

MP3 Audiobook Classics

Product Catalog

Winter 2018

Affordable Audiobooks for Everyone

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About MP3 Audiobook Classics

Thank you for taking the time to review our catalog. Our goal is to offer the highest quality audiobook programming in attractive packaging at a price that enables listeners to collect and own a library of classic works. The works are recorded by volunteer readers using original manuscripts that are in the public domain. Our audio files are processed using professional recording tools to minimize noise, remove distracting artifacts, and utilize equalization, leveling, limiting and normalization techniques to achieve a rewarding listening experience. We offer our titles on MP3 CDs with detailed meta tags that include the artwork for the title. Our packaging contains detailed track listings and credits as well as background information on the work and the author.

About Our Collection

Our collection is selected according to a mix of considerations. In it you will find titles that meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Books that you read a long time ago and would like read again.
- Books that you always wanted to read but never got around to.
- Books that you pretended that you read but you really didn't.
- Books that have a renewed public interest due to a movie, a TV series, a new translation, or some other factor.
- Books that are important, foundational works in their time period or genre.
- Books that are simply and truly one of a kind.
- Books that are "connoisseur classics" that deserve wider recognition.
- Books that we just really like a lot.

If you crave a title that you don't find in our catalog, let us know. It may well be in the works or it should be.

Program Information

Online Access

Visit our website at www.mp3audiobookclassics.com. The interactive PDF of the catalog contains links to all the titles and promotions listed.

Account

Resellers can qualify for wholesale pricing by providing a company name and a tax identification number when registering an account. Once we receive your registration we will review it and assign it to the proper customer group. Orders must be placed using the account to obtain correct discount pricing.

Prices

- Wholesale prices for shipments to a single location are figured as a discount from published retail price.
- Minimum order for wholesale pricing is 5 units per location.

Payment

- Orders are shipped once payments are received and processed.
- Orders can be paid for online by credit card or by PayPal account. We use PayPal to process credit card payments.
- Accounts can choose to be invoiced and pay by check or ACH.
- Accounts may request payment terms. Ordinary terms are net 30 days. We may request financial information in order to establish a credit line and limit.
- We reserve the right decline or amend any orders for excessive quantities that would likely result in returns of unsold merchandise.

Shipping

- We currently ship via US Postal Service and UPS.
- Shipping charges are calculated by weight or by total units and are added to the order. The checkout process includes the ability to estimate shipping costs by shipping method and select the method of choice.
- Orders above a set minimum weight or number of units qualify for free shipping.

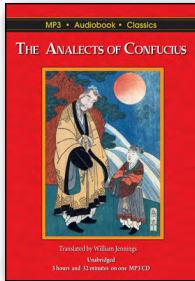
Returns

- Defective goods may be returned for 100% credit.
- We will accept returns of unsold merchandise that is unopened and free from ordinary wear and tear.
- A Return Authorization Request (RAR) is required and can be completed online.

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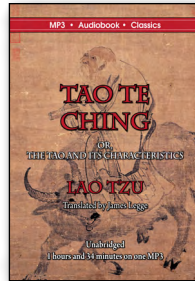


The Analects of Confucius

Author: Confucius (551 BC – 479 BC)
Translated by William Jennings (1847 - 1927)
Read by: Jing Li
Length: 3 hours and 32 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Classics, Philosophy

The Analects of Confucius is a collection of anecdotes, sayings and ideas attributed to the Chinese philosopher and teacher Confucius. *The Analects* are believed to have been written down his followers shortly after his death and to have been further revised into its present form by the mid-Han dynasty. The core idea of Confucianism is that the general welfare of a country depends on the moral virtue of its people, beginning with leadership. Cultivation of virtue is done via the practice of ren, which teaches the importance of devotion to parents and the wisdom of reconciling individual desires with rules and rituals of propriety, which engender respect for others and responsibility. The importance of *The Analects* as an essential philosophical work was seen in the inclusion in the "Four Books" during the Song Dynasty (960 – 1279). It has been one of the most widely read books in China for 2,000 years and maintains a strong influence on Chinese thought and values.

Catalog: DB-1007
UPC: 0684758936493
MSLP: \$10.99

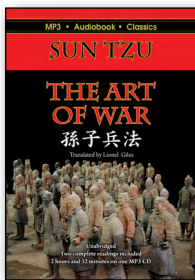


The Tao Te Ching

Author: Lao Tzu (6th Century BCE)
Translated by James Legge (1815 - 1897)
Read by: Eric S. Piotrowski
Length: 1 hour and 34 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Philosophy

The Tao Te Ching is an ancient Chinese classic text written by sage Lao Tzu in the sixth century BC. The book is a sequence of 81 short poems structured in two parts – the Tao Ching (chapters 1-37) and the Te Ching (chapters 38-81). The style combines two elements: short, memorable declarative statements and intentional contradictions that force the listener to reconcile the resulting ambiguities. The absence of grammatical connectors increases the ambiguity and gives rise to varying interpretations. *The Tao Te Ching* is a fundamental text in both religious and philosophical Taoism and has greatly influenced Confucianism, Legalism, and Chinese Buddhism, which was originally introduced to China through Taoist concepts and terminology. The oldest version dated prior to 300 BC was discovered in 1993 and consists of 800 slips of bamboo. It is a continuing source of inspiration to Chinese artists and is one of the most translated works in all of world literature.

Catalog: DB-1131
UPC: 0683422134333
MSLP: \$9.99



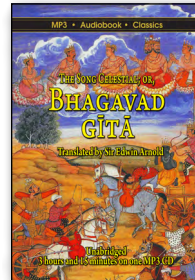
The Art of War

Author: Sun Tzu (554 BCE - 496 BCE),
Translated by Lionel Giles (1875 - 1958)
Read by: Phil Chenevert (v. 1), Moira Fogarty (v. 2)
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 1 hour 20 minutes (v. 1) 1 hours 13 minutes (v. 2)
Genre: War & Military

This ancient work of the Chinese General Sun Tzu has proved the test of time. Translated into French in 1792 and then into English in 1905, this treatise on war has been the handbook for those engaged in combat as well as other adversarial encounters outside the scope of military activities. Businessmen, lawyers, politicians, even athletes have availed themselves of Sun Tzu's genius. Sun Tzu believed war to

Catalog: DB-1006
UPC: 0684758935861
MSLP: \$10.99

be a necessary evil that must be avoided, though, when necessary, should be prosecuted to a quick end. His writings on the knowledge of one's enemy, the true nature of strategy and tactics, and the primacy of pre-battle positioning, have enlightened the western mind and become bedside reading for figures like Generals MacArthur and Schwartzkopf. It's rare to find a book that delivers on its promise. In thirteen chapters *The Art of War* delivers all that and more.

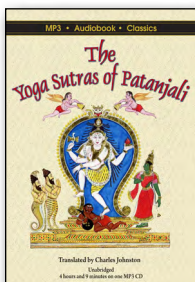


The Bhagavad-Gita

Author: Vyasa (2nd - 5th century BC)
Translated by Sir Edwin Arnold
Read by: Jothi Tharavant
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 3 hours 15 minutes
Genre: Poetry, Epics, Classics

The Bhagavad-Gita is a core book in Hindu scripture that recounts a dialog between warrior prince Arjuna and his charioteer Lord Krishna in 700 verses framed by a conversation between a blind ruler and his minister, a clairvoyant who eavesdrops on Krishna and Arjuna. The central conflict is warfare that threatens to destroy the kingdom. Arjuna is torn between his duty to serve the family on one side of the conflict and the sense that the conflict itself violates the laws of Dharma, which he is also sworn to uphold. Frozen, he refuses to fight. Krishna realizes that he must impart the mysteries of Dharmic action to Arjuna and so reveals himself as a many-sided divine being. He instructs Arjuna in the structure of the universe, primordial nature, and the importance of self-control, faith, equanimity, unselfishness, and devotion. Only by attending to his duty will Arjuna transcend the bonds of matter and human behavior and achieve immortality. The battle is generally seen as an allegory for the struggles of human life and has prompted many interpretations over time.

Catalog: DB-1155
UPC: 0683422134708
MSLP: \$10.99



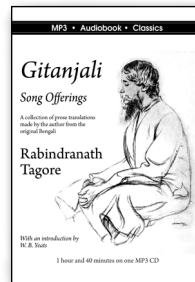
The Yoga Sūtras of Patañjali

Author: Patañjali (c. 400 CE)
Translated by Charles Johnston (1867 - 1931)
Read by: Jothi Tharavant
Length: 4 hours 9 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Religion, Reference, Education

The Yoga Sūtras of Patañjali is a collection of 196 Indian sūtras or aphorisms composed in approximately. He compiled the book from older materials from two different traditions – the "eight limb yoga" known as ashtanga yoga, and action yoga, known as karma yoga. The aphorisms and accompanying commentary constitute "The Treatise on Yoga according to Patañjali". Yoga Sūtras is divided in to four books or padas: Samadhi Pada Sadhana Pada;

Catalog: DB-1114
UPC: 0683422134210
MSLP: \$10.99

Vibhuti and Kaivalya Pada. He outlines the system of ashtanga yoga consisting of eight limbs, five of which are external aids to and three of which are internal aids. The Yoga Sūtras synthesized the teachings of many philosophical systems and were highly influential for over a thousand years before falling out of favor by the 16th century. Interest was reawakened the early 19th century and led to the consideration of the work as a primary key to the "science of yoga".

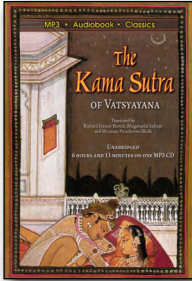


Gitanjali

Author: Rabindranath Tagore (1861 - 1941)
Translated by the author
Read by: Multiple readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 1 hour and 40 minutes
Genre: Poetry

Gitanjali is a collection of 103 poems translated from the original Bengali collection by the author, Rabindranath Tagore. The word gitanjali combines the words for "song" and "offering", hence the subtitle "Song Offerings". The word "anjali" has a devotional connotation, which can be applied to the volume, which is sometimes called a "prayer offering of song". The original volume was published in 1910 and contained 157 poems. Tagore took extensive liberties in producing the 1912 English edition, omitting some, altering others, and combining still others. The book included an introduction by the noted Irish poet William Butler Yeats and became famous in the west, which led Tagore becoming the first non-European author to win the Nobel Prize in 1913.

Catalog: DB-1188
UPC: 0683422135095
MSLP: \$9.99

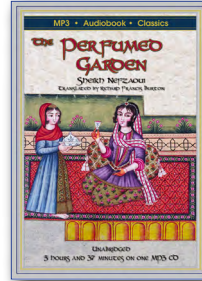


The Kama Sutra of Vatsyayana

Author: Vatsyayana (2nd century AD)
Translated by Richard Francis Burton, Bhagavanlal Indrajit and Shivaram Parashuram Bhide
Read by: Mark F. Smith
Length: 6 hours 13 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Education, Self-Help

Catalog: DB-1109
UPC: 0683422134203
MSLP: \$11.99

Often mistakenly thought to be a guide to tantric sex, the *Kama Sutra* is not exclusively a sex manual, but rather a guide to living a virtuous and fulfilling life that treats matters of love, family, pleasure and passion in a frank and insightful manner. "Kama" means "desire", and is one of the four goals of life, the others being Dharma (virtuous living), Artha (material prosperity), and Moksha (liberation). A "sutra" is a line or thread that connects things, and often refers to a collection of rules, formulas, or aphorisms that serve as a guide or manual. The *Kama Sutra* was written in Sanskrit in the Second Century AD, and represents an abridged assemblage of longer works. The book is written in prose with generous sprinklings of verse, and is structured in seven parts, 36 chapters and 1,250 verses. The best known English translation first appeared in 1883 and is attributed to Sir Richard Francis Burton, who supervised the translation and the assembly of a complete version from versions obtained from libraries in Calcutta, Benares, Bombay, and Jaipur.

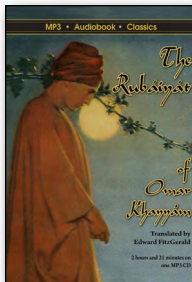


The Perfumed Garden

Author: Sheikh Nefzaoui (15th century AD)
Translated by: Sir Richard Francis Burton (1820 - 1890)
Read by: Alia Makki
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 5 hours and 37 minutes
Genre: Non-Fiction, Erotica

Catalog: DB-1137
UPC: 0683422134531
MSLP: \$11.99

The Perfumed Garden by Sheikh Nafzaoui is a fifteenth-century Arabic sex manual and work of erotic literature. The book contains a discussion of qualities men and women should cultivate to be attractive, gives advice on sexual technique, and treats issues of sexual health, complete with remedies for sexual maladies. It lists the many names used to briefly describes the nature of sex among animals. Also included are a section on the interpretation of dreams and stories. The reputation of the book in the Arab world was similar to that of the *Arabian Nights*. It is unique in "the seriousness with which the most lascivious and obscene matters are presented." *The Perfumed Garden* was introduced to the English speaking world in a 1886 by Sir Richard Francis Burton, who compared the work to that of Rabelais and the French book *Conjugal Love* by Nicolas Venette.

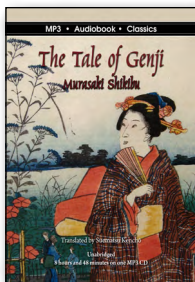


The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam

Author: Omar Khayyam (1048 - 1131)
Translated by Edward FitzGerald (1809 - 1883)
Read by: Algy Pug
Length: 2 hours 21 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Poetry

Catalog: DB-1100
UPC: 0684758936479
MSLP: \$10.99

The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam is a translation by Englishman Edward FitzGerald of poems by the Persian Omar Khayyam. The word rubaiyat combines the term 'rubai', meaning a two line stanza with two parts per line, and 'yat', meaning four. Khayyam produced over one thousand such stanzas. The English translations by Fitzgerald are the best known and consist of about one hundred quatrains in each of five editions which appeared over the course of thirty years between 1859 and 1889. The translations are by no means literal or exacting. FitzGerald admittedly took liberties while taking pains to capture and render the spirit of the original. Numerous phrases that have entered the cultural lexicon have their origins in the Rubaiyat, the most common cited being "A Book of Verses underneath the Bough, A Jug of Wine, a Loaf of Bread--and Thou". Lines and phrase from the poem have served as titles for many literary and dramatic works.



The Tale of Genji

Author: Murasaki Shikibu (973 or 978 - 1014 or 1031)
Read by: Multiple readers
Length: 8 hours and 48 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Fiction, Roman

Catalog: DB-1138
UPC: 0683422134371
MSLP: \$11.99

The Tale of Genji is a classic of Japanese literature that depicts the manners and intrigues of members of the court culture. The novel was written in installments delivered periodically to an audience of aristocratic women the early 11th century and is attributed to Murasaki Shikibu, a noblewoman and lady-in-waiting. The story takes place over a long period of time, centers on Genji's romantic escapades and depicts the highly regimented customs of the day. There little in the way of plot, and a cast of some hundred characters come and go as the years go by, events evolve, affairs produce offspring, lovers die, power changes hands, and unexpected consequences multiply. Most of the characters are never given names, but rather referred to by their social role. The book ends abruptly in mid-sentence, and scholars have debated whether it was the intended ending, if there are missing chapters, or if Murasaki Shikibu simply left it unfinished.

The Audiobook Listener

In June 2017 the Audio Publishers Association reported the results of a consumer survey conducted in by Edison Research that provides key insights into listeners and behavior.

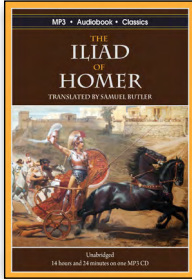
Who listens to audiobooks?

- The listening audience is growing. 4% of Americans (over 67 million people) have completed listening to at least one audiobook in 2016, a 22% increase over the 2015 survey. Nearly half (48%) of frequent audiobook listeners are under 35.
- Audiobook listeners are often also podcast listeners. Respondents who consumed both
- podcasts and audiobooks listened to twice as many audiobooks in the past 12 months as non-podcast consumers.
- Avid readers are also listening. Audiobook listeners read or listened to an average of 15 books in the last year, and 77% of frequent listeners agreed or strongly agreed that "audiobooks help you finish more books".

How and where are they listening?

- Far more listeners are saying they use their smartphone most often to listen to audiobooks than ever before - 29% in 2017 vs. 22% in 2015.
- A majority of audiobook listening is done at home (57%), with the car being the second most frequently-cited location (32%).
- 68% of frequent listeners do housework while listening to audiobooks. Other multitasking activities among frequent listeners include baking (65%), exercise (56%) and crafting (36%).
- The 2017 survey asked about voice-enabled wireless speakers (such as Amazon Echo or Google Home) for the first time, with 19% of all listeners reporting using them to listen to an audiobook in the last year. Among frequent listeners, that rises to 30%.

Greek & Roman Classics



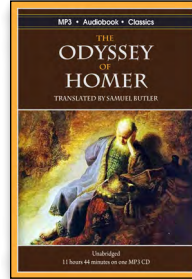
The Iliad

Author: Homer (c. 8th cen - c. 8th cen)
Translated by Samuel Butler (1835 - 1902)
Read by: Multiple readers
Length: 14 hours 24 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Plays, Poetry, War & Military Fiction

The Iliad is an epic poem that recounts the conflict between Agamemnon, the man of power, and Achilles, the genius of war, set within the larger tale of the ten year Trojan War. The story is told in flashbacks and flash-forwards; by the end the poem has told a fairly complete story of the war. The utterly human story has resonated down the centuries. The ugly man of power: selfish, greedy, entitled and obsessed. The young, beautiful star, burdened with greatness. The authentic versus the phony. Same old story.

Catalog: DB-1012
UPC: 0684758935977
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The Iliad was composed sometime between 760 and 710 B.C. and was passed down by oral tradition. There's a story that around 700 B.C. a virtual riot broke out when some upstart in the Academy proposed to write it down. The older, wiser men believed transcription would destroy the Greek facility for memorization, not to mention silencing of the sound of the poetry itself. This reading returns this epic to the original oral tradition.



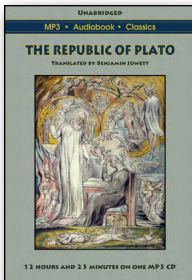
The Odyssey

Author: Homer (c. 8th cen - c. 8th cen)
Translated by Samuel Butler (1835 - 1902)
Length: 11 hours 44 minutes
Read by: Read by LibriVox readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Action & Adventure Fiction, Classics (Antiquity)

The Odyssey, an epic poem composed by Homer in part as sequel to *The Iliad*, is the tale of the Odysseus (Ulysses in Roman mythology) on his journey home to Ithaca from the ten year Trojan War. All starts out well with Aeolus, the god of wind, bagging up the "bad winds," for Odysseus and seeing him off on what should be a short voyage home. But nothing's that easy. The crew untie the bag and for ten years Odysseus and his mates, most of whom don't survive the journey, are tossed about the known world to encounter one trial after another.

Catalog: DB-1013
UPC: 0684758935984
MSLP: \$12.99

Homecoming is a deep seated thing: to arrive again where those who know us best can see in stark relief the person we have become compared with the person we were when last we met. It is the one true measure of growth, aging, progress and mortality. It lies deep within us. *The Odyssey* gives it exposition, laying bear the longing and the struggles of that epic voyage which is life itself.



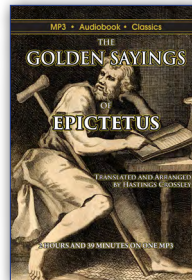
The Republic of Plato

Author: Plato (c. 427 - 327 BCE)
Translated by Benjamin Jowett (1817 - 1893)
Read by: Multiple readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 13 hours 7 minutes
Genre: Classics-Greek & Roman, Philosophy

The Republic by Plato is probably the most influential work of philosophy and political theory in history. Its ten books of dialogues address the question of whether a just man or unjust man achieves the greatest happiness by considering the governance and culture of a series of hypothetical cities. Translator Benjamin Jowett writes in his introduction that "The principles of definition, the law of contradiction, the fallacy of arguing in a circle, the distinction between the essence and accidents of a thing or notion, between means and ends, between causes and conditions; also the division of the mind into the rational, concupiscent, and irascible elements, or of pleasures and desires into necessary and unnecessary—these and other great forms of thought are all of them to be found in the Republic, and were probably first invented by Plato." It is no wonder that *The Republic* has been a centerpiece of a classical education for centuries.

Catalog: DB-1111
UPC: 0684758936653
MSLP: \$12.99

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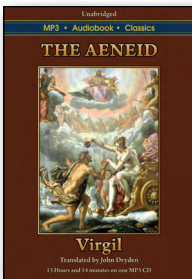
The Golden Sayings of Epictetus

Author: Epictetus (AD c. 55 - 135)
Translated by Hastings Crossley
Read by: Multiple readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 2 hours 38 minutes
Genre: Philosophy

Epictetus was a philosopher in the Stoic school. His teachings were transcribed by his pupil Arrian from memory after lessons in *The Discourses*. *The Enchiridion* is a digest of the *Discourses*, and *The Golden Sayings* is a further distillation consisting of almost 300 aphorisms. Epictetus distinguishes between those things within our power and things over which we have no power. The basis of philosophy is self-knowledge, and that the only things within our power are those we generate from within – impulses, opinions, desires and aversions. Everything else is out of our control and subject to fate. Good and evil rests in the power of choice. Reason alone is good; one should understand not only what to do, but why. Application of reason in the choice of action over things within our power is path to peace of mind. His philosophy has been an inspiration to leaders from the Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius to James Joyce, J.D. Salinger, and Tom Wolfe in more modern times.

