time 10 hours, 58 minutes

Molly is a new, idealistic teacher at a wealthy California high school. Among her students is a group of privileged teenagers whose bullying caused the death of a fellow student back when they were all in middle school. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2017.

[Download from BARD: The Most Dangerous Place on Earth](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB086767

Lilac Girls By Martha Hall Kelly

Read by Cassandra Campbell

Reading time 17 hours, 33 minutes

The lives of three women--socialite Caroline from New York, teenager Kasia from Poland, and doctor Herta from Germany--collide during World War II. Kasia, involved in the resistance, is sent to Ravensbrück, where she is experimented on by Herta. Caroline tries to help survivors. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2016.

[Download from BARD: Lilac Girls](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB084356

Go Set a Watchman By Harper Lee

Read by Kate Kiley

Reading time 7 hours, 42 minutes

Twenty years after the events of *To Kill A Mockingbird* (DB 77672), Jean Louise Finch (once known as Scout) returns home to Maycomb, Alabama. She confronts the racism of her hometown in the 1950s, including the views of Atticus, the father she idolizes. Some strong language. 2015.

[Download from BARD: Go Set a Watchman](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB081896

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR20919](#)

Also available in braille BR020919

A Girl's Guide to Moving On By Debbie Macomber

Read by Allyson Ryan

Reading time 10 hours, 56 minutes

Nichole and her mother-in-law, Leanne, bond after they both leave their cheating husbands. Struggling with a new job and single parenthood, Nichole meets a new man, even as her husband tries to win her back. Meanwhile, Leanne resists the possibility of a new love. Commercial audiobook. 2016.

[Download from BARD: A Girl's Guide to Moving On](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB083694

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR21536](#)

Also available in braille BR021536

Circling the Sun a Novel By Paula McLain

Read by Katharine McEwan

Reading time 12 hours, 19 minutes

Fictional biography of British-born aviatrix Beryl Markham. Raised in Kenya, she falls in love with the country and the horses her family raises. As war threatens, her father encourages her to marry a rich, older neighbor. Dissatisfied with her relationship, she learns to fly. Some descriptions of sex. Commercial audiobook. 2015.

[Download from BARD: Circling the Sun a Novel](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB082190

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR21189](#)

Also available in braille BR021189

The City Baker's Guide to Country Living By Louise Miller

Read by Jorjeana Marie

Reading time 10 hours, 12 minutes

After pastry chef Olivia Rawlings accidentally sets fire to the Boston supper club where she works, she heads off to visit her best friend in rural Vermont. Olivia gets a job at the local inn and finds herself falling for fiddle player Martin McCracken. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2016.

[Download from BARD: The City Baker's Guide to County Living](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB085266

Truly Madly Guilty By Liane Moriarty

Read by Caroline Lee

Reading time 17 hours, 22 minutes

Sam and Clementine lead a pleasant if busy life of work and their two daughters. When Erika, Clementine's oldest friend, invites them to a barbeque, however, their lives will change forever. Even months later, Clementine and Sam ask themselves how life might have been different if they hadn't gone. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2016.

[Download from BARD: Truly Madly Guilty](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB085100

Commonwealth By Ann Patchett

Read by Kristin Allison.

Reading time 10 hours, 9 minutes

Deputy District Attorney Burt Cousins unexpectedly shows up at the christening party for cop Fix Keating's baby daughter. Burt meets Fix's beautiful wife, Beverly, and steals a kiss. The ramifications of this play out for both families over five decades. Strong language. Bestseller. 2016.

[Download from BARD: Commonwealth](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB086217

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR021711](#)

Also available in braille BR021711

Barkskins a Novel By Annie Proulx

Read by Richard Davidson

Reading time 31 hours, 43 minutes

1693. René Sel and Charles Duquet arrive in New France and are committed to work for Claude Trépagny. Life in the northern woods is rough, and, through to the early twenty-first century, their descendants continually fight to better their lives. Some violence and some descriptions of sex. Bestseller. 2016.

[Download from BARD: Barkskins a Novel](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB085407

Miller's Valley By Anna Quindlen

Read by Kristin Allison

Reading time 7 hours, 13 minutes

A girl comes of age in the Pennsylvania valley her family has farmed for generations. Begins in the 1960s, when Mimi is a young girl and her family is divided by the news of government plans to flood the valley. Some strong language and some descriptions of sex. 2016.

[Download from BARD: Miller's Valley](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB084596

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR21489](#)

Also available in braille BR021489

Nine Women One Dress By Jane L. Rosen

Read by Dorothy Dillingham Blue

Reading time 6 hours, 59 minutes

The story of one little black dress and how it affects the women who wear it. It begins with Natalie, a saleswoman at Bloomingdale's department store, but the dress also impacts a model, a movie star, and a lonely assistant in love with her boss, among others. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2016.

[Download from BARD: Nine Women One Dress](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB085065

Lily and the Octopus By Steven Rowley

Read By Gary Tipton Reading time 7 hours, 59 minutes

Ted Flask is an aging writer whose best friend is a dachshund named Lily. They live a quiet, happy life together until Lily is stricken with a brain tumor that Ted thinks of as an octopus. Ted fights for Lily, confronting the monster trying to take his companion. Some strong language. 2016.