Catalog #: DB-1082
UPC: 06
MSLP: \$10.99

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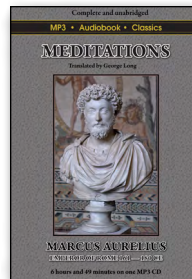
The Aeneid

Author: Vergil (70BC - 19 BC)
Translated by John Dryden (1631 - 1700)
Read by: Multiple readers
Length: 13 hours and 14 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Poetry, Epics, War & Military Fiction

The Aeneid recounts the travels of Aeneas, a minor character in Homer's *Iliad*, from Troy to Italy, where he founds the city-state destined to become center of the Roman Empire. Written between 29 and 19 B.C., the purpose of Vergil's effort was to compose Rome's epic founding myth. By 19 B.C. Rome dominated the world. The empire encompassed all of the civilized world and much of the world that had yet to be tamed, an empire so grand it called out for a history and mythology equal to its sheer size and strength. In composing *The Aeneid*,

Catalog: DB-1081
UPC: 0683422134807
MSLP: \$12.99

Vergil created a mythic character without firmly drawn characteristics as the protagonist of his epic poem, a hero who was a vague presence on the far edge of Roman consciousness. Ultimately *The Aeneid* did several things: it tied Rome to the legends of Troy, explained the Punic Wars, honored Roman virtues, and helped to legitimize the Julio-Claudian dynasty.



The Meditations of Marcus Aurelius

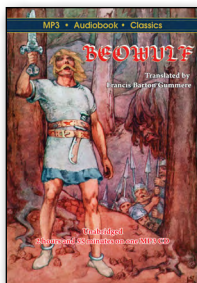
Author: Marcus Aurelius (129 - 180 AD)
Translated by George Long
Read by: Multiple readers
Length: 6 hours 47 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: War & Military

Marcus Aurelius embodied the qualities Plato sought in a philosopher-king, the best of leaders. *The Meditations of Marcus Aurelius*, comprised of twelve books, set forth the great man's musings on the judgment of himself and others in accord with those principles of stoicism that look to nature for truths. Unlike so many of his predecessors, Marcus Aurelius actually concerned himself with the moral imperative of goodness and reflected often on what it meant to be a good man. "Alone of the emperors," wrote the historian Herodian, "he gave proof of his learning not by mere words or knowledge of philosophical doctrines but by his blameless character and temperate way of life." *The Meditations* are the written record of his thought, written in Greek while on campaign between 170 and 180 in passages as short as a sentence and as long as an extended paragraph. The effect is cumulative. Marcus Aurelius here distinguishes himself as a philosopher, a thinker and a writer, as well as a man of military might and strategic skill.

Catalog: DB-1073
UPC: 0852679827378
MSLP: \$11.99

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Medieval Classics



Beowulf

Author: Unknown, Translated by Francis Barton Gummere
Read by: Multiple readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 3 hours 59 minutes (version 1)
Genre: Poetry, Epics

Beowulf is the title of the oldest surviving epic poem of Old English and the first to be written in the English vernacular. Beowulf, the title character, is a hero of the Geats in Scandinavia who travels to Denmark to help vanquish a monster from the swamplands known as Grendel who has been attacking the mead hall of Hrogar, king of the Danes. He slays the demon and is

Catalog: DB-1005
UPC: 0684758935854
MSLP: \$10.99

then attacked by Grendel's mother, who he also slays. He returns to Geatland a hero and later becomes king. After a prosperous reign of fifty years, he is attacked by a dragon but is mortally wounded in the contest. The poem ends with his cremation on a funeral pyre at sea and the interment of his ashes in a burial mound in Geatland.



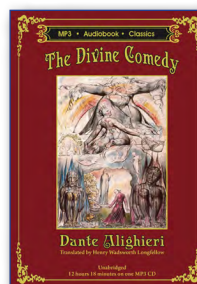
The Tale of Genji

Author: Murasaki Shikibu (973 or 978 – 1014 or 1031)
Read by: Multiple readers
Length: 8 hours and 48 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Fiction, Romance

The Tale of Genji is a classic of Japanese literature that depicts the manners and intrigues of members of the court culture. The novel was written in installments delivered periodically to an audience of aristocratic women in the early 11th century and is attributed to Murasaki Shikibu, a noblewoman and lady-in-waiting. The story takes place over a long period of time, centers on Genji's romantic escapades and depicts the highly regimented customs of the day. There little in the way of plot, and a

Catalog: DB-1138
UPC: 0683422134371
MSLP: \$11.99

cast of some hundred characters come and go as the years go by, events evolve, affairs produce offspring, lovers die, power changes hands, and unexpected consequences multiply. Most of the characters are never given names, but rather referred to by their social role. The book ends abruptly in mid-sentence, and scholars have debated whether it was the intended ending, if there are missing chapters, or if Murasaki Shikibu simply left it unfinished.



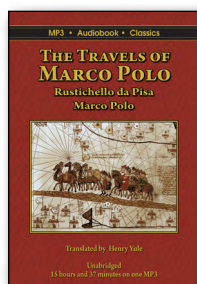
The Divine Comedy

Author: Dante Alighieri (1265 - 1321),
Translated by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
Read by: Multiple readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 12 hours 23 minutes
Genre: Poetry, Epics

The Divine Comedy is the centerpiece of Italian literature and one of the greatest works in world literature. Written between 1308 and 1321, at the end of the Middle Ages and the dawn of the Renaissance, it distills the essence of the medieval world-view. The poem is structured in three canticas that represent the three realms of the dead: Inferno, Purgatorio and Paradiso. Each cantica is composed of 33 cantos, which, together with the introductory canto, comprise a total of 100 cantos.

Catalog: DB-1004
UPC: 0684758935847
MSLP: \$12.99

The narrative describes Dante's own allegorical journey through the realms to salvation, accompanied first by the poet Virgil and later by his beloved Beatrice, and offers philosophical and moral commentary along the way. The *Divine Comedy* is a complex work full of symbol and allegory. Publication in Italian made the work accessible to a wide audience and contributed to the general growth in literacy. Its influence is nothing short of monumental. As T.S. Eliot wrote, "Dante and Shakespeare divide the world between them, there is no third."

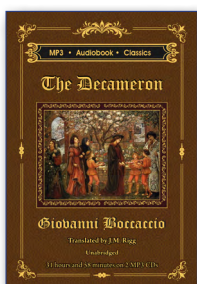


The Travels of Marco Polo

Author: Rustichello da Pisa (1274 - 1300) &
Marco Polo (1254 – 1324)
Read by: Multiple readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 15 hours and 37 minutes
Genre: Biography, Autobiography & Memoir, History

The Travels of Marco Polo is the English title of a travelogue about Marco Polo's travels to Asia and his experiences at the court of Kublai Khan in the 13th century. Polo left Venice with his father and uncle in 1276 for China and left to return in 1291, arriving in Italy in 1295. The book was written by French writer Rustichello da Pisa from stories he heard from Marco Polo when two were imprisoned in Genoa during 1298-1299. The book was published about 1300 and titled both *Book of the Marvels of the World* and *Description of the World* in French. It consists of four books: Book One describes the Middle East and Central Asia; Book Two describes China; Book Three covers coastal lands of the east; Book Four describes the return to Italy. Produced before the advent of the printing press, the book was quite popular. *The Travels of Marco Polo* were an important influence in Christopher Columbus' quest to seek a western route to Asia by sea.

Catalog: DB-1143
UPC: 0683422134524
MSLP: \$13.99



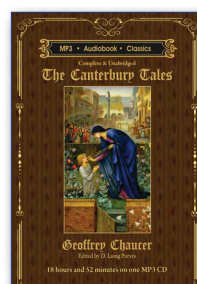
The Decameron

Author: Giovanni Boccaccio (1313–1375)
Read by: Multiple readers
Format: 2 MP3 CDs in DVD case
Length: 32 hours 41 minutes
Genre: Poetry, Fiction, Short Stories

The Decameron, subtitled Prince Galehaut, is a collection of novellas by the 14th-century Italian author Giovanni Boccaccio (1313–1375). The book is structured as a frame story containing 100 tales told by a group of seven young women and three young men sheltering in a secluded villa just outside Florence to escape the Black Death, which was afflicting the city. Boccaccio probably conceived *The Decameron* after

Catalog: DB-1053
UPC: 0683422134159
MSLP: \$14.99

the epidemic of 1348, and completed it by 1353. The various tales of love in *The Decameron* range from the erotic to the tragic. Tales of wit, practical jokes, and life lessons contribute to the mosaic. In addition to its literary value and widespread influence (for example on Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*), it provides a document of life at the time. Written in the vernacular (the language of Florence), it is considered the masterpiece of classical early Italian prose. (Wikipedia)



The Canterbury Tales

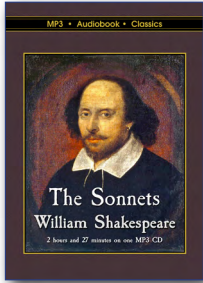
Author: Geoffrey Chaucer (c. 1343 – 1400)
Read by: Multiple readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 18 hours and 52 minutes
Genre: Poetry

The Canterbury Tales by Geoffrey Chaucer is a collection of stories told by a group of pilgrims who compete in a story-telling contest for a prize of a free dinner as they journey from Southwark to the shrine of Saint Thomas a Becket in Canterbury. The tales, which are told in both prose and poetry, are earthy, candid, comic and ironic, and often cast English society and the Anglican Church in a critical light. The structure of the work resembles *The Decameron* of Boccaccio,

Catalog: DB-1174
UPC: 0683422135132
MSLP: \$13.99

which Chaucer, a courtier and diplomat as well as an author, *The Canterbury Tales* appeared at the end of the 14th Century and is considered the first important literary work written in Middle English, the language of the people, and became the base for the use of English in those great works that might otherwise have been written in Latin for the ever-dwindling audience who spoke, wrote and read that dying language. Chaucer produced a long list of notable works, but *The Canterbury Tales* stand as his magnum opus that sealed his reputation as England's first great poet.

Renaissance Classics



The Sonnets of William Shakespeare

Author: William Shakespeare
 Read by: Elizabeth Klett
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 2 hours and 27 minutes
 Genre: Poetry

"Shall I compare thee to a summer's day? / Thou art more lovely and more temperate..." These lines from Shakespeare's Sonnet 18 and many others that are quoted to this day come from *The Sonnets*, a collection of 154 poems written for a private readership and published in 1609. The poems are about affairs of the heart and fall into two groups – lust for a dark complexioned married woman (the "dark lady") and a conflicted love for a young man (the "fair youth"). It is unclear if the subjects were real people or if the voice of the author is that of Shakespeare himself. The mystery is compounded by the dedication of the 1609 edition to a "Mr WH", whose identity is unknown. Whatever the particulars, it is universally agreed that *The Sonnets* are a "profound meditation on the nature of love, sexual passion, procreation, death, and time." William Wordsworth commented that "Shakespeare unlocked his heart" in the sonnets.

Catalog: DB-1128
 UPC: 0683422134456
 MSLP: \$9.99

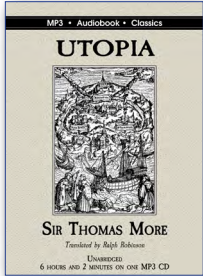


Don Quixote, Books 1 & 2

Author: Miguel Cervantes (1547 - 1615)
 Read by: Expatriate
 Length: 38 hours and 24 minutes
 Format: 2 MP3 CDs in DVD case
 Genre: Action & Adventure Fiction, General Fiction

Catalog: DB-10xx
 UPC: 068
 MSLP: \$14.99

Don Quixote, fully titled *The Ingenious Gentleman Don Quixote of La Mancha*, follows the adventures of Alonso Quixano, an hidalgo who reads so many chivalric novels that he decides to set out to revive chivalry, under the name Don Quixote. He recruits a simple farmer, Sancho Panza, as his squire, who often employs a unique, earthly wit in dealing with Don Quixote's orations on antiquated knighthood. He is met by the world as it is, initiating such themes as realism and literary representation. Published in two volumes, in 1605 and 1615, *Don Quixote* is considered the most influential work of literature in the entire Spanish literary canon. As a founding work of modern Western literature, it regularly appears high on lists of the greatest works of fiction ever published. In a 2002 list, *Don Quixote* was cited as the "best literary work ever written". It is also thought to be the best-selling book of all time, with estimated sales of 500 million copies since its first appearance.

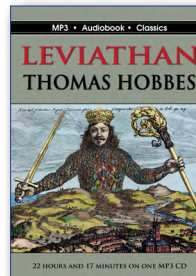


Utopia

Author: Sir Thomas More (1478 - 1535)
 Translated by: Ralph Robinson (1520 - 1577)
 Read by: Ruth Golding
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 6 hours 2 minutes
 Genre: Political Philosophy, Satire

Catalog: DB-1158
 UPC: 0683422134739
 MSLP: \$11.99

Sir Thomas More invented the word "utopia" by blending the Greek words meaning "no place" as a title for his fictional work of political philosophy. The mythical island of Utopia is located in the New World. Raphael, a voyager, describes the customs he observed during a five year journey to Utopia, a mythical island in the New World with representative government and no private property. Dwellings are rotated. Meals are communal. Everyone wears the same clothes. Men and women are equals. Everyone works six hours a day. Each household has two slaves. There are no lawyers. Health care is free. Multiple religions are tolerated. Priests can marry, couples may divorce, but premarital sex is punished by lifelong celibacy and adulterers are enslaved. Written in Latin and published in 1516 in Belgium, the book was not published in England until 1551, sixteen years after More's death. Many of the concepts stand in direct opposition to More's beliefs as a devout Catholic. Most see it as a satirical commentary on the evils of European society and influence on later works such as Francis Bacon's *New Atlantis* and *Candide* by Voltaire.

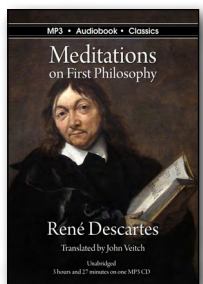


Leviathan

Author: Thomas Hobbes (1588 - 1679)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 22 hours and 27 minutes
 Genre: Political Philosophy

Catalog: DB-1202
 UPC: 0701236969207
 MSLP: \$14.99

Thomas Hobbes' *Leviathan* is a classic work of statecraft and political philosophy on the order of *The Prince*. The book is divided into four parts. Part 1, *Of Man*, is a description of human nature, material and psychological, in which the state of nature is a war of all against all. Part 2, *Of Common-wealth*, articulates the social contract that gives rise to an effective government and social order. Part 3, *Of a Christian Common-wealth*, delves into the problem of the relationship of church and state. Part 4, *Of the Kingdom of Darkness*, describes four causes of the "darkness of ignorance" that suppress the light of true knowledge. While Hobbes advocates for an absolute monarchy on rational grounds, he also introduces aspects of the social contract now fundamental to liberal political philosophy: the artificial nature of any political form, the right of the individual, the natural equality of all, the notion of political power as "representative" of the people and the corresponding need for the consent of those governed.

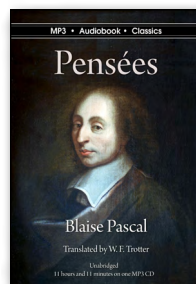


Meditations on First Philosophy

Author: René Descartes (1596 - 1650)
 Translated by John Veitch (1829 - 1894)
 Read by: D. E. Wittkower
 Length: 3 hours and 27 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Philosophy, Religion

Catalog: DB-1187
 UPC: 0683422135071
 MSLP: \$10.99

The Meditations on First Philosophy is a detailed presentation of the metaphysical and philosophical systems of Descartes that became a fundamental document in the development of western thought and one of the most influential ever written. The book consists of six meditations in a narrative voice that suggests they had taken place in six days. In the course of the narrative he attempts to discard belief in things which are not for certain and establish what can, in fact, be known for sure. The product of two years of effort, it first appeared in Latin in 1641 and was translated into French as *Méditations Métaphysiques* in 1647. The first two meditations, which used the skeptical method of doubt to conclude that only the ego and its thoughts are unquestionably true, exerted a huge impact in the history of philosophy and are considered an indispensable first lesson in modern philosophical thinking. *The Meditations* continues to be a standard text in most university philosophy departments.



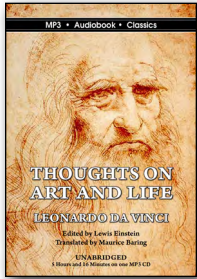
Pensées

Author: Blaise Pascal (1623 - 1662)
 Translated by W. F. Trotter
 Read by: Dexter
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 11 hours and 11 minutes
 Genre: Philosophy, Religion

Catalog: DB-1186
 UPC: 0683422135088
 MSLP: \$12.99

In 1654 Blaise Pascal had a religious experience that motivated him to turn his prodigious intelligence to the subjects of philosophy and theology. He envisioned a comprehensive work in defense of Christianity often referred to as the *Apology for the Christian Religion*. Among the groundbreaking ideas put forth is that of "Pascal's Wager", which argues that people should live as if God exists, because if God does exist, one will experience only the small loss of some pleasure while achieving the bliss of heaven and avoiding the damnation of Hell. The work was incomplete at the time of his death, and the fragments of ideas and notes were gathered together in a collection and published in 1670 under the title *Pensées*, or "thoughts". The work has become a classic work of theology and philosophy that many regard as the finest work of prose in the French language.

Renaissance Classics

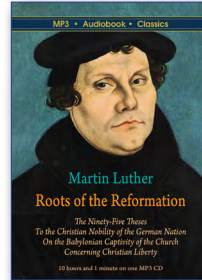


Thoughts on Art and Life

Author: Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519) Translated by Maurice Baring. Edited by Lewis Einstein.
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 5 hours and 16 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Non-Fiction, Philosophy, Art, Design, Memoir

Catalog: DB-1239
 UPC: 0701236969580
 MSLP: \$9.99

At the age of 55 Leonard da Vinci set out to organize his ideas from a review of the thousands of pages of notebooks he had produced over an intensely productive lifetime. He begins with "Begun at Florence in the house of Piero di Braccio Martelli, on the 22nd day of March, 1508; and this is to be a collection without order, taken from many papers which I have copied here, hoping to arrange them later, each in its place, according to the various subjects treated." The result is *Thoughts on Life and Art*, a collection of thoughts made in simple statements, some as short as one sentence, many a single paragraph, seldom more. Many take on the character of an epigram, an axiom, perhaps a revelation. Others show a keen mind quickly paring a subject down to its essence. Each idea seems described as it occurred to Leonardo in the instant of its conception. There 333 entries in all, organized into three groups: 129 Thoughts on Life, 93 Thoughts on Art, and 111 Thoughts on Science. The book was assembled by editor Lewis Einstein and contains a Table of References that lists the nineteen source documents with a listing by page and thought for each section showing the source document. It was initially published by the Merrymount Press in Boston in 1906 in a run of 303 copies. It is a remarkable digest of the workings of one of the greatest minds ever to grace the planet.

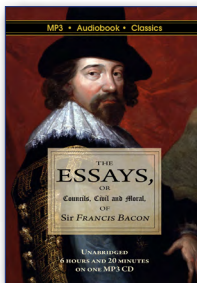


Martin Luther: Roots of the Reformation

Author: Martin Luther (1483 - 1546)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 10 hours and 1 minute
 Genre: Non-Fiction, Religion

Catalog: DB-1240
 UPC: 0701236969603
 MSLP: \$9.99

This book collects four key works by Martin Luther that sparked the Reformation and articulated the theological underpinnings of Protestantism. *The Ninety-five Theses* is a list of propositions intended for academic debate posted on the door of the All Saints' Church in Wittenberg in 1517 that created the division in the Catholic Church that became the Reformation. It objected to the practice of the church selling indulgences, with which buyers could reduce the punishment in purgatory for sins. *To the Christian Nobility of the German Nation* is the first of three works written in 1520. He sets forth the radical doctrine that all baptized Christians are "priests" and "spiritual" in the eyes of God, as opposed to the traditional division of the Church into "spiritual" officers of and "secular" followers. He also articulates the doctrine of two kingdoms of God, the secular, physical world of things and action, and the world of the spirit, gospel and grace. Both were radical breaks that directly challenged church doctrine. *On the Babylonian Captivity of the Church*, the second 1520 work, examines the seven sacraments of the Church. Angry and harsh in tone, Luther criticizes the Pope and limits the true "divinely instituted" sacraments to Baptism, Eucharist, and Penance, excluding Confirmation, Matrimony, Holy Orders and Extreme Unction. *On Christian Liberty*, the third 1520 work, justifies the notion of salvation by faith alone and the seeming paradox of Christians as fully forgiven children of God who nevertheless willingly serve God and their neighbors, encapsulated by his famous statement. "A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none. A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all."

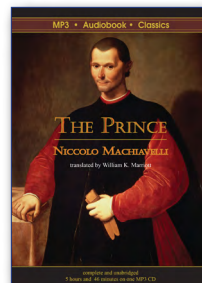


The Essays of Francis Bacon

Author: Francis Bacon (1561 - 1626)
 Read by: Carl Vonnoh, III
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 6 hours 20 minutes
 Genre: Non-Fiction, Essays, Philosophy

Catalog: DB-1112
 UPC: 0684758936660
 MSLP: \$11.99

Francis Bacon thought of his *Essays* as "recreation of my other studies" in politics, law, natural philosophy, and science. First published in 1597 as *Essays: Religious Meditations. Places of Perswasion and Disswasion. Scene and Allowed*, the collection was expanded to 38 essays in 1612 and again in 1625 to 58 essays under the title *Essays or Counsels, Civill and Morall*. *The Essays* have no logical sequence or theme (ironic for the man who brought method and organization to science) and find their topics in diverse areas, public and private. Bacon had a gift for making catchy phrases, and many expressions still in use are found first in *The Essays*. The Oxford Dictionary of Quotations contains 91 quotations from *The Essays*. Although the treatments vary in style from the unadorned to the epigrammatic, he invariably covers the topic at hand from all angles in a systematic and considered fashion. They were well received and so well done that some have thought of Bacon as the originator of the essay form; they clearly stand with the work of Aristotle and Montaigne and have stood the test of time.

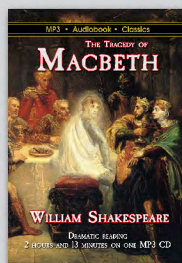
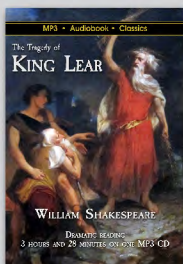
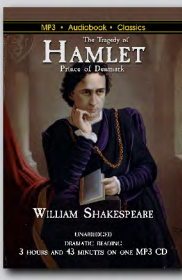


The Prince

Author: Niccolo Machiavelli (1469 - 1527)
 Read by: Paul Adams
 Length: 5 hours 47 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Political Science

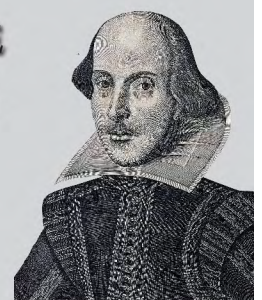
Catalog: DB-1035
 UPC: 0684758936189
 MSLP: \$11.99

Niccolo Machiavelli broke the mold when he wrote *The Prince*, an ostensibly traditional work in the style of books written for princes. Written in the Italian vernacular for all to read, it speaks truth to power about power: the truth about how "things really work" in the sphere of power, politics, leadership and governance. Most advances in man's progress occur when the thinkers of their time look at the world as it is and not as they might want it to be. It's the difference between the declarative and the subjunctive modes – the difference between "this is this" and "the would, could, shoulds" of a fantasyland. Princes obtain and retain power over their subjects using tactics with little or no consideration for ethics or the strictures of the then dominant faith. And those who argue to the contrary will be the ones without power. In saying so *The Prince* was and remains groundbreaking and subversive. And required reading for anyone active or interested in public life.

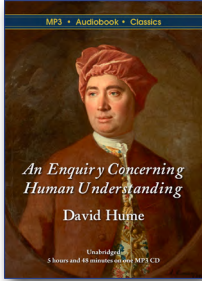


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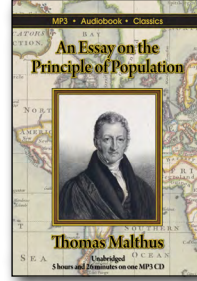
An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding

Author: David Hume
Read by: Multiple readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 5 hours and 54 minutes
Genre: Philosophy

An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding (1748) by David Hume is a shortened revision of his *A Treatise of Human Nature*. In revising he eliminated material from the *Treatise* and focused on clarifying and emphasizing its most important elements. The resulting book articulates Hume's theory of knowledge in a logical sequence of incremental steps. The first sections outline the epistemology, and the latter sections

discuss its application to specific topics. Hume holds that mental activity falls into two groups: direct impressions of experience and ideas, which are memories and. He goes on to treat the association of ideas, the nature of understanding and doubt, and the roles of habit and probability. His arguments take the reader to the edge of what he acknowledges are the limits of knowledge, and in doing so he delves into the difficult subjects of liberty and miracles. The book was highly influential upon release and is rightly regarded as a classic in modern philosophy.

Catalog: DB-1213
UPC: 0701236969313
MSLP: \$10.99

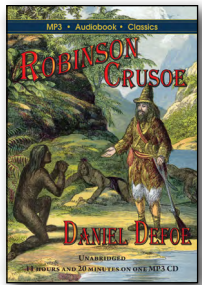


An Essay on the Principle of Population

Author: Thomas Malthus (1741 - 1803)
Read by: Multiple readers
Length: 5 hours 26 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Science, Economics

An Essay on the Principle of Population (1798) was the most influential work on the subject of population of its time. In it Malthus formulated the Iron Law of Population, which holds that an increase in the supply of labor leads inevitably to lower wages and thus to poverty, famine and disease. He held that population generally increased in times and places of plenty until demand for resources exceeded supply, and that epidemics, famines and wars that stymied growth also masked the fundamental problem. He proposed that the only solution was to limit the birth rate through moral restraint on a wide scale. The book fueled debate on the size of the British population and helped speed the passage of the Census Act of 1800, which mandated a national census to be conducted every ten years. Malthus revised the work over the course of six editions, incorporating new material and changes in his thinking. The book has been cited as an important influence in the development of the theory of natural selection by Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace.

Catalog: DB-1098
UPC: 0683422134227
MSLP: \$10.99



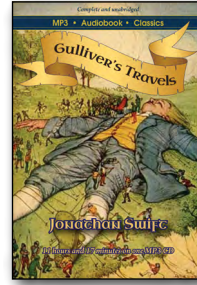
Robinson Crusoe

Author: Daniel Defoe
Read by: Mark F. Smith
Length: 11 hours 20 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Action & Adventure Fiction

Robinson Crusoe (1719) is a fictional autobiography that tells the story of an English plantation who is shipwrecked off the coast of South America and marooned on an island for 28 years. He salvages tools and supplies sufficient to build a dwelling, reads the Bible, encounters native cannibals and manages to free and adopt one of the captives as a companion, dubbed Friday. He and Friday eventually defeat the natives, and Crusoe returns to England by way of Portugal and Spain. *Robinson Crusoe* was the first novel to

appear in English and was based in part on a memoir by a Scottish seaman who had been similarly marooned. Defoe used the plot as a framework and added fantastic and humorous events that give the story much of its appeal. Told in a straightforward style laced with wit and irony, it dug deep into the mind of the character, highly original at the time. The book became an instant hit, going through four editions in the first year, and has remained a bestseller ever since.

Catalog: DB-1018
UPC: 0684758936011
MSLP: \$12.99

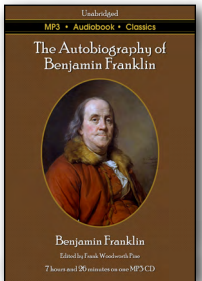


Gulliver's Travels

Author: Jonathan Swift
Read by: Lizzie Driver
Length: 11 hours 17 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Action & Adventure Fiction, Satire

George Orwell called *Gulliver's Travels* one of the six essential works in all literature. A parody of the traveler's tale genre popular at the time exemplified by *Robinson Crusoe*, the book recounts four voyages in which the naive Gulliver is taken by accidents to strange and foreign lands. He first finds himself a giant among tiny people, then a tiny person among giants. He is rescued by a flying island of feckless rationalists pursuing absurd projects, then classed with hideous humanoid Yahoos by the noble equine race of idealists the Houyhnhnms. Cast out by fate again and again, the once adventurous and optimistic Gulliver returns to England a misanthropic recluse, choosing to spend his time at the stables instead of society. A biting satire on human nature, *Gulliver's Travels* was an instant hit when it appeared. It was published anonymously and changes were made to avoid censure by the government. The publisher used five printers to keep up with demand, which sold out in its first week.

Catalog: DB-1039
UPC: 0684758936035
MSLP: \$11.99

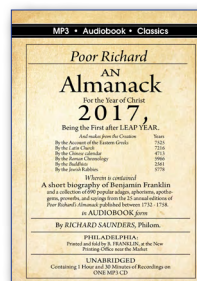


Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin

Author: Benjamin Franklin
Read by: Gary Gilberd
Length: 7 hours and 25 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Biography, Autobiography

In the words of biographer Walter Isaacson, Franklin was "the most accomplished American of his age and the most influential in inventing the type of society America would become." *The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin* is Franklin's own record of his life, written between 1771 and 1790 and incomplete and unpublished at the time of his death. It languished until his grandson William Temple Franklin published the first three parts in London in 1818. Franklin's legacy of "firsts" continues to our time: *The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin* was the first full-length recorded book in history, recorded by actor Michael Rye and released in 1969.

Catalog: DB-1071
UPC: 0684758936516
MSLP: \$11.99



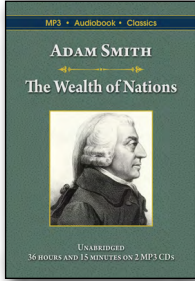
Poor Richard's Almanack

Author: Benjamin Franklin
Read by: Michelle Fry
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 1 hour and 30 minutes
Genre: Humor, Philosophy

Poor Richard's Almanack was a yearly almanac published by Benjamin Franklin using the pseudonym Richard Saunders, the "Poor Richard" of the title. Almanacs offered an amalgam of weather forecasts, sunrises, sunsets, phases of the moon, and tides along with household tips, puzzles and other amusements. Both useful and entertaining, they were immensely popular, and none more so than Franklin's, which sold quite well, as many as 10,000 copies per year, and made him a wealthy man. Published for 25 years between 1732 and 1758, the pamphlet was known for its wordplay and extensive sprinkling of witty and wise sayings throughout, many of which have found their way into the American vernacular. Some 690 of these aphorisms and sayings are collected here.

Catalog: DB-1211
UPC: 0701236969290
MSLP: \$9.99

Enlightenment Classics

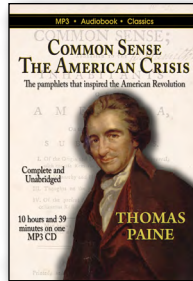


The Wealth of Nations

Author: Adam Smith (1723 - 1790)
 Read by: Stephen Escalera
 Format: 2 MP3 CDs in DVD case
 Length: 36 hours and 15 minutes
 Genre: Economics, Political Philosophy

The Wealth of Nations is a profound work that helped lay the intellectual foundations of the modern world. Over a period of seventeen years Adam Smith assembled notes and observations of discussions among economists and spent ten years writing a treatise that offered a practical reformed economic theory to meet the challenges of the emerging Industrial Revolution and replace increasingly obsolete mercantilist and physiocratic economic theories. The notion that individuals guided by their enlightened self-interest will achieve an economic outcome that benefits the public at large is a sacred tenet of neoclassical economics, as is the related idea of "an invisible hand" that creates economic equilibrium and prosperity when markets are allowed to operate freely. The book was an instant success when it was published in 1776 and went through five editions in Smith's lifetime. The ideas and policies articulated by Smith have influenced countless economists and authors as well as governments and organizations over the ages. It continues to be a fundamental work in classical economics to this day.

Catalog: DB-1011
 UPC: 0683422134975
 MSLP: \$19.99

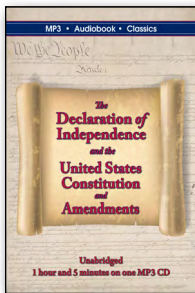


Common Sense and the American Crisis

Author: Thomas Paine
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 10 hours and 35 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: History, Political Philosophy

This volume contains the pamphlets by Thomas Paine that inspired the American Revolution. *Common Sense* argued for seeking independence from Britain when the matter was the issue of the day. Reasoned and written in a clear, simple style, Paine structured *Common Sense* as a sermon to make his case, drawing together the drive for independence with prevailing dissenting Protestant tenets to forge a uniquely American political identity. Published January 10, 1776, it became an instant sensation. The first of sixteen *The American Crisis* pamphlets published during the American Revolution begins with "These are the times that try men's souls..." Signed "Common Sense," Paine's writings clarified the issues, improved morale, appealed to the good sense of the English and argued against a negotiated peace. George Washington had it read aloud to the Continental Army before the Battle of Trenton to bolster morale.

Catalog: DB-1037
 UPC: 852679827439
 MSLP: \$12.99



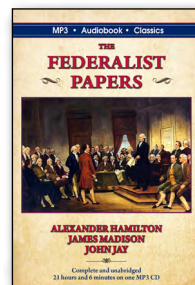
The Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution and Amendments

Author: Thomas Jefferson, The Constitutional Convention
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 1 hour and 40 minutes
 Genre: Political Philosophy, History

The Declaration of Independence is a list of grievances against King George II and the assertion of natural and legal rights designed to explain why the Congress had voted to declare independence. Thomas Jefferson composed the declaration under the editorial supervision of John Adams and Benjamin Franklin. *The United States Constitution* articulates the structure and powers of the federal government and serves as the supreme law of the land.

Catalog: DB-1191
 UPC: 0683422135118
 MSLP: \$9.99

It originally consisted of seven articles. The document was created by the Philadelphia Convention of 1787, ratified in 1788 and put into force in 1789. The original language of the articles and all amendments remain intact and can only be modified by a succeeding amendment. This practice was put into force with the first series of ten amendments ratified in 1791 that are known as the *Bill of Rights*, an articulation of rights not defined in the seven articles of the constitution. There are twenty-seven amendments in all.



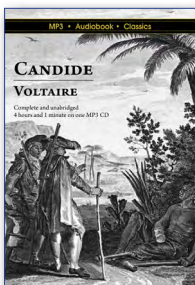
The Federalist Papers

Author: Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, & John Jay
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 21 hours and 6 minutes
 Genre: Political Philosophy, Essays, History

The Federalist Papers is a series of 85 articles arguing in favor of ratification of the United States Constitution by the thirteen original colonies. During the Constitutional Convention that met in 1787 to revise the Articles of Confederation, James Madison and Alexander Hamilton advocated instead for the creation of a new government. The delegates agreed on the principles contained in Madison's Virginia Plan and produced the Constitution, which was submitted to the states in September 1787.

Catalog: DB-1190
 UPC: 0683422134937
 MSLP: \$14.99

The Federalist papers were written in response to criticism of the Constitution. The articles were first published between October 1787 and August 1788 in newspapers and then published in 1788. Hamilton is the author of 51 articles, Madison the author of 26, and John Jay, who fell ill, authored 5. In the words of historian Richard B. Morris, they are an "incomparable exposition of the Constitution, a classic in political science unsurpassed in both breadth and depth by the product of any later American writer."

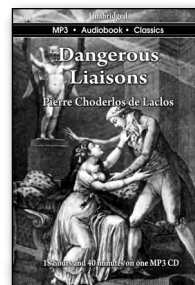


Candide

Author: Voltaire (1694 - 1778)
 Read by: Paul Adams
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 3 hours 44 minutes
 Genre: Fantasy Fiction, Satire

Is this the best of all possible worlds? Voltaire's *Candide* doesn't ask the question so much as he's force fed the answer. Raised in a sheltered environment with the words of Leibnizian positivism dropped into his by his tutor, Dr. Pangloss, Candide accepts that all is for the best. Armed with this sunny belief he leaves the comfort of home for the big bad world only to duck and cover as the big bad world hits back. He learns one thing for sure: if this is the best of all possible worlds, then the Creator is an under-achiever. Subjected to trial after trial, witnessing the many injustices that are the fact and fabric of the world of experience, Candide learns that one must tend one's garden. Written in the mid-18th Century in the Age of Enlightenment this brilliant satire delivers an eloquent argument in a matter-of-fact voice bathed in the humor that stings with the barb of truth.

Catalog: DB-1052
 UPC: 0684758936172
 MSLP: \$10.99



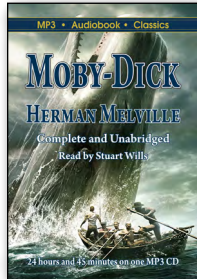
Dangerous Liaisons

Author: Pierre Choderlos de Laclos (1741 - 1803)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 18 hours 40 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: General Fiction

Dangerous Liaisons (1782) is an epistolary novel consisting of four volumes of letters written by and to the various characters. It was viewed as scandalous when it was first published for its frank and pitiless exploration of seduction, revenge and malice; some consider it a depiction of the perversions of the decadent French aristocracy just prior to the French Revolution. The story centers on the rivalry of two aristocrats, Marquise de Merteuil and Vicomte de Valmont, who use seduction to manipulate and humiliate others. Merteuil seeks to corrupt the virtuous young Cecile de Volanges, while Valmont has his sights on seducing the married Mme de Tourvel. Spite and revenge drive each to pursue the object of the other's desire, the rivalry escalates to war, and the two duel to settle the score. One dies, and damage, guilt and suffering inhabits the lives of the survivors.

Catalog: DB-1142
 UPC: 0683422134418
 MSLP: \$13.99

Action & Adventure Fiction



Moby-Dick, or, The Whale

Author: Herman Melville
 Read by: Stewart Willis
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 24 hours and 45 minutes
 Genre: Action & Adventure Fiction

Moby-Dick is an epic sea adventure told by Ishmael, the sole survivor of the Pequod, a sunken whaling ship driven to ruin by its captain's monomaniacal obsession to hunt and destroy a white sperm whale, Moby Dick. Ahab is driven to seek revenge on the ferocious whale that destroyed his ship and severed his leg on a previous voyage. The opening line, "Call me Ishmael" is among the most famous in all literature. The narrative was radical at the time for its use of a variety of styles, topics and techniques that prefigured Modernism with its enormous scope and kaleidoscope of forms. Topics range from the techniques of whaling to life aboard ship to explorations of class and status, good and evil, and the nature of God. It is now regarded as a seminal work on the American themes of religion, fate, and economic growth and opportunity as well as a radical experiment.

Catalog: DB-1001
 UPC: 0684758935816
 MSLP: \$14.99

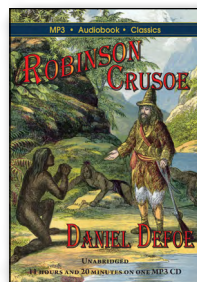


Treasure Island

Author: Robert Louis Stevenson (1850 - 1894)
 Read by: Adrian Praetzelis
 Length: 7 hours 33 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Action & Adventure Fiction

Treasure Island (1883) is the original adventure story about pirates and buried treasure. It was originally serialized under the pseudonym Captain George North before publication in book form. The story is set in the mid-18th century and narrated by young Jim Hawkins, the young son of the owners of the Admiral Benbow Inn in a seaside village in southwest England. It opens with the arrival of a drunken seaman by the name of Bones, the former first mate of a notorious pirate Captain Flint sought by fellow pirates for information about buried treasure. The pirates arrive and confront Bones, who drops dead. The pirates are routed by customs men. Jim enlists comrades to hire a ship and crew and set out to discover the treasure themselves. The story unfolds with unsavory characters and lively plot twists, with no small amount of treachery and betrayal along the way, before culminating with the return of Jim and company to England.

Catalog: DB-1047
 UPC: 0684758936158
 MSLP: \$10.99

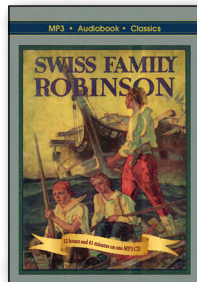


Robinson Crusoe

Author: Daniel Defoe
 Read by: Mark F. Smith
 Length: 11 hours 20 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Action & Adventure Fiction

Robinson Crusoe (1719) is a fictional autobiography that tells the story of an English plantation who is shipwrecked off the coast of South America and marooned on an island for 28 years. He salvages tools and supplies sufficient to build a dwelling, reads the Bible, encounters native cannibals and manages to free and adopt one of the captives as a companion, dubbed Friday. He and Friday eventually defeat the natives, and Crusoe returns to England by way of Portugal and Spain. *Robinson Crusoe* was the first novel to appear in English and was based in part on a memoir by a Scottish seaman who had been similarly marooned. Defoe used the plot as a framework and added fantastic and humorous events that give the story much of its appeal. Told in a straightforward style laced with wit and irony, it dug deep into the mind of the character, highly original at the time. The book became an instant hit, going through four editions in the first year, and has remained a bestseller ever since.

Catalog: DB-1018
 UPC: 0684758936011
 MSLP: \$12.99

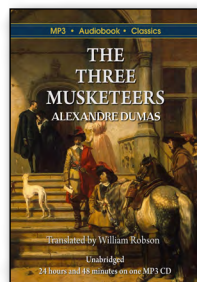


The Swiss Family Robinson

Author: Johann David Wyss (1743 - 1818)
 Read by: Mark F. Smith
 Length: 12 hours and 41 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Action & Adventure Fiction

The Swiss Family Robinson is a story about a Swiss family shipwrecked in the East Indies en route to Australia. Modeled on Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe*, the name identifies the book as part of the adventure genre spawned by Defoe's classic. The adventures teach Christian-oriented moral lessons in self-reliance, the natural world and the values of frugality, cooperation, husbandry and civilization. The book is shaped in roughly three parts. The first tells of the ship running aground, the crew abandoning the family, and their actions to rescue provisions, tools, books, livestock, weapons and dogs and establish a homestead on the island. In the second section they build a tree house, discover unusual plants and animals, and build mechanical devices. In the third section they sail around the island, discover another European family hiding from pirates and set the stage for their re-entry into the outside world. The best-known English version was published in 1849, edited by William H.G. Kingston. This reading is based on that version.