[Download from BARD: Lily and the Octopus](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB085389

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR21611](#)

Also available in braille BR021611

Salt to the Sea By Ruta Sepetys

Read by Michael Crouch Reading time 8 hours, 50 minutes

Toward the end of World War II, thousands of refugees desperately trek toward freedom. During this time, the paths of four very different young adults converge aboard the ship Wilhelm Gustloff. Some violence and some strong language. Commercial audiobook. For junior and senior high and older readers. 2016.

[Download from BARD: Salt to the Sea](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB083767

The Summer Before the War By Helen Simonson

Read by Fiona Hardingham Reading time 15 hours, 49 minutes

In 1914, Beatrice Nash arrives in the English village of Rye to teach Latin.

Although the townspeople are suspicious of a lady Latin teacher, she is befriended by town leader Lady Agatha Kent and even begins a romance. But the outbreak of WWI changes everything. Some violence. Commercial audiobook. 2016.

[Download from BARD: The Summer Before the War](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB084023

The Rosie Effect By Graeme C Simsion

Read by Guy Williams Reading time 10 hours, 38 minutes

Happily married, after The Rosie Project (DB 78150), Don and Rosie are living in New York City when Rosie announces she is pregnant. Don has made great strides in adapting his highly regimented life for Rosie, but this is a new challenge. Some strong language. Bestseller. 2014.

[Download from BARD: The Rosie Effect](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB081299

The Apartment By Danielle Steel

Read by Mary Kane

Reading time 8 hours, 49 minutes

Four women share a loft in New York's Hell's Kitchen: shoe designer Claire, writer Abby, medical student Sasha, and Morgan, who works on Wall Street. They each struggle with career, family, and love, while supporting each other through ups and downs. Some strong language. 2016.

[Download from BARD: The Apartment](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB084711

Kitchens of the Great Midwest By J. Ryan Stradal

Read by Michael Stuhlbarg

Reading time 10 hours, 9 minutes

Chef Eva Thorvald came by her love of food as the daughter of a chef and a sommelier. Her mother left and her father died, but cooking sustained her through an awkward childhood. She went on to become one of the hottest chefs in America. Some strong language and some descriptions of sex. 2015.

[Download from BARD: Kitchens of the Great Midwest](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB082282

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR21172](#)

Also available in braille BR021172

My Name is Lucy Barton By Elizabeth Strout

Read by Kimberly Farr

Reading time 4 hours, 14 minutes

In the hospital, recovering from what should have been a simple operation, Lucy Barton gets a visit from her estranged mother. While her mother shares gossip from home, Lucy thinks back on her past and their difficult relationship. Strong language, explicit descriptions of sex, and some violence. Commercial audiobook. 2016.

[Download from BARD: My Name is Lucy Barton](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB083379

The Nest By Cynthia D'Aprix Sweeney

Read by Gabra Zackman Reading time 9 hours, 32 minutes

Four adult siblings were all counting on getting their piece of a trust fund soon. Everything changes when reckless sibling Leo gets into an accident while drunk and high, injuring his nineteen-year-old passenger. Now their joint inheritance is in jeopardy. Some strong language and some descriptions of sex. Bestseller. 2016.

[Download from BARD: The Nest](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB084406

A Spool of Blue Thread By Anne Tyler

Read by Kimberly Farr Reading time 13 hours, 21 minutes

From Red Whitshank's parents, newly arrived in Baltimore in the 1920s, to Abby and Red who fell in love in 1959, to their own grandchildren, who carry the Whitshank legacy boisterously into the twenty-first century, here are four generations' lives unfolding in and around their sprawling, lovingly-worn Baltimore house. Some strong language and some descriptions of sex. Commercial audiobook. 2015.

[Download from BARD: A Spool of Blue Thread](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB080685

Vinegar Girl By Anne Tyler

Read by Kirsten Potter Reading time 5 hours, 59 minutes

A modern take on Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew* (DB 35793). Prickly Kate Battista looks after her father and pretty younger sister, Bunny, while working in a preschool. Her father wants her to marry his lab assistant, Pyotr, to keep him from being deported. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2016.

[Download from BARD: Vinegar Girl](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB084781

All Is Not Forgotten Wendy Walker

Read by Dylan Baker

Reading time 11 hours, 31 minutes

Jenny Kramer is given a controversial drug to medically erase her memory of a violent assault. But as Jenny heals from her physical wounds, she struggles with her raging emotional memory, her father becomes obsessed with finding her attacker, and her mother pretends nothing happened. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2016.

[Download from BARD: All Is Not Forgotten](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB084501

The Woman in Cabin 10 By Ruth Ware

Read by Theresa Conkin

Reading time 11 hours

After a nightmarish break-in, British journalist Lo Blacklock is exhausted but happy to board the exclusive cruise ship the Aurora on assignment. But when she awakens to the sounds of a woman being thrown overboard, Lo's nightmare begins in earnest. Strong language, some violence, and some descriptions of sex. Bestseller. 2016.

[Download from BARD: The Woman in Cabin 10](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB085729