Catalog: DB-1016
 UPC: 0684758936028
 MSLP: \$12.99

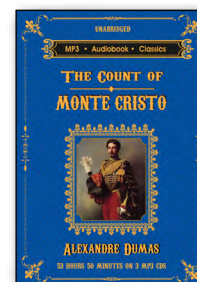


The Three Musketeers

Author: Alexandre Dumas (1802 - 1870)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 24 hours and 48 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Action & Adventure Fiction

The Three Musketeers recounts the adventures of d'Artagnan, a young nobleman from Gascony who leaves home to join the royal Musketeers of the Guard in Paris. Initially rebuffed in his application, he turns an adversarial encounter with the three musketeers of the title into an enduring alliance when the guards of the King's rival Cardinal Richelieu attempt to apprehend them for illegal dueling and he helps fend them off. He joins the company and becomes entangled in the affairs of the court and state. Set between the years 1625–1628, the relationship between King Louis XIII and the conniving Cardinal Richelieu provides much of the action and features the characters of Richelieu agent Le Comte de Rochefort and spy Milady de Winter, one of the best female villains ever created. The conflict between the Catholics and Protestants figures heavily as well. *The Three Musketeers* was published in 1844 and was followed by two sequels. It has been adapted many times for stage, film, television, comic books and games.

Catalog: DB-1180
 UPC: 0683422135019
 MSLP: \$14.99

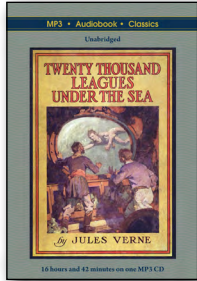


The Count of Monte Cristo

Author: Alexandre Dumas (1802 - 1870)
 Read by: David Clarke
 Format: 3 MP3 CDs in DVD case
 Length: 53 hours and 50 minutes
 Genre: Action & Adventure Fiction

Catalog: DB-3001
 UPC: 0683422134166
 MSLP: \$24.99

Alexandre Dumas's *The Count of Monte Cristo* has remained familiar to the reading public due to several film adaptations of the complex story, and to the timeless tropes that speak deeply to the human condition. A man is unjustly imprisoned and loses years of his life. On the verge of suicide, he meets a fellow inmate, a kind and elderly priest, also unjustly imprisoned. The priest teaches him many things, dies, and the young man, now fourteen years older, sews himself into the dead man's shroud and is tossed into the sea. He's rescued by smugglers, only to return to the land of living, with wealth and title, empowered to do as he will with those who'd caused him such devastating harm. The themes of vengeance and forgiveness then struggle for primacy. In the nineteenth century books, the primary source of entertainment, were purchased "by the pound," which is to say audiences appreciated longer and more complex plots. Dumas, in *The Count of Monte Cristo*, did not disappoint.



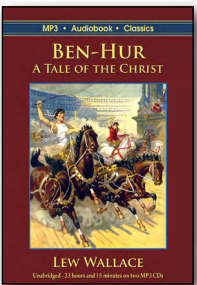
Twenty Thousand Leagues Under The Sea

Author: Jules Verne (1828 - 1905)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 16 hours and 7 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Action & Adventure Fiction

Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea (1869) chronicles a 69,000 mile voyage through the world's oceans in the submersible ship Nautilus, the sixth in a series of fifty-four written by Jules Verne between 1863 and 1905. Noted reviewer Gary Westfahl remarks that it is refreshing to read "truly scientific, prophetic science-fiction with the full accent on science", not "the weird or fantastic type which mistakenly masquerades under the name of science-fiction today." The messages of today's popular sci-fi apocalyptic scenarios spell doomsday for mankind or, at best, a dystopian nightmare. Missing in current trends of anti-science craziness, snide social commentary, and reworked mythology is the wondrous anticipation that science and its potential for bettering the human condition once held. *Twenty Thousand Leagues* points back to the traditional values of honesty, courage, virtue, honor, and hope that a scientifically empowered mankind will require to realize its noblest dreams.

Catalog: DB-1048
 UPC: 0683422134241
 MSLP: \$13.99

Catalog: DB-1048
 UPC: 0683422134241
 MSLP: \$13.99



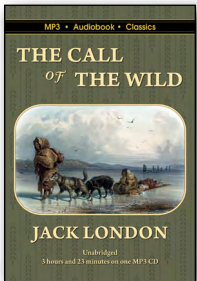
Ben-Hur: A Tale of the Christ

Author: Lew Wallace
 Read by: Mark F. Smith
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 22 hours and 27 minutes
 Genre: Historical Fiction, Religion

The Wind in the Willows began as a series of bedtime stories and has since become a classic tale of loyal friendship and madcap adventures that has delighted generations since 1908. Its four main animal characters - Toad, Rat, Mole and Badger - spend time "messaging about in boats" on the River Thames and getting in and out of various scrapes. The story centers on the impulsive obsessions of the rich, jovial, amiable but conceited and aimless Toad and the efforts of his loyal friends to rescue him from the consequences of his misadventures. Of course, each has his own surprises and challenges along the way. *The Wind in the Willows* was initially rejected by numerous publishers until President Theodore Roosevelt campaigned for its publication. He later wrote Grahame that he had "read it and reread it, and have come to accept the characters as old friends." The story has undergone numerous adaptations and appears at number 16 on the BBC's list of Britain's best-loved novels of all time.

Catalog: DB-1213
 UPC: 0701236969115
 MSLP: \$14.99

Catalog: DB-1213
 UPC: 0701236969115
 MSLP: \$14.99



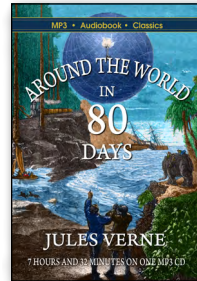
The Call of the Wild

Author: Jack London (1876 - 1916)
 Read by: Mark F. Smith
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 3 hours and 23 minutes
 Genre: Action & Adventure Fiction

The hero of *The Call of the Wild* is a large St. Bernard-Scotch Collie named Buck, who is stolen from his home in California and shipped first to Seattle, then to the Klondike region of Canada. He learns to survive the cold winter nights and the vagaries of the pack society of dogs. He suffers a series of abusive owners before being adopted by outdoorsman John Thornton. The two become inseparable, with Buck saving Thornton from drowning,

Catalog: DB-1054
 UPC: 0684758936462
 MSLP: \$10.99

winning tests of strength and courage, and eventually avenging Thornton's death. Told in the simplest manner, the tale combines a chronicle of a reversion to the primitive struggle of the survival of the fittest with a theme of love and redemption. The story is set in the Klondike during the Gold Rush of the 1890's and was enormously popular when it was released in 1903, first serialized in *The Saturday Evening Post* and then in book form a month later.



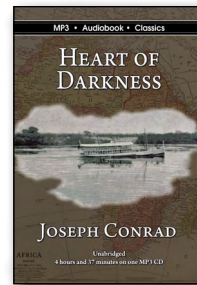
Around the World in Eighty Days

Author: Jules Verne (1828 - 1905)
 Read by: Mark F. Smith
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 7 hours 32 minutes
 Genre: Action & Adventure Fiction

Around the World in Eighty Days is a classic adventure novel that chronicles the attempt of an English gentleman and his French valet to circumnavigate the globe in 80 days in order to win a £20,000 wager. Englishman Phileas Fogg, who is rich, solitary, and a creature of habits, develops an itinerary that takes him around the world by rail and steamship through Egypt, India, Hong Kong, Japan, and across the United States, departing October 2, 1872 and returning to London 80 days later. Needless to say, things don't always go as planned. Mishaps, wrong turns, bad information, missed connections, kidnapping, hurricanes, and the International Date Line all figure in the tension to make the deadline. The book appeared in 1873, just after the opening of the Suez Canal, the linking of the Indian railway system, and the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad in America. It is very much a portrait of the British Empire just before its peak, "on which the sun never sets", and is Verne's most popular in English.

Catalog: DB-1181
 UPC: 0683422135026
 MSLP: \$10.99

Catalog: DB-1181
 UPC: 0683422135026
 MSLP: \$10.99



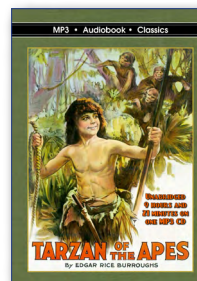
Heart of Darkness

Author: Joseph Conrad (1857 - 1924)
 Read by: Bob Neufeld
 Length: 4 hours 37 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Fiction

Heart of Darkness tells a story of a journey taken by Marlow, the narrator, up the Congo River into the heart of Africa in search of an ivory trader named Kurtz. Things are seldom as they should be. The first station he visits is a scene of brutal devastation. The steamboat he is to pilot is wrecked and takes months to repair. The company personnel are lazy and self-serving. After two months journey his vessel is attacked a few miles from their destination. Fending off the attack, he arrives and soon learns that Kurtz is worshipped by the natives, is very ill, and is probably insane. He gets Kurtz aboard against his will for the return journey, which, of course, is filled with further perils and disasters, and returns to Europe disillusioned and skeptical of humanity's attempts to achieve civilization. Conrad's insights were among the first to expose the pretenses of civilized people and question the behavior of imperialist and colonial powers. Its impact was quick and deep. Modern Library ranks *Heart of Darkness* at number 67 on its list of the 100 Best Novels of the Twentieth Century.

Catalog: DB-1156
 UPC: 0683422134715
 MSLP: \$10.99

Catalog: DB-1156
 UPC: 0683422134715
 MSLP: \$10.99



Tarzan of the Apes

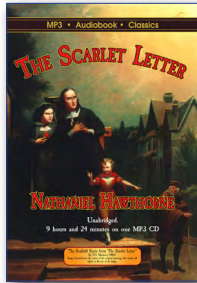
Author: Edgar Rice Burroughs
 Read by: Mark F. Smith
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 9 hours and 21 minutes
 Genre: Action & Adventure Fiction, Children's Fiction

Tarzan, **first introduced in *Tarzan of the Apes***, is probably the best known and most enduring example of the noble savage has been a stock literary character in the last 100 years. He is John Clayton, Viscount Greystroke, the young son of a British lord and lady who die while marooned on the coast of West Africa. The boy is adopted and raised by a tribe of Great Apes and reverts to a feral state of nature. Twenty years later he meets and falls in love with a young American woman, Jane Porter, who is identically marooned. The relationship awakens his human characteristics and begins his path back to civilization, which he experiences with mixed feelings. The original Tarzan combines the best of both worlds: he is athletic, attractive, emotionally intelligent, ethical, generous and gracious. The story was immensely popular when it first appeared in 1912 and spawned 25 sequels by Burroughs as well as numerous adaptations, most recently the 2016 film *The Legend of Tarzan*.

Catalog: DB-1196
 UPC: 0701236969146
 MSLP: \$11.99

Catalog: DB-1196
 UPC: 0701236969146
 MSLP: \$11.99

American Fiction Classics

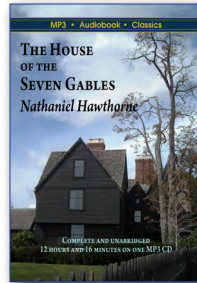


The Scarlet Letter

Author: Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804 - 1864)
 Read by: Cori Samuel
 Length: 9 hours and 24 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: General Fiction, Romance

The Scarlet Letter is considered Hawthorne's finest novel. Set in Puritan Boston, the story examines the psychological turmoil resulting from the sin of adultery committed by Hester Prynne and an unnamed lover. Hester is publicly shamed, forced to wear a scarlet letter 'A' on her dress to symbolize her adultery. The father, Reverend Dimmesdale, is consumed with guilt, reflected in his failing health. Her husband, Roger Chillingworth, insists she keep their relationship secret and seeks revenge. The pressures of secrecy, guilt, and revenge intensify until Hester forces a resolution, which leads to a dramatic conclusion. In a final irony, although her crime has been largely forgotten, she continues to wear the letter, while Dimmesdale's dying confession is largely ignored. One of the first mass-produced books in America, *The Scarlet Letter* became an instant best-seller. The depth of its treatment of universal themes assures it will remain a classic for as long as mankind struggles with sin and redemption.

Catalog: DB-1089
 UPC: 0684758936677
 MSLP: \$11.99

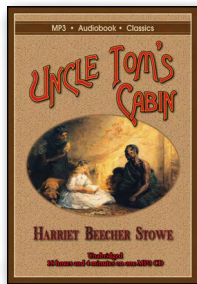


The House of the Seven Gables

Author: Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804 - 1864)
 Read by: Mark F. Smith
 Length: 12 hours and 16 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: General Fiction, Horror & Supernatural

Set in Salem, Massachusetts in the mid-19th century, *The House of the Seven Gables* traces the history of a haunted mansion belonging to the Pyncheon family built on land seized from Matthew Maule in the 1600's after Colonel Pyncheon accused and convicted Maule of witchcraft. Maule laid a curse on the family at his execution, resulting first in the untimely death of the Colonel at the housewarming festivities. Over the long years events follow a fate set by character, the evil are punished, and the righteous are rewarded and released from the curse. *The House of the Seven Gables* was the follow up to Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter* and sold out four printings in its first year. His treatment of generational guilt, retribution, and atonement has been an inspiration for many over the years.

Catalog: DB-1090
 UPC: 0684758936684
 MSLP: \$12.99

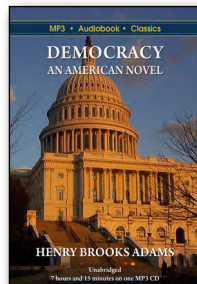


Uncle Tom's Cabin

Author: Harriet Beecher Stowe (1811 - 1894)
 Read by: John Greenman
 Length: 17 hours 55 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Fiction

"So, this is the little lady who started this great war" Abraham Lincoln reportedly said on meeting Harriet Beecher Stowe, author of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, the most popular and best-selling novel of the 19th Century. When Stowe's novel was published in 1852, the North and the South stood at loggerheads; the institution of slavery provoked extreme reactions on both sides. Uncle Tom's Cabin made an abstract concept very real for millions of readers. As readers delved into the lives of Uncle Tom, Eliza and Eva, the grave sin of slavery ceased to be an abstract concept. The characters, the crime, the suffering and the call to action became more than a story. In the minds of millions, slaves ceased to be property and became people, fully human, created and loved by God. Slavery became an institution to be abhorred and banned. *Uncle Tom's Cabin* might not have started the Civil War, but it certainly gave many a reason and the courage to fight.

Catalog: DB-1033
 UPC: 0683422134142
 MSLP: \$12.99

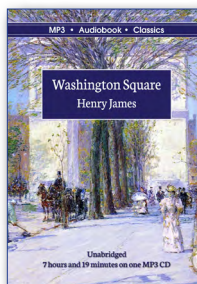


Democracy: An American Novel

Author: Henry Brooks Adams
 Read by: Maria Kaspar
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 5 hours and 28 minutes
 Genre: History, Journalism

Democracy: An American Novel is one of the first novels about political power. Published anonymously in 1880, it was only after Henry Adams' passing in 1918 that the public learned he was the author. The book centers on Madeleine Lee, a wealthy New York widow attracted to power who moves to Washington and establishes a popular salon. She is courted by two suitors, one an honorable gentleman, the other an ambitious and conniving politician who ends up in the president's cabinet. The president, a figure from the era of Grant and Hayes, is naive, incompetent and corrupt. Intrigues, machinations, and deceit abound, posing conundrums of political necessity, compromise and corruption. We hear witty conversations expounding the prevailing views on the topics of the times – suffrage, communism, Darwinism, and the destiny of the republic. The book was the source for *Democracy: An American Comedy*, an opera which premiered in 2005, is easily seen as an influence on the Empire series of political novels by Gore Vidal, and seems surprisingly contemporary in the present day.

Catalog: DB-1197
 UPC: 07012369691538
 MSLP: \$10.99

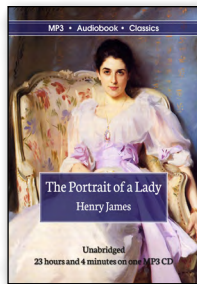


Washington Square

Author: Henry James (1844 - 1916)
 Read by: Dawn Murphy
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 7 hours and 19 minutes
 Genre: Fiction

Washington Square tells the story of the conflict of Dr. Austin Sloper, a brilliant but unemotional physician, with his good-natured but ordinary daughter Catherine over her plans to marry Morris Townsend, a suitor that Sloper fears is after her money. He threatens to disinherit her, but she persists, while Townsend senses a bluff and maintains the engagement while repeatedly deferring its fulfillment. The doctor takes Catherine on a grand European tour for a year in hopes of weakening her relationship with Townsend. The matter is discussed only twice, and when Catherine remains resolute her father displays a contempt that cuts deep and alienates Catherine for good. Upon their return Catherine informs Townsend of her father's views and he at last withdraws, leaving Catherine disillusioned and destined for spinsterhood. The story is based on a real life situation and was serialized before release in book form in 1880. The novel is structurally simple and comparatively short, and is compared with Jane Austen in its clear, graceful style and focus on family relationships. It remains one of the most popular titles in the James oeuvre.

Catalog: DB-1060
 UPC: 0683422134609
 MSLP: \$10.99



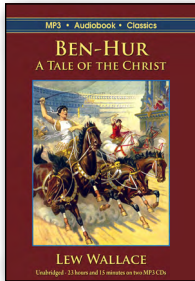
The Portrait of a Lady

Author: Henry James (1844 - 1916)
 Read by: Elizabeth Klett
 Length: 23 hours and 4 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Fiction

The heroine of Henry James' masterpiece *The Portrait of a Lady* is Isabel Archer, a young American heiress seeking her future among the upper classes of European society. She visits her maternal aunt at the family estate near London after the death of her father. Lord Warburton, a neighbor, proposes marriage, as does Caspar Goodwood, heir to a Boston fortune. When her invalid uncle dies and leaves her a small fortune, she rejects both suitors and travels the Continent. In Florence she meets and marries American expatriate and widower Gilbert Osmond, a match that proves to be disagreeable. Isabel leaves for England to comfort her dying cousin Ralph over the objections of Ormond. Goodwood again courts her, but she chooses instead to return to Italy. The reader is left to wonder whether she will suffer her tragic marriage or eventually make other plans. The book was serialized in America and England in 1880-1881 before publication as a book in 1881. It was acclaimed for its deep analysis of human consciousness and motivation, and did much to raise the awareness of the limited options available to Victorian women as they dealt with the lure of freedom and the tug of responsibility.

Catalog: DB-1061
 UPC: 0683422134593
 MSLP: \$14.99

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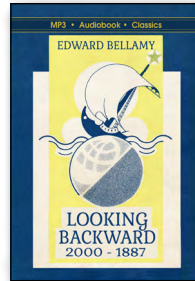


Ben-Hur: A Tale of the Christ

Author: Lew Wallace
Read by: Mark F. Smith
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 22 hours and 27 minutes
Genre: Historical Fiction, Religion

Published in 1880, *Ben-Hur: A Tale of the Christ* became the best-selling American novel of all time until surpassed by *Gone with the Wind* in 1936. Set at the time Christ, the story's eight books tell the life story of Judah Ben-Hur, a Jewish prince from Jerusalem. His story intersects with that of Jesus, who is about the same age and from the same area. As we begin Judah is falsely accused of a crime and enslaved on a Roman galley. In battle Judah saves the life of the vessel's commander, who adopts and frees him. He trains to be a soldier and becomes a charioteer. The centerpiece of the book is a chariot race between Judah and Massala, a childhood friend and rival. After his victory, Judah returns to Jerusalem and becomes a devoted follower of Christ. *Ben-Hur* has been called "the most influential Christian book of the 19th century." The 1959 film starring Charlton Heston was the most expensive film ever made at the time and one of the most successful, winning 11 Academy Awards.

Catalog: DB-1213
UPC: 0701236969115
MSLP: \$14.99

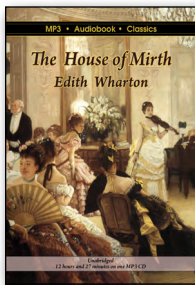


Looking Backward: 2000 - 1887

Author: Edward Bellamy
Read by: progressingamerica
Length: 10 hours and 39 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Political Science, Media Studies, Journalism

Catalog: DB-1212
UPC: 0701236969184
MSLP: \$12.99

During the upheavals of the late 1800's the notion of a better social order found expression in utopian novels. By far the most popular was *Looking Backward: 2000 - 1887*, which gained enormous popularity in 1888. Julian West, a young Bostonian, enters a deep sleep in 1887 and awakens in the year 2000 to a radically changed world. He finds a guide who explains the rationale behind such realities as collective property, equal income distribution, fewer hours for harder jobs, retirement at age 45 and free food. Certain innovations have occurred that we readily recognize: consumer cooperatives, credit cards, and a "cable telephone". Civil litigation has all but disappeared and crime is treated as a primarily medical issue. The popularity of the book spawned a movement called "nationalism" and 162 "Bellamy Clubs" organized to discuss and spread the ideas. The book was the third largest best-seller of its time, surpassed only by *Uncle Tom's Cabin* and *Ben-Hur*.

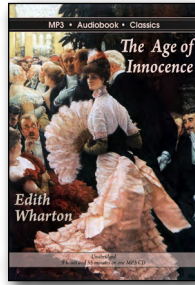


The House of Mirth

Author: Edith Wharton (1862 - 1937)
Read by: Elizabeth Klett
Length: 12 hours 27 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Fiction

The House of Mirth (1905) is a novel of manners set in the milieu of the New York upper class in the 1890's, described as a "hot-house of traditions and conventions". The title is taken from Ecclesiastes 7:4: "The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning; but the heart of fools is in the house of mirth." It is the story of an unmarried woman, Lily Bart, who faces pressure marry well to maintain her social status despite her feelings for another, less wealthy suitor. She is deceived and betrayed by seeming friends, who gossip and spread rumors that cause her to fall from grace. Written while Edith Wharton lived at The Mount, her home in Lenox, Massachusetts, *The House of Mirth* sold 140,000 copies between October and the end of December. The favorable review in the *New York Times* described it as "a novel of remarkable power". It has been adapted for the stage and film numerous times, most recently in 2000 by director Terence Davies.

Catalog: DB-1096
UPC: 0684758936745
MSLP: \$12.99

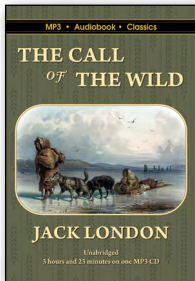


The Age of Innocence

Author: Edith Wharton (1862 - 1937)
Read by: Elizabeth Klett
Length: 9 hours 55 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Fiction

Catalog: DB-1095
UPC: 0684758936738
MSLP: \$11.99

Newton Archer is the man who has everything. Heir to one of New York's prominent families, a gentleman lawyer, popular and successful, he is engaged to the beautiful but conventional May Welland when May's cousin, the exotic and worldly Countess Ellen Olenska, arrives from Poland after separating from her husband. Newland is smitten by the countess and helplessly trapped by the conventions and judgments of his time and place. *The Age of Innocence* (1920) proceeds to entangle the three in a tale of passion pitted against the constraints of New York society in the 1870's, with outcomes that show that even those who seem to have everything don't always get what they want. *The Age of Innocence* was serialized by the Pictorial Review before publication in book form. It won the 1921 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, the first ever awarded to a woman. It ranks 59th on the Modern Library of the Top 100 Works of Fiction. The book has been adapted for stage and film five times, most recently by Martin Scorsese in 1993.



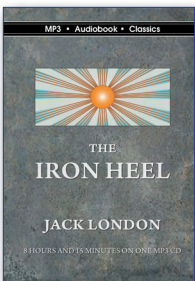
The Call of the Wild

Author: Jack London (1876 - 1916)
Read by: Mark F. Smith
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 3 hours and 23 minutes
Genre: Action & Adventure Fiction

The hero of *The Call of the Wild* is a large St. Bernard-Scotch Collie named Buck, who is stolen from his home in California and shipped first to Seattle, then to the Klondike region of Canada. He learns to survive the cold winter nights and the vagaries of the pack society of dogs. He suffers a series of abusive owners before being adopted by outdoorsman John Thornton. The two become inseparable, with Buck saving Thornton from drowning, winning tests of strength and courage,

Catalog: DB-1054
UPC: 0684758936462
MSLP: \$10.99

and eventually avenging Thornton's death. Told in the simplest manner, the tale combines a chronicle of a reversion to the primitive struggle of the survival of the fittest with a theme of love and redemption. The story is set in the Klondike during the Gold Rush of the 1890's and was enormously popular when it was released in 1903, first serialized in *The Saturday Evening Post* and then in book form a month later.



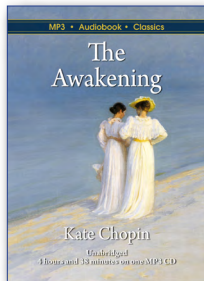
The Iron Heel

Author: Jack London
Read by:
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 8 hours and 15 minutes
Genre: Fantasy Fiction, Dystopian Fiction

Catalog: DB-1216
UPC: 0701236969351
MSLP: \$10.99

The Iron Heel (1908) is considered the first modern dystopian novel. Set in the distant future, the book is based on a fictional first person narrative of the rise of an oligarchic tyranny in the United States in the early twentieth century. The "Iron Heel" monopoly corporations have forced smaller businesses into bankruptcy and farmers and the middle class into poverty and serfdom. A privileged class of laborers in essential industries arises along with a military caste. It lasts for three centuries until overthrown by the "Revolution." The "Everhard Manuscript" was written during the First Revolt and tells of Avis Everhard's privileged childhood, her marriage to socialist revolutionary Ernest Everhard, the fall of the Iron Heel and years of underground resistance. An introduction and footnotes by scholar Anthony Meredith add depth. The *Iron Heel* was a forerunner of later soft science fiction novels and an important influence on George Orwell and *Nineteen Eighty-Four*.

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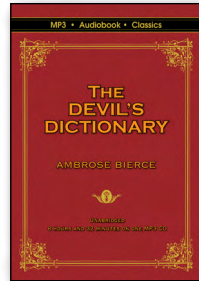


The Awakening

Author: Kate Chopin (1850 - 1904)
Read by: Elizabeth Klett
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 4 hours and 38 minutes
Genre: Fiction

One of the first American novels that focused on women's issues, *The Awakening* is now seen as a landmark feminist work. Set in New Orleans and the Gulf Coast at the end of the 19th century, it is the story of Edna Pontelier, wife of a New Orleans businessman and mother of two sons who struggles to manage her family duties with her desire to be true to her emotions, which lead her fall in love outside her marriage and live apart from her family for a time. The book met with a mixed response due to its ruthlessly honest treatment of issues usually swept under the rug. The psychological insight, social commentary and realistic narrative now mark it as an important link the development of American modernism. Critics rank the book alongside her contemporaries Edith Wharton and Henry James and among the first of the works in the Southern tradition of William Faulkner, Eudora Welty, Flannery O'Connor, and Tennessee Williams.

Catalog: DB-1151
UPC: 0683422134487
MSLP: \$10.99

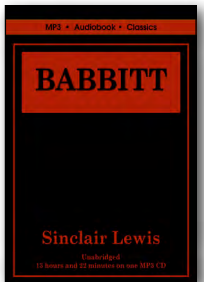


The Devil's Dictionary

Author: Ambrose Bierce (1842 - 1914)
Read by: Multiple readers
Length: 8 hours and 32 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Satire

Catalog: DB-1146
UPC: 0683422134630
MSLP: \$11.99

The Devil's Dictionary by Ambrose Bierce is a satirical dictionary that contains witty and ironic definitions of common English words. Published in 1906, it was originally titled *The Cynic's Word Book*. The book evolved over thirty years and was inspired in part by Webster's *Unabridged Dictionary*, which Bierce thought had comic opportunities. It had its origins in 1875 in an article in the *San Francisco News Letter* which contained comic definitions of 48 words. He continued the practice in *The Argonaut* in 1877-78 and then *The Wasp* during 1881-86, using "The Devil's Dictionary" as its title. The series continued sporadically during his term as editor of the *San Francisco Examiner* from 1887-1906. The initial edition published in 1906 contained 500 words (A-L). A second edition appeared as "The Devil's Dictionary" in his collected works and contained an additional 500 words (M-Z). This is the version used in these recordings.

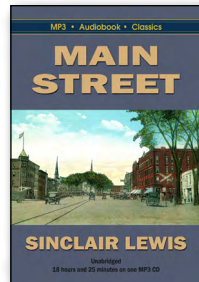


Babbitt

Author: Sinclair Lewis (1885 - 1951)
Read by: Mike Vendetti
Length: 13 hours and 22 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Fiction

The controversial 1922 bestseller *Babbitt* by Sinclair Lewis satirized the middle-class conformity and boosterism of American society. George Babbitt is a realtor in the fictional mid-sized industrial city of Zenith in the Midwestern state of Winnemac. The 1930 Nobel Prize committee described Babbitt as "the ideal of an American popular hero of the middle-class. The relativity of business morals as well as private rules of conduct is for him an accepted article of faith, and without hesitation he considers it God's purpose that man should work, increase his income, and enjoy modern improvements." The book does not have a plot; it is simply a chronological sequence of scenes that unfold over a two year period during which the solid citizen and Booster club member becomes disillusioned by unexpected events, attempts to find meaning in unconventional and rebellious behavior, but returns to the fold when he faces ostracism and his wife becomes ill. He gives in but never completely forgets the unrealized dreams.

Catalog: DB-1134
UPC: 0683422134555
MSLP: \$12.99

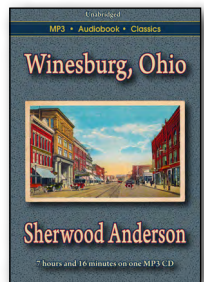


Main Street

Author: Sinclair Lewis (1885 - 1951)
Read by: Multiple readers
Length: 18 hours and 16 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Fiction

Catalog: DB-1147
UPC: 0683422134647
MSLP: \$13.99

Main Street is Sinclair Lewis' most significant work and established him as the premier satirist of small town America in the early 20th century. Spanning the First World War and the onset of Prohibition, the story centers on the frustrations of Carol Milford, a liberal free spirit from St. Paul, Minnesota, who marries Will Kennicott, a doctor from Gopher Prairie, who persuades her to settle there. Stunned by the town's conservative ways and lack of beauty, she gamely tries to bring about progressive change, only to meet with derision from the "in" crowd. She finds companionship outside her class, but these connections are gradually broken. Reaching bottom, she leaves her husband and moves to Washington, DC, but eventually returns, disappointed but undefeated. Not surprisingly, the book created a backlash when it was published. Some thought it exceptionally bleak and humorless. Today it is listed number 68 by the Modern Library on its list of the 100 best English-language novels of the 20th century.

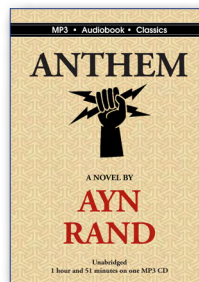


Winesburg, Ohio

Author: Sherwood Anderson (1876 - 1941)
Read by: Multiple readers
Length: 7 hours 14 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Fiction

Winesburg, Ohio, a collection of short stories, most written between 1915 and 1916, with a few others written closer to publication in 1919 is an exacting look at and dissection of life in a fictional small town in Ohio. Each story presents George Willard, a protagonist who grows in age and wisdom throughout the short story cycle. Not unlike the feelings attendant to the waves of modernism percolating in Paris and filtering back to the states, the themes invariably deal with Willard's isolation, inability to communicate, alienation from present surroundings and the need and desire to break the bonds of small town conventions, to move away, to engage the world that was then known to be vast, new and no longer inaccessible. It is accepted that Winesburg, the fictional town, is based on Anderson's hometown, Clyde, Ohio. In the book's composition Anderson became a loyal and meaningful correspondent with Gertrude Stein, who was living in Paris. Stein is credited not with forcing her style on Anderson, but with freeing him to find his authentic voice and style. Anderson is also known for his kind mentoring of the young and callow William Faulkner when both lived for a time New Orleans, a kindness that Faulkner failed to acknowledge or repay.

Catalog: DB-1046
UPC: 0684758936400
MSLP: \$10.99



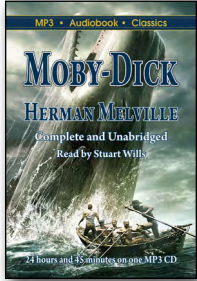
Anthem

Author: Ayn Rand (1905 - 1982)
Read by: Caden Vaughan Clegg
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 1 hour 51 minutes
Genre: Fantasy Fiction, Political Philosophy

Catalog: DB-1149
UPC: 0683422134791
MSLP: \$9.99

Anthem is set in a dystopian future Dark Age in which totalitarianism has imposed a strict order based on technology and collectivism. The main character is Equality 7-252, who is raised in a collective home and was born with a "curse" that enables him to learn quickly and ask probing questions. He discovers a tunnel in a work area containing metal tracks, a remnant from the Unmentionable Times. He finds sanctuary, and soon steals some paper and begins a journal. He meets a Peasant girl, Liberty 5-3000 and falls for her, dubbing her "The Golden One". He rediscovers electricity and presents it to the World Council of Scholars, who seek to destroy the invention. Equality escapes to the Uncharted Forest. The Golden One joins him a day later. They settle in a house in the mountains and spend their time reading books discovered in the library. They rediscover the word "I", grapple with love, rename themselves Prometheus and Gaea, and make plans for a future in which individuality is regained. Published in England in 1938, *Anthem* was re-released in 1946 after the spectacular success of *The Fountainhead* and has since sold more than 3.5 million copies.

American Fiction Classics

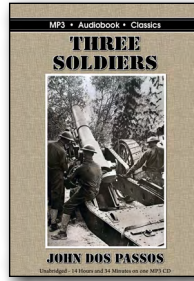


Moby-Dick, or, The Whale

Author: Herman Melville
 Read by: Stewart Wills
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 24 hours and 45 minutes
 Genre: Action & Adventure Fiction

Moby-Dick is an epic sea adventure told by Ishmael, the sole survivor of the Pequod, a sunken whaling ship driven to ruin by its captain's monomaniacal obsession to hunt and destroy a white sperm whale, Moby Dick. Ahab is driven to seek revenge on the ferocious whale that destroyed his ship and severed his leg on a previous voyage. The opening line, "Call me Ishmael" is among the most famous in all literature. The narrative was radical at the time for its use of a variety of styles, topics and techniques that prefigured Modernism with its enormous scope and kaleidoscope of forms. Topics range from the techniques of whaling to life aboard ship to explorations of class and status, good and evil, and the nature of God. It is now regarded as a seminal work on the American themes of religion, fate, and economic growth and opportunity as well as a radical experiment.

Catalog: DB-1001
 UPC: 0684758935816
 MSLP: \$14.99

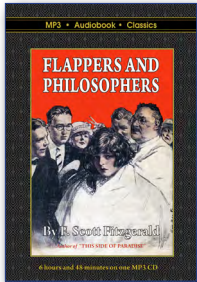


Three Soldiers

Author: John Dos Passos
 Read by: mb
 Length: 14 hours and 39 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Fiction, Historical Fiction, Fiction-War & Military

Like many young men at the time of the outbreak of the First World War, John Dos Passos was driven by idealism to serve and joined the Ambulance Corps. His experience there led to a rapid and profound disillusionment that eventually found expression in his second novel, *Three Soldiers*, which brought him some recognition when published in 1921. In this tale of three soldiers, each from different geographic regions and social milieus, Dos Passos found his satirical voice and crafted a searing denunciation of the military and its shameless exploitation of naïve young men. His soldiers endure the anxiety of long waits in sodden trenches that suddenly give way to battles that combine the timeless practice of frontal assault with the mechanized efficiency of modern weapons, airplanes, and mustard gas. H. L. Mencken wrote, "until *Three Soldiers* is forgotten and fancy achieves its inevitable victory over fact, no war story can be written in the United States without challenging comparison with it—and no story that is less meticulously true will stand up to it.

Catalog: DB-1227
 UPC: 0701236969467
 MSLP: \$12.99



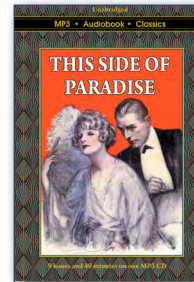
Flappers and Philosophers

Author: F. Scott Fitzgerald (1896 - 1940)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 6 hours 50 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Short Fiction

When *The Great Gatsby* failed to garner the success of his earlier novels, F. Scott Fitzgerald was thrown back on his considerable talents as a short story writer for the weekly magazines that were a staple of life in America in the 1920's. Fitzgerald said that he labored over his novels, but the short stories came whole and complete in a kind of automatic transcription with minimal revisions needed. *The Saturday Evening Post* paid mightily for Fitzgerald's output, and this income

Catalog: DB-1058
 UPC: 0684758936363
 MSLP: \$10.99

kept him and Zelda solvent during their high profile march through the Roaring 20's. *Flappers and Philosophers* was Fitzgerald's first collection of short stories, written before his first novel, *This Side of Paradise*, and they deal with many of the same themes of that bright era, complete with its darker shadows born of that generation's overt, rebellious pursuit of pleasure, and the bad seeds of greed and the hyper-consciousness of social status in a stratified post-war America.

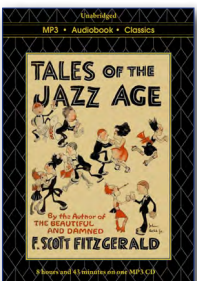


This Side of Paradise

Author: F. Scott Fitzgerald (1896 - 1940)
 Read by: Musician volunteer readers
 Length: 9 hours 46 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Fiction

This Side of Paradise, F. Scott Fitzgerald's first novel, broke the wave of youthful energy pent-up and ready to explode in the United States after the First World War. In the 1920's America was victorious, wealthy, confident and young, and *This Side of Paradise* focuses its considerable energy and style on the victorious, the wealthy, the confident and the young. The story explores the life of Amory Blaine, Princeton University student, a literary young man in love with beauty and the women with family money and last names who descend to conquer those handsome, talented young men who aspire to lives in the reaches of America's invisible though very real class system. The tragedy inherent in Amory Blaine's quest is the illusion of ascent. His initially innocent and well-intentioned efforts at love are damaged by the underside of his worldly ambitions: greed and the acquisition of social superiority.

Catalog: DB-1056
 UPC: 0684758936387
 MSLP: \$11.99



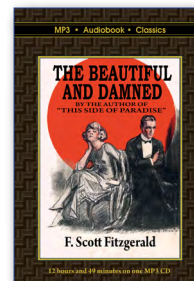
Tales of the Jazz Age

Author: F. Scott Fitzgerald (1896 - 1940)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 8 hours 41 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Short Fiction

In 1922 the publication of *Tales of the Jazz Age* confirmed that F. Scott Fitzgerald was the most popular author in the United States. Fitzgerald's publisher capitalized on the demand for the author's work by publishing the collection of eleven stories written during Fitzgerald's undergraduate days at Princeton. The difference between *Tales of the Jazz Age* and other examples of "rush-to-print" product by artists of lesser stature is that F. Scott Fitzgerald

Catalog: DB-1059
 UPC: 0684758936370
 MSLP: \$10.99

was and remains one of America's greatest writers and the eleven stories that comprise *Tales of the Jazz Age* evidence that fact. Sometimes writers compare writing with breathing: the quick exhalation is a poem; the deep breath is a short story, and breathing in the steady rhythm of life is akin to a novel. In his twenties, Fitzgerald breathed deeply, and these short stories exhibit his genius.



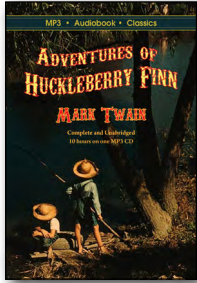
The Beautiful and Damned

Author: F. Scott Fitzgerald (1896 - 1940)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 12 hours 51 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Fiction

The Beautiful and Damned, F. Scott Fitzgerald's second novel, is a great work and important step in the development of his genius, fully realized three years later in *The Great Gatsby*. Where his first novel was a look at how a young swell might make his mark in the world, here Anthony Patch, heir to a fortune, has all but arrived, waiting for his considerable inheritance. He courts Gloria, whose sole purpose in life is to look beautiful and marry well. The book asks: what does one do when doesn't have to do anything? The answer is a sad descent into those activities that too often darken America's upper class, where food, clothing, shelter and society's acceptance are a given, while the characters go begging for something as banal as purpose and meaning. The result for Anthony and his wife is a slide down the gradient of glitter to the gray regions of alcoholism, ennui and tragedy.

Catalog: DB-1057
 UPC: 0684758936356
 MSLP: \$12.99

American Fiction Classics - Mark Twain

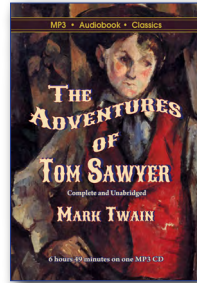


Adventures of Huckleberry Finn

Author: Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)
Read by: John Greenman
Length: 10 hours
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Fiction

Huckleberry Finn captures a time when most Americans lived on farms and worked the land. We were on it, immersed in it, tied to it, and when we traversed it we did so on foot, on horseback, by carriage, and by way of great rivers. Nature gave us our sense of place and identity. This was nowhere more true than in the lives of young'uns like Huck Finn, a motherless boy with a violent drunkard for a father. Huck's a boy of the earth and its rivers. He's a survivor and nature sustains him. He thumbs his nose at respectability the way nature thumbs its nose at the affectations of city life. Considered by many to be the great American novel, *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, which Twain described as a "hymn to boyhood", is one of the rarest of literary accomplishments. It's a masterpiece wrapped in the folds of a good yarn, a story that's captivated young and old alike for over a hundred years.

Catalog: DB-1027
UPC: 0684758936257
MSLP: \$11.99

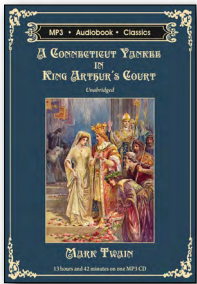


The Adventures of Tom Sawyer

Author: Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)
Read by: John Greenman
Length: 6 hours 49 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Fiction

Catalog: DB-1028
UPC: 0684758936264
MSLP: \$10.99

Tom Sawyer is an All-American Boy living in a time when America is still young and unencumbered by the complexities of modern life. He's in sync with the country about him, as the country about him is in sync with itself. The result is a portrayal of those halcyon days when we ran fast and wild and free toward a wide, infinite horizon. Tom's adventures make up a wonderful novel, a classic, in love with youth and its courage, curiosity, wisdom, humor, foibles, energy and optimism. When was the last time anyone convinced anyone to white-wash a fence and then pay for the privilege? It's the kind of "clever" people admire even as they shake their heads with the set-up and the fall-out. Tom Sawyer, an embodiment of Whitman's vision, an American boy, given to hooky, adventure and those first tugs on the heartstrings, reminds us that everyone lives several lives when they're young, when everything is possible.

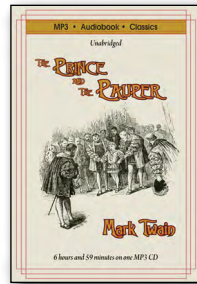


A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court

Author: Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)
Read by: John Greenman
Length: 13 hours 42 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Fiction

A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court (1889) is a comic satire that chronicles the adventures of Hank Morgan, an engineer living in 19th century Hartford, who gets knocked out and wakes up in medieval England during the time of King Arthur. Condemned to be burned at the stake, he threatens to blot out the sun and does so. He industrializes the country and educates the peasantry behind the backs of the ruling class, who he outwits to become the effective leader of Camelot. The Catholic Church incites a revolt and sends 30,000 knights into battle. He and a small cadre defend against the attack, hunkering down in Merlin's cave with electric wire, mines, and Gatling guns. The knights are all killed, but, alas, Hank and his rangers are trapped in the cave by a mountain of carnage and succumb to disease. With plots and gags worthy of Mel Brooks or the Marx Brothers, Twain deflates the romantic notions of chivalry and pretensions of caste that he saw in the character of the Old South that, in turn, helped foster the tragedy of the Civil War.

Catalog: DB-1026
UPC: 0684758936271
MSLP: \$12.99

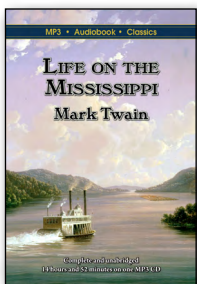


The Prince and the Pauper

Author: Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)
Read by: John Greenman
Length: 6 hours 59 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Fiction

Catalog: DB-1029
UPC: 0684758936301
MSLP: \$10.99

The Prince and the Pauper (1881) was Mark Twain's first attempt at historical fiction and a success with the public and critics alike. Two boys from very different backgrounds exchange places because of their identical physical resemblance and experience the kind of lives they never would have known otherwise. Tom Canty is a pauper and Prince Edward is the only son of Henry VIII and heir to the throne of England. The story takes place in 1547 London when the Tudors ruled and excesses at court and within the judicial system called out for reform and moderation. Prince Edward's time with Canty teaches the future king about the gritty underside of London, the stress of poverty, and the punitive system that tortures and executes in the name of justice. Tom's experience is no less enlightening as he is called upon to mediate claims and then to take the reins of a grand and powerful kingdom. Of course, all is set aright by the novel's end, with the characters returning to their prior stations, though with the well-deserved advancements gained through their respective experiences as a prince and as a pauper.



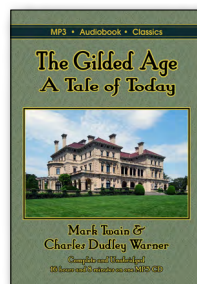
Life on the Mississippi

Author: Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)
Read by: John Greenman
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 14 hours and 39 minutes
Genre: Autobiography & Biography, Memoir

Life on the Mississippi (1883) is a memoir by Mark Twain in two parts. The first recounts Twain's memories of a halcyon time before the Civil War when Twain was in training to become a steamboat pilot on the river. The second part recounts the trip Twain made down the river many years later after the Civil War. The two parts reflect that as the Mississippi River separates America, east from west,

Catalog: DB-1069
UPC: 0684758936295
MSLP: \$12.99

the Civil War separated America, north and south, and continues to separate America, its past and its future. The first part of the memoir is brilliant with the light of youth, potential, and promise. The second part, coming after the Civil War, is the work of a man who has suffered both the good and the bad in a life fully lived. Take the trip down the river with Mark Twain, the writer who knew America so well, its east and west, its north and south, its past and future.

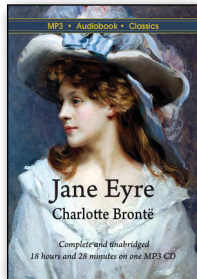


The Gilded Age: A Tale of Today

Author: Mark Twain (1835 - 1910) & Charles Dudley Warner
Read by: John Greenman
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 16 hours and 8 minutes
Genre: Fiction, Satire

Catalog: DB-1068
UPC: 0684758936288
MSLP: \$13.99

Mark Twain, who had turned a skeptical eye on the advancements of the post-Civil War urbanization of America, focuses here on the pretensions of those striving for wealth. The wealthy elite saw their time as an American Golden Age, when the right people enjoyed the bounty of a Calvinist god who had finally got it right. Twain saw through the pretense and laughed, and his target is equally those who've arrived and those who aspire to arrive, who mimic the greats, all the while mistaking arrogance for class. Written with Charles Dudley Warner, his neighbor and friend, *The Gilded Age: A Tale of Today* (1873) is Twain's only collaborative work. Its title soon became synonymous with greed, materialism, and corruption in public life. Twain used satire and humor to pull back the gilded veneer to lay bare the sad remnant underneath - human beings, flawed, greedy, fearful, and ultimately comical, though with no intention to be thought of as such.



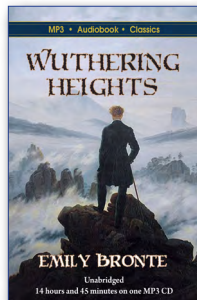
Jane Eyre

Author: Charlotte Brontë (1816 - 1855)
 Read by: Elizabeth Klett
 Length: 18 hours 28 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Romance

Jane Eyre (1847) charts the life of the title character through five phases in the first person narrative. Jane is first seen as a young orphan in the care of a cruel aunt, who sends her away to a harsh private school. After graduation and two years as a schoolteacher she takes a position as a governess at the estate of Mr. Rochester, which leads to an offer of marriage that is undone by an unfortunate discovery. She leaves, is taken in by strangers who turn out to be relatives, and inherits small fortune. After spurning another offer of marriage, she impulsively returns to Rochester, with whom she reunites. The events of the novel are seen strictly through Jane's eyes; as such, the book helped revolutionize the art of the novel and stands as an early example of the bildungsroman. Many consider *Jane Eyre* to be ahead of its time not only in form but in its social criticism and explorations of class, religion, and an emerging feminist perspective.

Catalog: DB-1008
 UPC: 0684758935953
 MSLP: \$11.99

After spurning another offer of marriage, she impulsively returns to Rochester, with whom she reunites. The events of the novel are seen strictly through Jane's eyes; as such, the book helped revolutionize the art of the novel and stands as an early example of the bildungsroman. Many consider *Jane Eyre* to be ahead of its time not only in form but in its social criticism and explorations of class, religion, and an emerging feminist perspective.



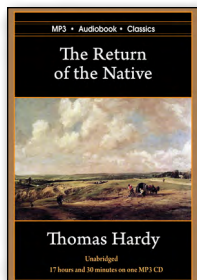
Wuthering Heights

Author: Emily Brontë (1818 - 1848)
 Read by: Ruth Golding
 Length: 14 hours 45 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Romance

In times of Romanticism the world seeks to renew itself in the aftermath of some devastation. Genius seeks to challenge the old ways that had brought it all about. Emily Brontë's *Wuthering Heights* (1847), written when the author was 29, was first published under the pseudonym Ellis Bell following the success of her sister Charlotte's *Jane Eyre*. Her first and only novel, it represents the effulgence of late-Romanticism, an expression of the dark side of the heart with its jealousies and vengefulness. It took a young soul equipped with genius to wrestle with those internal and transcendent powers that drive the individual and spurn the committee. Emily Brontë

Catalog: DB-1009
 UPC: 0684758935960
 MSLP: \$11.99

was equal to the task and placed her efforts on a moor of the collective consciousness where one doesn't just love another person; but one is that person. Now a classic, *Wuthering Heights* received mixed reviews at first, due to its unusually frank and stark depiction of physical and mental cruelty, religious hypocrisy, and class and gender inequality that challenged the strict Victorian mores of the day.



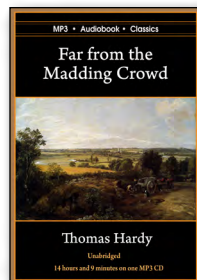
The Return of the Native

Author: Thomas Hardy
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 17 hours 30 minutes
 Genre: Fiction

The Return of the Native was Thomas Hardy's sixth novel. It was initially structured in the format of classical tragedy into five books, but a sixth book with a happy ending was added to accommodate the demands of the market. The story commences on Guy Fawkes Day and takes place over the course of a year and a day in which the characters carry on a series of illicit relationships that undergo changes of heart and unexpected twists of fate. The setting of the pagan Egdon Heath and the Greek chorus of the townspeople reinforce

Catalog: DB-1032
 UPC: 0683422134180
 MSLP: \$11.99

the sense of inescapable destiny and the message that those who try to escape will only hasten their self-destruction. Some comfort is taken in the end as the patient, meek and kind find peace and prosperity. *The Return of the Native* has become one of Hardy's most popular novels, not surprisingly, as its storyline and issues it raises could be right at home in contemporary media.

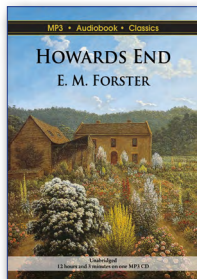


Far from the Madding Crowd

Author: Thomas Hardy
 Read by: Tad Hg
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 14 hours 9 minutes
 Genre: Fiction

The heroine of *Far From the Madding Crowd* (1874) is Bathsheba Everdene, a newcomer to the Wessex countryside who has come to live with her aunt. In short order she has three suitors: Gabriel Oak, a young shepherd; William Boldwood, an older, prosperous farmer; and Sergeant Frank Troy, retiring after military service, whom she marries. Troy is a gambler romantically attached to another. The hand of fate intervenes, secrets are revealed, and conflicts lead to desperate measures. Two of the three rivals come to grief, and Bathsheba finally sees the light of her one true friend just as he is set to depart for California. *Far From the Madding Crowd*, which takes its title from Thomas Gray's "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard", was Hardy's first major success. It ranks 48th on the BBC's "Big Read" list of the best-loved novels of all time and 10th on the Guardian's list of the greatest love stories of all time. It has been adapted frequently for stage and screen, most recently in the 2015 David Nicholls film.

Catalog: DB-1113
 UPC: 0683422134197
 MSLP: \$11.99

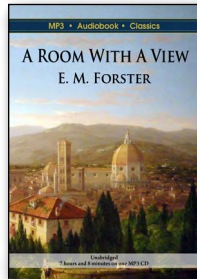


Howards End

Author: E. M. Forster (1879 - 1970)
 Read by: Elizabeth Klett
 Length: 12 hours 3 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Fiction

Howards End intertwines the lives of three families in early 20th century England. The idealistic and intellectual Schlegel siblings, Margaret, Tibby and Helen, are deeply involved with modern art and social progress. The Wilcoxes are well-to-do capitalists with interests in the colonies; the matriarch, Ruth, owns a country known as Howards End. The Basts, the struggling clerk Leonard and his wife Jacky, a "fallen woman, eke out a lower class living. The events of the complex plot places the characters in one another's lives in surprising and challenging ways. Alliances are formed, mistakes made, confidences betrayed, and reality clashes repeatedly with the dictates of social convention and codes of behavior. Published in 1910, *Howards End* is considered Forster's masterpiece by many. Emma Thompson won an Academy Award for her portrayal of Margaret Schlegel in the 1992 Merchant-Ivory film. The Modern Library places it 38th on its list of the best English-language novels of the 20th century.

Catalog: DB-1093
 UPC: 0684758936714
 MSLP: \$11.99



A Room with a View

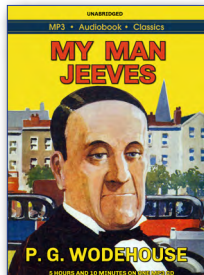
Author: E. M. Forster (1879 - 1970)
 Read by: Elizabeth Klett
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 7 hours 8 minutes
 Genre: Fiction

A Room with a View portrays the issues that the adventurous young Lucy Honeychurch faces as she journeys to Florence and Rome with her stuffy older cousin Charlotte as chaperone. An upper middle class Englishwoman, her strong independent streak leads her into situations that challenge the strict codes of conduct and social expectations of Edwardian England. It is a novel of binary opposites. Set in both Italy and England, we see the contrast between the warm, colorful, sensual Italy with the chilly, dark English culture.

Catalog: DB-1094
 UPC: 0684758936721
 MSLP: \$9.99

Conservative characters are static, stuck in rooms, while dynamic characters are modern, progressive, open to the winds of change. It is a romantic and optimistic work: as Lucy moves away from her protected life she eventually charts her own course with the partner she loves. *A Room with a View* was made into an award-winning film by the team of Merchant-Ivory in 1985. The Modern Library ranks it 79th on its list of the 100 best English-language novels of the 20th century.

British Fiction

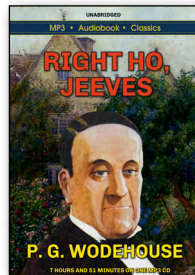


My Man Jeeves

Author: P. G. Wodehouse (1881 - 1975)
 Read by: Mark Nelson
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 5 hours and 10 minutes
 Genre: Humorous Fiction

Catalog: DB-1178
 UPC: 0683422134999
 MSLP: \$9.99

My Man Jeeves (1919) is the first in a series of sixteen immensely popular books by P. G. Wodehouse featuring the unflappable character of Reginald Jeeves, valet to the wealthy, idle, and often chuckle-headed British aristocrat Bertie Wooster. All are narrated by Bertie and take place in the world of the upper class in the years between the world wars in London's gentlemen's clubs, stately English country homes, and the café society of New York in the jazz age. Jeeves is the consummate manservant, with a clear idea of proper dress and comportment, impeccable taste, an encyclopedic knowledge of history, literature and the sciences, and a wealth of knowledge of the ways of the world coupled with a lively ingenuity. He serves as Bertie's all-purpose guardian angel, finding ways to rescue Bertie from suffocating social situations, fashion gaffes, scrapes with the law, overbearing relatives, and problems in dealing with the fair sex, operating discreetly in the background until the inevitable revelations occur.

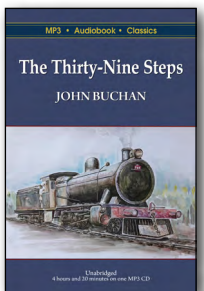


Right Ho, Jeeves

Author: P. G. Wodehouse (1881 - 1975)
 Read by: Mark Nelson
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 7 hours and 51 minutes
 Genre: Humorous Fiction

Catalog: DB-1179
 UPC: 0683422135002
 MSLP: \$9.99

Right Ho, Jeeves (1934) is the second novel featuring the unflappable character of Reginald Jeeves, valet to ditsy British aristocrat Bertie Wooster. Set mostly at the English country home of Bertie's Aunt Dahlia, the story centers on a pair of romantic pairings. Things are set in motion when Bertie visits to comfort his aunt after his cousin breaks her engagement and discovers that she has lost considerable sums at the gaming tables at Cannes, which threatens her ability to finance her magazine, Milady's Boudoir. Bertie dispenses questionable advice to all parties, things unravel in classic screwball comedy style, and at the height of the chaos Bertie throws in the towel and calls on Jeeves, his all-purpose guardian angel. Jeeves manages to get Bertie out of the way for a few hours, during which time he quickly solves all the problems. The novel is considered by many to be the best in the Jeeves canon of eleven novels.



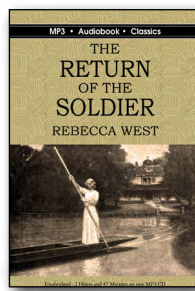
The Thirty-Nine Steps

Author: John Buchan (1875-1940)
 Read by: Adrian Praetzelis
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 4 hours and 20 minutes
 Genre: Fiction, Mystery & Detective Fiction

Catalog: DB-1233
 UPC: 0701236969528
 MSLP: \$9.99

The Thirty-Nine Steps is a classic political thriller and one of the earliest examples of the "man-on-the-run" plot archetype. Set on the eve of World War I, expatriate Scotsman Richard Hannay has just returned from a stint in Rhodesia and settled in London when he encounters an American freelance spy who tells of an anarchist plot to assassinate the Greek Premier and destabilize Europe. After two murders in his building he is forced to flee to southwest Scotland but is pursued by police, who suspect his involvement.

After numerous surprising twists of fate, chases and escapes, we find him with a group of British military in a coastal village in Kent descending the thirty-nine steps down a path in a cliff to apprehend a group of German spies about to abscond with key British secrets. Serialized in *Blackwood's Magazine* and published in book form in 1915, the story was a big hit with the soldiers in the trenches and the general public. It has been adapted for radio five times and four times for the cinema and television, most recently in 2008 by the BBC, and appears on the BBC's Big Read poll of the "best-loved novels" in the UK.

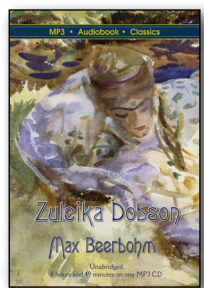


The Return of the Soldier

Author: Rebecca West
 Read by: Elizabeth Klett
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 2 hours and 47 minutes
 Genre: Fiction, Historical Fiction

Catalog: DB-1226
 UPC: 0701236969450
 MSLP: \$9.99

The Return of the Soldier is the first novel written by Rebecca West. Published in 1918, it was the first novel about the repercussions of the war for returning soldiers and the only novel written by a woman about the war during the war. The returning soldier is Chris Baldry, an upper class English gentleman who returns from the trenches suffering from shell shock and memory loss. He is stuck at age 20, has lost his memory of the ensuing fifteen years, which encompass his marriage and the loss of his son, and is fixated on a woman with whom he had once had a summer fling. The story is told from the somewhat limited and unreliable perspective of his cousin Jenny in a non-linear, modernist style. A sense of displacement and uncertainty is pervasive, as is the influence of memory and sexual desire. The reappearance of Margaret, the summer lover, along with the efforts of a psychoanalyst and key artifacts of the past lead to Baldry's eventual recovery. *The Return of the Soldier* was made into a film by the same name in 1982 starring Alan Bates and co-starring Julie Christie, Ian Holm, Glenda Jackson and Ann-Margret.



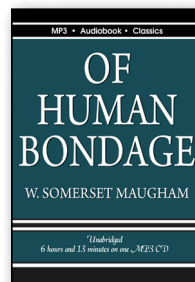
Zuleika Dobson, or, an Oxford love story

Author: Max Beerbohm (1872 - 1956)
 Read by: Termin Dyan
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 8 hours and 49 minutes
 Genre: Fiction, Satire

Catalog: DB-1140
 UPC: 0683422134401
 MSLP: \$11.99

Zuleika Dobson (1911) is a satirical novel that recounts the contagion of lovesickness created by the title character, a guest of her grandfather, the Warden of Judas College at Oxford. She meets the haughty Duke of Dorset and, much to her surprise, falls in love for the first time. The Duke is smitten for the first time as well, which throws a wet blanket on her ardor, as she cannot love anyone who is not immune to her spell. The Duke resolves to commit suicide to teach her to constrain her powers of attraction, and soon the entire student body resolves to do the same. The Duke reverses his decision, but chance and fate intervene, and all but one of the entire student body drowns in a storm during the boat races. The closing scene has Zuleika boarding a special train for her next visit - Cambridge. *Zuleika Dobson* was ranked 59th on the 1998 Modern Library list of 100 best English-language novels of the 20th century.

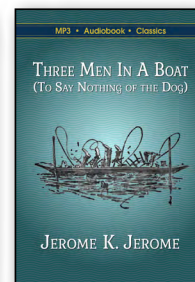
British Fiction Coming Spring 2018



Of Human Bondage
 W. Somerset Maugham

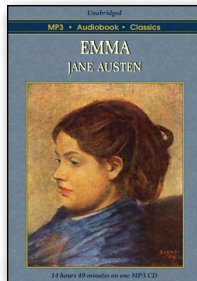


The Life and Times of
 Tristram Shandy,
 Gentleman
 Laurence Sterne



Three Men in a Boat
 Jerome K. Jerome

British Fiction - Jane Austen



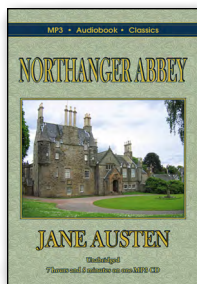
Emma

Author: Jane Austen (1775 - 1817)
 Read by: Elizabeth Klett
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 14 hours 49 minutes
 Genre: Romance

Emma (1915) was the second to last of Jane Austen's novels and treats the social concerns of Regency England with the light and satirical touch of a master. Emma Woodhouse is a wealthy, pretty, self-satisfied and willful young woman who lives in a small English town with her hypochondriac father. She has time on her hands and so decides to take charge of young Harriet Smith, the illegitimate daughter of an unknown gentleman, and marry her off to

Catalog: DB-1020
 UPC: 0684758936042
 MSLP: \$12.99

an suitable gentlemen. The well drawn characters are as much of the appeal as of the book as the comedy of a plot: the social climbing Mr. Elton, who snubs Harriet for a nouveau-riche wife; Robert Martin, the educated and respectable local bachelor farmer; Jane Fairfax, the talented and elegant orphaned niece of the impoverished neighbor Miss Bates; Frank Church, who will inherit a fortune from an aunt; and Mr. Knightley, who serves as the voice of conscience. The story ends happily after every possible mishap, much as we hope it will.



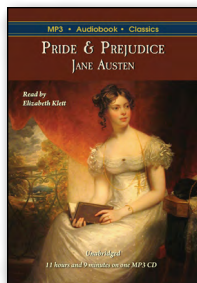
Northanger Abbey

Author: Jane Austen (1775 - 1817)
 Read by: Elizabeth Klett
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 7 hours 5 minutes
 Genre: Romance

Northanger Abbey is the story of Catherine Morland, the seventeen-year old daughter of a clergyman and his wife. She leads an ordinary life, but has a penchant for gothic novels and a lively imagination to go with it. On a visit to Bath she meets Henry Tilney and his sister Eleanor, who invite her to stay at Northanger Abbey, the family estate. Catherine's imagination has a field day, filling the novel with ruined castles, secret notes, locked chests in hidden rooms, and the obligatory tyrannical father. While

Catalog: DB-1022
 UPC: 0684758936066
 MSLP: \$11.99

Catherine finds portentous horrors lurking in every event, Austen skewers the horrors and hypocrisy of the polite society of her so-called friends. Originally entitled *Susan*, *Northanger Abbey* (1803) was sold for £10 to a London book-seller, who then decided not to publish it and sold it back to her brother. Austen revised it again in 1817, changing the title to *Catherine*. Her brother Henry arranged for its publication after her death under the title *Northanger Abbey*.



Pride and Prejudice

Author: Jane Austen (1775 - 1817)
 Read by: Elizabeth Klett
 Length: 11 hours 9 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Romance

Pride and Prejudice (1813) is the consummate novel of manners and remains one of the best loved novels of all time. Although its characters are steeped in the insular world of Britain's landed gentry, they are as timeless and attractive today as they were in the Georgian and Regency Eras. It has been said that God draws straight with crooked lines, and perhaps nowhere is that more evident than in the tortured and comic actions of Elizabeth and Mr. Darcy as they initially repulse one another like the wrong ends of magnets, only to be drawn

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 UPC: 0684758936080
 MSLP: \$12.99

ineluctably together by the power of a love so strong that it watches over the best laid plans and laughs. This speaks to the notion of "soul mates", of a world in the hands of a loving God who works His will so that Elizabeth and Mr. Darcy can find each other and the love destined for them in spite of themselves. It is no wonder that *Pride and Prejudice* has been adapted to stage and screen countless times and has sold over twenty million copies world-wide.



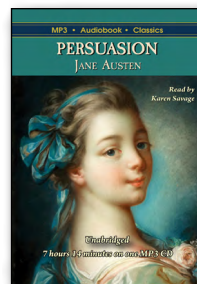
Mansfield Park

Author: Jane Austen (1775 - 1817)
 Read by: Elizabeth Klett
 Length: 14 hours 24 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Romance

Fanny Price, eldest daughter of a large family struggling to get by on a naval officer's pension, is sent to live with her wealthy aunt at Mansfield Park. Only her good natured cousin Edmund is civil. Lady Bertram is lazy and indolent; her son Tom drinks and gambles; her daughters are vain and spoiled. Things get interesting with the arrival of the worldly Henry Crawford and his sister and the loveless betrothal of her cousin Maria to rich dullard Mr. Rushworth.

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 UPC: 0684758936059
 MSLP: \$12.99

Passions supersede good sense, and the result is a comedy of missed opportunities, betrayal, adultery, and scandal. The rules of polite society prevail, and those who lack respect for the social contract get their comeuppance, while those that play by the rules find happy endings. *Mansfield Park* (1813) is the longest and the most controversial of Jane Austen's novels. Some find the character of Fanny timid and insipid; others find her complex and admire her faith, courage and inner growth. The differing perspectives are a telling commentary on the challenges faced by women of her time.



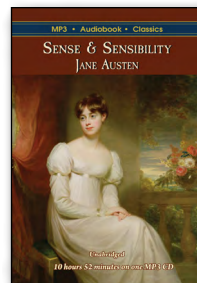
Persuasion

Author: Jane Austen (1775 - 1817)
 Read by: Karen Savage
 Length: 7 hours 14 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Romance

Had Jane Austen lived longer and continued to write, her last novel, *Persuasion* (1816), might be considered a transition point in her development. The unwritten rules of Britain's high society just before the beginning of Victoria's long reign were a game of sorts and remain so even today. Like any game, playing with the rules—bending them, breaking them—can be a delightful pastime. *Persuasion* presents a less than charitable view of that game and those rules, as it is steeped in the snob-

Catalog: DB-1023
 UPC: 0684758936073
 MSLP: \$11.99

bery of the fatuous lives of those who have nothing better to do than to keep score. In contrast to this hermetically sealed society, Austen looks beyond the short horizons of Bath to the daring efforts of the men of the Royal British Navy at the dawn of its golden age. Ultimately the heroine, Anne Elliot, finds happiness with the love of her heart, an ending to a complex story that lays bare the less attractive virtues of a world view where status, real or imagined, deserved or not, rules all.



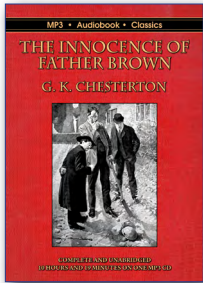
Sense and Sensibility

Author: Jane Austen (1775 - 1817)
 Read by: Elizabeth Klett
 Length: 10 hours 52 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Romance

Sense and Sensibility (1811) is a novel of manners written to deepen a character sketch of two sisters, Elinore and Marianne Dashwood. Reviews of the novel often start with attempts to discern Austen's view regarding the supremacy of "sense" or "sensibility" in the process of making choices and decisions. They define the age-old polar tension between reason and emotion, the Classical versus the Romantic.

Catalog: DB-1025
 UPC: 0684758936097
 MSLP: \$12.99

By 1811 England had embarked upon a Romantic movement. After the Age of Reason and its failures there was a desire to return to nature in its purity, youth in its innocence and the heart as seat of man's reason. *Sense and Sensibility* picks up on the transition and sets forth the field of endeavor where characters make their way under the light of reason or feelings. The novel solves no problem since there is no problem to be solved. Rather it presents the facts of the human condition. We are creatures of thoughts and feelings, creatures of reason and emotion, creatures of impulse and consideration. The miracle is that Austen's first novel intuitively and presents all of this.



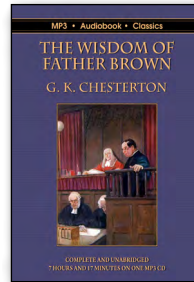
The Innocence of Father Brown

Author: G. K. Chesterton (1874 - 1936)
 Read by: Brian Roberg
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 10 hours 19 minutes
 Genre: Mystery & Detective Fiction

The Innocence of Father Brown is a collection of twelve short stories by G. K. Chesterton featuring the character of Father Brown, a short, stocky Roman Catholic priest who spends much of his time sleuthing about and solving crimes and mysteries using his intuition and understanding of human nature, especially evil. The character of Father Brown was loosely based on a parish priest in

Bradford, Father John O'Connor, and is portrayed in shapeless clothes with a large umbrella and a bicycle. In a way, he is a counterpoint to the eccentric and super rational Sherlock Holmes character of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. The stories in *The Innocence of Father Brown* were originally published by *The Story-Teller* in England and the *Saturday Evening Post* in America before release in book form in 1911. The stories have often been adapted for film, radio and television, most recently in the popular *Father Brown* BBC series on PBS starring Mark Williams.

Catalog: DB-1175
 UPC: 0683422134944
 MSLP: \$9.99



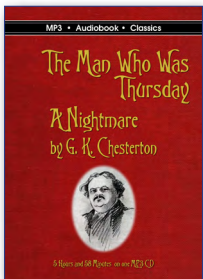
The Wisdom of Father Brown

Author: G. K. Chesterton (1874 - 1936)
 Read by: Martin Clifton
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 7 hours and 17 minutes
 Genre: Mystery & Detective Fiction

The Wisdom of Father Brown is the second collection of short stories by G. K. Chesterton featuring the character of Father Brown, a short, stocky Roman Catholic priest who spends much of his time sleuthing about and solving crimes and mysteries using his intuition and understanding of human nature, especially evil.

The character of Father Brown was loosely based on a parish priest in Bradford, Father John O'Connor, and is portrayed in shapeless clothes with a large umbrella and a bicycle. In a way, he is a counterpoint to the eccentric and super rational Sherlock Holmes character of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. The stories have often been adapted for film, radio and television, most notably in *Father Brown, Detective* (1934) starring Walter Connolly, *Father Brown* (1954) starring Alec Guinness, and most recently the popular *Father Brown* BBC series on PBS starring Mark Williams.

Catalog: DB-1176
 UPC: 0683422134951
 MSLP: \$9.99



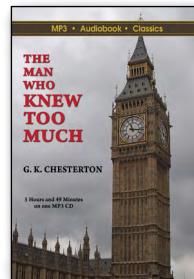
The Man Who Was Thursday

Author: G. K. Chesterton (1874 - 1936)
 Read by: Zachary Brewster-Geisz
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 5 hours and 58 minutes
 Genre: Fiction, Suspense, Political Thrillers

Written in 1908 and set in the Edwardian era, *The Man Who Was Thursday* is a classic suspense novel sometimes termed a "metaphysical thriller". Detective Gabriel Syme is recruited by Scotland Yard to fight the anarchist movement. He meets Lucian Gregory, an anarchist poet, at a party and after debating the meaning of poetry he is invited to a meeting of the local branch of the European anarchist council. The seven council

members each use the name of a day of the week as a cover, and the council is set to elect the position of Thursday, which Gregory seeks but which Syme wins after making a rousing speech. He discovers some surprising truths in seeking to thwart the council. Like many of Chesterton's works, the story contains a helping of Christian allegory. The book's popularity gave rise to a companion annotated edition by Martin Gardener called *The Annotated Thursday*. The book has been adapted for radio three times, the first by Orson Welles in 1938 for the Mercury Theatre. It has enjoyed recent popularity, with an adaptation for film in 2016 by Hungarian Balazs Jusz and a 2017 science fiction version by American Jake Kerr.

Catalog: DB-1232
 UPC: 0701236969511
 MSLP: \$9.99



The Man Who Knew Too Much

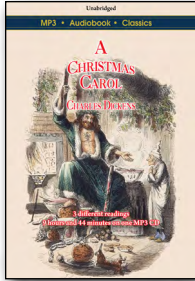
Author: G. K. Chesterton (1874 - 1936)
 Read by: Martin Clifton
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 5 hours and 49 minutes
 Genre: Mystery & Detective Fiction

"The Prime Minister is my father's friend. The Foreign Minister married my sister. The Chancellor of the Exchequer is my first cousin." In this statement from "The Vengeance of the Statue", Horne Fisher, the eponymous protagonist of eight of the stories in *The Man Who Knew Too Much*, encapsulates the dilemma of the ultimate insider who knows too much of the goings on behind the scenes played out in the public political arena.

Each of these interconnected tales features a murder, and the knowledgeable Fisher can uncover the underlying injustices and corruptions pertinent to each. Sadly, the perpetrators go free, as revealing the truth would lead to epic ramifications—war, rebellion, or loss of faith in government. Fisher's activities are chronicled by a political journalist, Harold March, who serves as a sounding board for Fisher's theories and ruminations. The book was published in 1922 and contained four additional stories in a similar vein in the English edition. The title has been appropriated for four films, two by Alfred Hitchcock, and at least seven books and magazine stories, none of which bear any relation to the original book.

Catalog: DB-1231
 UPC: 0701236969504
 MSLP: \$9.99

British Fiction - Charles Dickens

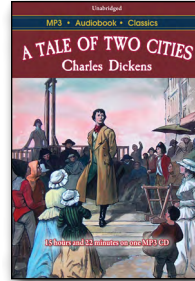


A Christmas Carol

Author: Charles Dickens (1812 - 1870)
Read by: Multiple readers
Length: 3 versions - 9 hours 44 minutes total
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Fantasy Fiction

Catalog: DB-1040
UPC: 0684758936196
MSLP: \$11.99

Ebenezer Scrooge wasn't born a scrooge, but life had disappointed him enough that he gave himself over to acquiring money and the little power it afforded him over his fear of death. Then one Christmas Eve, Jacob Marley, his "beastly dead" former partner, appeared to warn him of what awaited him in the afterlife if he did not change his ways. Scrooge was frightened, but not convinced. Enter Christmas Past, Present and Future. In an admixture of fear and love, Scrooge underwent the conversion made manifest on Christmas Day in generosity, kindness and amends. A Christmas Carol (1843) is perhaps the most popular Christmas story ever written this side of Bethlehem and helped revive a celebratory attitude toward Christmas that had been lost with the nineteenth century's industrialization and urbanization. With the German customs of the Christmas tree and Christmas cards, the immense popularity of Dickens's novella helped the Christmas season become again what it was meant to be – a season of joy, hope, celebration, gratitude and love.

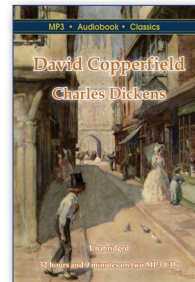


A Tale of Two Cities

Author: Charles Dickens (1812 - 1870)
Read by: Paul Adams
Length: 15 hours 22 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Fiction

Catalog: DB-1042
UPC: 0684758936202
MSLP: \$13.99

A Tale of Two Cities was serialized in 1859 to great acclaim in Dickens's new literary periodical, *All Year Round*. It's a complex story concerning characters caught up in the heady times before and during the French Revolution, complete with the overheated passions and the fluid unpredictability of the masses when their reasonable group-think devolves into mob mentality. One is reminded of a recent lyric: "Meet the new boss; same as the old boss," for what happened in the late Eighteenth Century the French people stumbled their way to a new sovereignty that deposed and executed a King and his wife. Dickens identifies with the oppressed in the characters of Dr. Manette and Gaspard, and he paints the villain of all villainy in the despised Marquis St. Evremonde. But the mob, grown bestial with bloodlust, ultimately violates Dickens unerring sense of balance and fairness. The Reign of Terror executes those who started the Revolution, and it is against this backdrop that Dickens raises his eyes to a better place that will come about with the kind of loving self-sacrifice embodied in the selfless act of Sydney Carton.



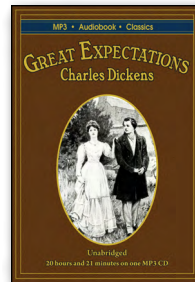
David Copperfield

Author: Charles Dickens (1812 - 1870)
Read by: Tadhg Hynes
Length: 32 hours and 9 minutes
Format: Two MP3 CDs in DVD case
Genre: Fiction

Catalog: DB-1042
UPC: 0852679827200
MSLP: \$19.99

David Copperfield was Dickens's eighth novel, published in 1850, having been serialized two years prior. It is one of the most popular novels ever written, with over two hundred million copies sold worldwide. Every writer draws upon his experience to fashion works of fiction. To some degree all works are autobiographical, but in each writer's oeuvre there exists one book which is the deepest, most precious expression of the writer's heart and soul. *David Copperfield* was that book for Dickens.

The structure is more open ended than a three or five part structure might dictate, because it is one of those rare works bold enough to present life as it is. It is a great novel, with David and a host of characters, including the despicable Uriah Heap, that Ur-master of office politics; but it is also more than a novel because it is Dickens's most fervent statement of self, his ultimate declaration of what life is, his life, anybody's life, of what it means and why it matters.



Great Expectations

Author: Charles Dickens (1812 - 1870)
Read by: Mark F. Smith
Length: 20 hours 4 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Fiction

Catalog: DB-1043
UPC: 0852679827217
MSLP: \$14.99

Great Expectations (1861) was Dickens's thirteenth novel, written when he was at the height of his powers and deemed to be the voice of Victorian England. Dickens himself felt that it might well be his best work and it remains one of his most popular novels. It is a *bildungsroman*, a "coming of age" novel, written in the first person of the protagonist, Pip, an orphan who starts from a place of little comfort, but benefits from the ministrations of good Joe, the blacksmith and his custodian. Pip, through no conscious act or intent of his own, soon embarks on a great beginning with equal expectations. He lives fully, experiencing the pain and joys of love, found, lost and, perhaps, found again. He travels a high road allowed very few in that time and place, and we are the beneficiaries of those travels, having been invited along for the ride.



Oliver Twist

Author: Charles Dickens (1812 - 1870)
Read by: Tadhg Hynes
Length: 14 hours 57 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Fiction

Catalog: DB-1044
UPC: 0684758936240
MSLP: \$12.99

"Please, Sir, may I have a little more?" That famous request from Dickens's *Oliver Twist* (1838), embodies the cry of the times in England when the Industrial Revolution had hijacked the world of manners, only to introduce a cruel world overrun by commerce. Those who take refuge in the hidden corners of a society on fire are invariably passed over, forgotten and ultimately sacrificed for what is too often called "some greater good." Dickens confronts this in the character of young Oliver, an orphan bounced from work house to the streets of

London, where he meets the Artful Dodger, a pickpocket and informal leader of a gang of thieving street kids. The Dodger is Oliver's entre to a hard, crooked world of small time criminals overseen by an aqualung named Fagin and his dark colleagues. Dickens is unsentimental in his portrayal of the underside of brilliant and burgeoning London, and reminds us all that orphans like Oliver deserve more than what they could hope to receive from a society in a race with itself to the top of the world.

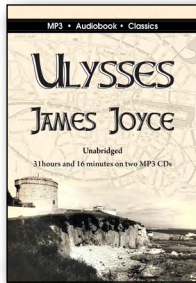


Hard Times

Author: Charles Dickens (1812 - 1870)
Read by: Multiple readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 10 hours 43 minutes
Genre: Fiction

Catalog: DB-1067
UPC: 0684758936233
MSLP: \$12.99

Hard Times, Dickens' tenth novel, is unusual in two respects: it is one of his shortest works, and it does not take place in London but instead in Coketown, a generic mill town in the north of England. *Hard Times* distills the essence of Dickens' concerns: the rights of the undervalued worker, the inequities of the capitalist system, the coarseness of the new era, and the failure of the institutions designed to protect the rights and lives of the vulnerable poor and lower classes. Like others who've suffered the machinations of blind and deaf bureaucracies, Dickens' bias for the underprivileged was as real as the impact his father's financial ruin had on his childhood. Dickens wrote what he knew, and although his famous work ethic, prolific output and unparalleled success lifted him into the ranks of the wealthy, he never lost sight of or feelings for the vulnerable, who too often suffered in a society more concerned with status, wealth and profit than the people who were exploited to make the whole thing work.

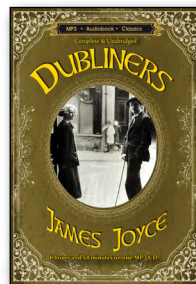


Ulysses

Author: James Joyce (1882 - 1941)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 32 hours 29 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Fiction

Catalog: DB-1060
 UPC: 0683422134173
 MSLP: \$19.99

The greatness of *Ulysses* (1922) is paralleled by its reputation for great difficulty. This is unfortunate; although a few of its eighteen episodes are difficult, most are readily accessible. Modernism often looked backward to the classics to make them new with the stylistic innovations of post-World War I Europe. Joyce based his story of Leopold Bloom, an advertisement canvasser, and Stephen Daedalus, a young artist, on Homer's *Odyssey*. Spanning one day in Dublin and mapping to the eighteen episodes of the Greek classic, *Ulysses* is filled with references and allusions that create a meta-novel in which the thoughts of Bloom, Daedalus and Bloom's wife, Molly, describe their subjective views alongside a narrator's objective view of reality. Each episode uses a different style to set forth an encyclopedia of knowledge, focused on an Irishman's point of view regarding the state of Irish and English literature from Beowulf to Modernism. Many believe that *Ulysses* is the greatest work of fiction of the 20th century.



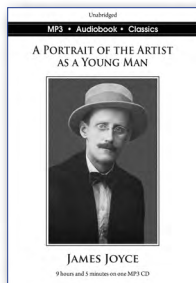
Dubliners

Author: James Joyce (1882 - 1941)
 Read by: Peter Bobbe
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 6 hours 51 minutes
 Genre: Fiction

Catalog: DB-1034
 UPC: 0684758936127
 MSLP: \$11.99

Written before 1905, when Irish nationalism was on every Irishman's mind, *Dubliners* is a compilation of stories that deal with characters who feel they have failed at life in an Ireland that has suffered mightily under the yokes of two tyrants, the British Government and the Catholic Church. Seeking a sense of identity and purpose in a land overtaken by powers that care little for their captives, James Joyce dissects the paralysis, insecurities, and failure to thrive in plain and simple language. Though many of the characters

we meet in *Dubliners* will appear again in *Ulysses*, this is not the Joyce of *Ulysses* with its difficult language and allusions. This is Joyce at his most matter of fact, providing the understatement necessary for wit and wisdom. The stories by the young artist are brilliant, sometimes painful in their searing honesty, humorous in the Irish way, and as illuminating as the moments of epiphany that Joyce talked and wrote about as he formed, polished and nurtured his considerable aesthetic.

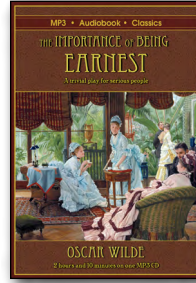


A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man

Author: James Joyce (1882 - 1941)
 Read by: Peter Bobbe
 Length: 9 hours and 4 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Fiction

Catalog: DB-1033
 UPC: 0684758936134
 MSLP: \$11.99

A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man (1916) is James Joyce's first novel, a mixture of memoir, religious philosophy, commentary, and aesthetics. In great measure, *A Portrait* answers the question of how a hard drinking roustabout with a delicate constitution, prone to extreme behavior, who rejected his Church and most Irish conventions, become a demigod among writers who may well have been the greatest writer of the 20th century. Possessed of amazing verbal gifts and utterly convinced of his genius and its concomitant duty to work him dry, Joyce subordinated all, except, perhaps, his love for his wife and children, to the task of art. *A Portrait* almost failed to see the light of day; in despair over being ignored and discounted, Joyce tossed the manuscript into a fire after a night of heavy drinking. His wife, Nora, rescued the pages. A grateful Joyce, who knew most of his work by heart, admitted that there were sections so well crafted that he would never have been able to reconstruct them had they been destroyed.



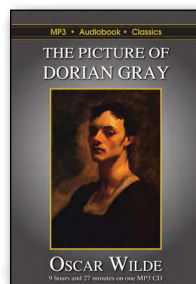
The Importance of Being Earnest

Author: Oscar Wilde (1854 - 1900)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 2 hours 10 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Plays

Catalog: DB-1049
 UPC: 0684758936325
 MSLP: \$10.99

The Importance of Being Earnest, A Trivial Comedy for Serious People was first performed on February 14, 1895 at the St. James's Theatre in London. It is a farcical comedy in which the protagonists maintain fictitious personae in order to escape burdensome social obligations. Working within the social conventions of late Victorian London, the play's major themes are the triviality with which it treats institutions as serious as marriage, and the resulting satire of Victorian ways. Contemporary reviews all praised the play's humor,

though some were cautious about its explicit lack of social messages, while others foresaw the modern consensus that it was the culmination of Wilde's artistic career so far. Its high farce and witty dialogue have helped make *The Importance of Being Earnest* Wilde's most enduringly popular play. It has been revived many times since its premiere and has been adapted for the cinema on three occasions.

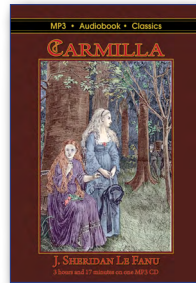


The Picture of Dorian Gray

Author: Oscar Wilde (1854 - 1900)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 9 hours 17 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Fiction

Catalog: DB-1050
 UPC: 0684758936332
 MSLP: \$11.99

The portrait of the good-looking young aristocrat Dorian Gray by painter Basil Hallward depicts him as a figure from Greek mythology. Basil fears that perhaps too much feeling is being conveyed in the work. His louche friend Lord Henry admires the work but upsets Dorian with a cautionary speech about the transience of youth and beauty. Dorian curses the picture, wishing it would age as he stays forever young. Dorian falls in love with actress Sibyl Vane, but breaks their engagement. Sibyl kills herself and Dorian sinks into a life of debauchery. Basil confronts Dorian, shows him the decay in the hidden portrait, and beseeches him to repent his misbehavior, which prompts a fit of rage with a tragic outcome. Sibyl's brother attempts to avenge her death, but is accidentally shot. Dorian tries and fails to change, and attempts to destroy the unfortunate portrait, which, of course, has the last word. *The Picture of Dorian Gray* (1890) is the only published novel by Oscar Wilde. Wilde later revised the story for book publication including an aphoristic Preface that has since become famous in its own right. The amended version was published by in April 1891.



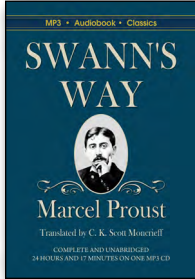
Carmilla

Author: Joseph Sheridan LeFanu
 Read by: Elizabeth Klett
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 3 hours and 14 minutes
 Genre: Horror & Supernatural Fiction

Catalog: DB-1201
 UPC: 0701236969191
 MSLP: \$10.99

Carmilla is one of the earliest works of vampire fiction. Presented as a chapter from the casebook of Dr. Hesselius, it is narrated by Laura, daughter of an Englishman living in the deep forest of Austria. She has persistent childhood memories of a visitor in her bedchamber. Years later an accident brings a mysterious injured young woman into their home; Laura immediately recognizes the figure from her memory. At the same time her father learns of the death of a colleague's daughter. Other young girls are succumbing to a puzzling malady. The arrival of a painting of Laura's ancestor,

Countess Karnstein, bears an identical likeness to their visitor. Laura and her father journey to their ancestral village, where they meet his colleague, General Spielsdorf, who relates a story of the vampire who caused of his daughter's death and is searching for the tomb of the Countess. The General unmasks Carmilla when she appears on the scene, which leads to the inevitable conflict and climax. Serialized in 1871-2 and published as a book soon after, the story has influenced many others since, notably *Dracula* and *The Turn of the Screw*.



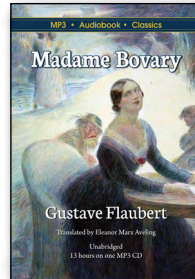
Swann's Way

Author: Marcel Proust
Read by: Denny Sayers, Andrew Coleman
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 24 hours 17 minutes
Genre: Fiction

Swann's Way is the first of seven volumes of *In Search of Lost Time*, the magnum opus by Marcel Proust. The story is told by a young Narrator, never named, who recounts his visits to the family's country home in the fictional village of Combray and centers on his fascination with Charles Swann, an elegant and well-connected friend of his parents with a beautiful daughter and a difficult marriage. The central theme is the nature of involuntary memory and how associations color and shape feelings in a constantly unfolding manner; there is a famous moment when the taste of a madeleine cake dipped in tea evokes a powerful nostalgia and uncorks a stream of memories. *Swann's Way* was initially rejected by numerous publishers; readers and critics were initially confounded by the introspective characters, lack of much action or plot, and by the mass of memories and contemplation, but soon realized the brilliance of the work and the consummate skill of the writer. It is now considered one of the five most important literary achievements of the twentieth century.

Catalog: DB-1177
UPC: 0683422134968
MSLP: \$14.99

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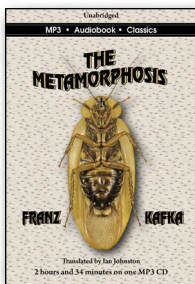
Madame Bovary

Author: Gustave Flaubert (1821-1880)
Read by: Multiple readers
Length: 12 hours and 55 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Fiction

Madame Bovary tells the story of the wife of a country doctor who lives beyond her means and has adulterous affairs to escape her bored provincial existence. Emma is a pretty girl a yearning for romance and luxury inspired by popular novels. Not surprisingly, her affairs run from infatuation to disappointment, and her consolation is indulgence in luxury goods bought on credit from a wily merchant. While the story is quite simple, the artistry is in the acute depiction of the mundane details of rural French life and the hidden patterns that mature into destiny. Emma's fantasies and aspirations are exposed as illusions that crumble in implacable grip of real life. As such, the book marks a turning point away from romanticism to the realism of the latter 19th century. *Madame Bovary* created a scandal when it was serialized in the fall of 1856. Flaubert was prosecuted for obscenity in January 1857 and acquitted the following month. The resulting notoriety made the book a bestseller when it was published in April of that year. It is now regarded as one of the greatest novels and often described as a "perfect" work of fiction.

Catalog: DB-1053
UPC: 0683422134593
MSLP: \$12.99

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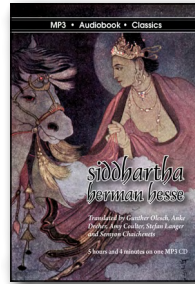
The Metamorphosis

Author: Franz Kafka (1883-1924) Translated by Ian Johnston
Read by: David Barnes
Length: 2 hours 34 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Fiction

The Metamorphosis (1915) tells the tale of Gregor Samsa, who one day wakes up transformed into a "monstrous vermin". Part I begins with the discovery. Thinking he is dreaming, he cannot communicate with his family or unlock the door to his bedroom. When he finally enters the room his family is horrified and forces him back in. Part II describes family adapting to their strange situation and Gregor becoming acclimated to his new body. After a scuffle his father pelts him with apples, causing

Catalog: DB-1091
UPC: 0684758936691
MSLP: \$10.99

serious injury. In Part III Gregor ventures into the living room to listen to his sister play the violin for boarders, who spot him and move out immediately. The exhausted family wishes Gregor would leave. Hearing this, Gregor retreats to his bedroom and dies. Relieved and remorseless, the family makes plans to find a suitable husband for their daughter. *The Metamorphosis* is one of the most original and provocative stories ever written. It is considered one of the foundational works of modern literature.



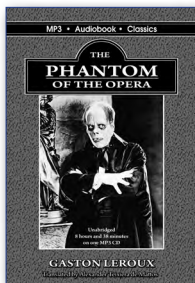
Siddhartha

Author: Herman Hesse (1877-1962)
Read by: Adrian Praetzelis
Length: 5 hours 4 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Fiction

Set in ancient Nepal during the time of the Gautama Buddha, *Siddhartha* (1922) tells the story of a young man who leaves home to seek enlightenment in the ascetic life of a beggar. He meets with Gautama but chooses to follow his individual path instead of joining the order. Crossing a river to the city, he settles and becomes a rich businessman and lover of the beautiful courtesan Kamala. Finding his luxurious life empty, in middle-age he returns to the river, adopts a humble life and finds peace and enlightenment. He crosses paths with friends and lovers over the years in ways that deepen his understanding of the mysterious connectedness of all things in the cyclical unity of nature. When Hesse wrote *Siddhartha* he lived a reclusive life and immersed himself in Hindu and Buddhist scriptures. The book's structure reflects the three stages of life for Hindu men, the four noble truths, and the eight-fold path. The result is a mesmerizing mixture of religious legend and modern novel, written in a simple, graceful style that harmonizes the tensions in the contrasting forces of life.

Catalog: DB-1092
UPC: 0684758936707
MSLP: \$10.99

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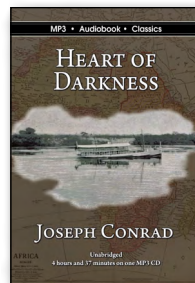
The Phantom of the Opera

Author: Gaston Leroux
Read by: Ralph Snelson
Length: 8 hours 35 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Horror and Supernatural Fiction

Before the Broadway hit and the Lon Chaney movie, *The Phantom of the Opera* (1910) was a book by French author Gaston Leroux, a beautiful, poignant, suspenseful work with a Gallic tone of love wrapped in danger. Christine, the ingénue, takes the stage of the Paris Opera and scores a brilliant success. Her former lover attends the performance, hears her voice and falls in love again. The two plan to wed. On a subsequent night a massive chandelier falls into the audience. In the ensuing confusion the Phantom, known until then only through letters and malevolent acts, kidnaps Christine and whisks her away to his hiding place deep beneath the Opera House. He shows himself to Christine; in time he will remove his mask and show her his face. A love story in the deepest, most mysterious sense, the story portrays the many mansions within a single heart, with its consequent confusion of devotion, jealousy, possessiveness, passion, and desire, contradictory and utterly human.

Catalog: DB-1080
UPC: 0684758936592
MSLP: \$11.99

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Heart of Darkness

Author: Joseph Conrad (1857-1924)
Read by: Bob Neufeld
Length: 4 hours 37 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Fiction

Heart of Darkness tells a story of a journey taken by Marlow, the narrator, up the Congo River into the heart of Africa in search of an ivory trader named Kurtz. Things are seldom as they should be. The first station he visits is a scene of brutal devastation. The steamboat he is to pilot is wrecked and takes months to repair. The company personnel are lazy and self-serving. After two months journey his vessel is attacked a few miles from their destination. Fending off the attack, he arrives and soon learns that Kurtz is worshiped by the natives, is very ill, and is probably insane. He gets Kurtz aboard against his will for the return journey, which, of course, is filled with further perils and disasters, and returns to Europe disillusioned and skeptical of humanity's attempts to achieve civilization. Conrad's insights were among the first to expose the pretenses of civilized people and question the behavior of imperialist and colonial powers. Its impact was quick and deep. Modern Library ranks *Heart of Darkness* at number 67 on its list of the 100 Best Novels of the Twentieth Century.

Catalog: DB-1156
UPC: 0683422134715
MSLP: \$10.99

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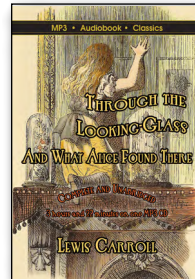


Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

Author: Lewis Carroll (1832-1898)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 2 hours 38 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Children's Fiction, Fantasy Fiction

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland (1865) tells the story of a young girl named Alice who falls down a rabbit hole and lands in a fantasy world populated by talking white rabbits, Cheshire cats, caterpillars, and mice, as well as a pack of cards behaving as a mad queen and her entourage. Alice undergoes all manner of strange encounters and experiences, culminating in a trial for the theft of the Queen's tarts, before being awakened by her sister and returned to the real world. The novel is an outgrowth of stories told by the author on an afternoon outing in 1862 with Henry Liddell and his three daughters. Alice Liddell was so charmed by the stories that she urged Carroll to write them down. The novel is memorable for playing hard and fast with logic, which has charmed adults as well as children. Alice is perhaps the best-known example of literary nonsense fiction and helped give rise to the fantasy genre. Its characters, imagery, and narrative have become embedded in popular culture.

Catalog: DB-1002
 UPC: 0684758935823
 MSLP: \$10.99



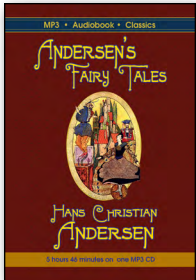
Through the Looking-Glass, and What Alice Found There

Author: Lewis Carroll (1832-1898)
 Read by: Adrian Praetzelis
 Length: 3 hours 22 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Children's Fiction, Fantasy Fiction

Through the Looking-Glass, and What Alice Found There (1871) is the sequel to *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. As before, Alice enters an alternative reality, this time through the looking-glass hung over the fireplace. The book's themes, settings and events are a mirror image to those of *Wonderland*. Set indoors on a wintry night where time runs backwards, the Looking-Glass world is based on a game of chess, divided by brooks and streams like squares on a chessboard. The plot follows the path of a chess game: the Red Queen offers to make Alice a queen if she can advance to the eighth row. In her journey to this end she has unusual encounters with twins Tweedledum and Tweedledee, the absent-minded White Queen, Humpty-Dumpty and the White Knight, among others. Eventually is crowned queen. The victory party disintegrates into chaos, prompting Alice to shake the Red Queen violently. Game over – the Red Queen has been captured. Alice awakes, and the story ends with speculation that everything may have been a dream.

Catalog: DB-1088
 UPC: 0684758935878
 MSLP: \$10.99

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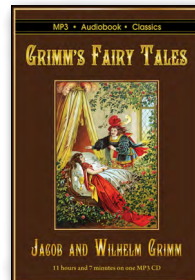
Andersen's Fairy Tales

Author: Hans Christian Andersen (1805 - 1875)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 5 hours 46 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Myths, Legends and Fairy Tales

Andersen's Fairy Tales is a collection of eighteen stories that includes such classics as "The Little Mermaid", "The Emperor's New Clothes", "Thumbelina" and "The Princess and the Pea". The first stories were new versions of stories he heard in his childhood, which he enlivened with an original style and a gift for humor and dark pathos. He created original stories for two installments of the first volume in 1835 and a third in 1837. They sold poorly at

Catalog: DB-1019
 UPC: 0684758935885
 MSLP: \$11.99

first and achieved little recognition. He published a second collection in 1938, *Fairy Tales Told For Children*, which included the "Tin Soldier" and "The Wild Swans". His recognition grew with the appearance in 1845 of four translations of the fairy tales and the publication of "The Little Mermaid" in the periodical *Bentley's Miscellany*. A second volume was published, *Wonderful Stories for Children*, later followed by *A Danish Story Book and Wonderful Stories for Children*.



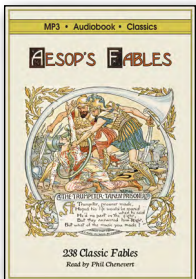
Grimm's Fairy Tales

Author: Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm (1785 - 1863)
 Translated by Marian Edwardes and Edgar Taylor
 Read by: Bob Neufeld
 Length: 11 hours 7 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Myths, Legends & Fairy Tales

Grimm's Fairy Tales was first published in 1812 under the title *Children's and Household Tales*. At first the collection was thought to be unsuitable for children due to subject matter and the level of scholarly detail. Changes were made through the years to remove sexual references, but the violence was seldom reduced and sometime increased. The collection grew from 86 stories in the first edition to a total of 211 tales in 1857. The tales have been translated into over 100 languages and have inspired numerous film, television, and theatrical treatments. This collection includes 63 of the best known tales, including classics such as "The Frog Prince", "Rapunzel", "Hansel and Gretel", "Tom Thumb", "Rumpelstiltskin", "Sleeping Beauty" and "Snow White".

Catalog: DB-1031
 UPC: 0684758936486
 MSLP: \$12.99

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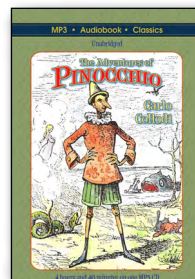
Aesop's Fables: A New Revised Edition

Author: Aesop (c. 620-564)
 Translated by R. Worthinton
 Read by: Phil Chenevert
 Length: 3 hours 26 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Myths, Legends and Fairy Tales

Aesop's Fables is a collection of several hundred fables that have come down through the ages from ancient Greece. A fable is usually very short, simple, and unadorned; it will often feature talking animals and plants; and it contains an introduction followed by the story and the moral it illustrates. The earliest known collection consisted of 160 fables in a set of ten books assembled in the 4th century BC. It was considered the definitive collection for twelve centuries, although no

Catalog: DB-1003
 UPC: 0684758935830
 MSLP: \$10.99

manuscript or published copy survives. Many of the tales have become proverbial and stand for lasting themes, such as "The Goose That Laid The Golden Egg". While the fables were associated with the person of Aesop, it is thought that many of them had their origins in India, the Near East and ancient Sumer, and that they found their way into the Greek culture as trade and travel areas broadened over time. It is very likely fables were ascribed to Aesop if there was no other known author.



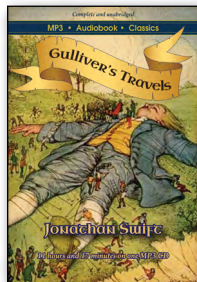
The Adventures of Pinocchio

Author: Carlo Collodi (1826 - 1890)
 Translated by Carol Della Chiesa (1887 -1972)
 Read by: Mark F. Smith
 Length: 4 hours and 40 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Children's Fiction

The Adventures of Pinocchio (1882) chronicles the mischievous adventures of a marionette who comes to life, and his creator, a poor wood-carver named Geppetto. Famous for his nose, which grows whenever he tells a lie, Pinocchio and his father encounter many situations and incidents and a host of memorable fairy tale characters: a Talking Cricket, the Fox and the Cat, the Fairy with the Turquoise Hair, an Owl, a Parrot, and so on. The story began life as a serial in the first Italian newspaper for children, and became an instant hit. It originally ended with Pinocchio's being hanged for his many transgressions. The second half was added at the request of his editor, in which Pinocchio is rescued by the "Blue Fairy" and turned into a real boy. The completed tale became a cornerstone of children's literature, inspired hundreds of adaptations. And has been translated into over 240 languages, making it one of the most translated and widely read books of all time.

Catalog: DB-1117
 UPC: 0683422134357
 MSLP: \$10.99

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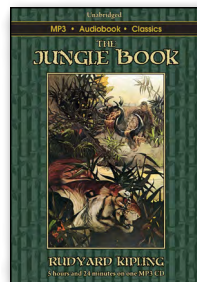


Gulliver's Travels

Author: Jonathan Swift
 Read by: Lizzie Driver
 Length: 11 hours 17 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Action & Adventure Fiction, Satire

Catalog: DB-1039
 UPC: 0684758936035
 MSLP: \$12.99

George Orwell called *Gulliver's Travels* one of the six essential works in all literature. A parody of the traveler's tale genre popular at the time exemplified by *Robinson Crusoe*, the book recounts four voyages in which the naïve Gulliver is taken by accidents to strange and foreign lands. He first finds himself a giant among tiny people, then a tiny person among giants. He is rescued by a flying island of feckless rationalists pursuing absurd projects, then classed with hideous humanoid Yahoos by the noble equine race of idealists the Houyhnhnms. Cast out by fate again and again, the once adventurous and optimistic Gulliver returns to England a misanthropic recluse, choosing to spend his time at the stables instead of society. A biting satire on human nature, *Gulliver's Travels* was an instant hit when it appeared. It was published anonymously and changes were made to avoid censure by the government. The publisher used five printers to keep up with demand, which sold out in its first week.

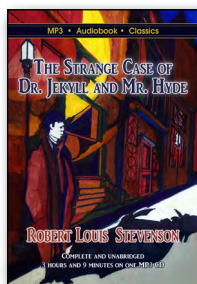


The Jungle Book

Author: Rudyard Kipling (1865-1936)
 Read by: Phil Chenevert
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 5 hours 24 minutes
 Genre: Children's Fiction

Catalog: DB-1070
 UPC: 0684758936059
 MSLP: \$11.99

Rudyard Kipling wrote *The Jungle Book* as a series of short stories that were first published in several magazines in 1893 and 1894. Published in book form in 1894, the stories that comprise *The Jungle Book* enjoy great popularity due to Disney's animated film versions in 1967 and 2003 and to other film and stage adaptations as well. The stories contain nearly everything Kipling knew and had learned about the Indian Jungle during his childhood in India. The best known of the stories are the three that concern the man-cub "Mowgli," who is raised by wolves. The stories and their accompanying verses offer helpful safety tips for persons, families and communities. There is some very recent evidence that Kipling wrote these beautiful and wholly entertaining stories for his daughter, Josephine, who died at the age of six in 1899. Many have looked deeper into these stories, and, as with Orwell, have interpreted the work as being a sophisticated commentary on the politics and society of the time.



The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde

Author: Robert Louis Stevenson (1850 - 1894)
 Read by: David Barnes
 Length: 3 hours 9 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Horror and Supernatural Fiction

Catalog: DB-1074
 UPC: 0684758936165
 MSLP: \$10.99

The phrase "Jekyll and Hyde" has come to signify a person who displays opposite moral character depending on the situation, often without warning or explanation. All of this originates with, Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, written in 1886. Stevenson was a sick man and not unacquainted with medicines and drugs ministered to ease his condition. He was also fascinated with the interplay of good and evil, as both exist in the same heart and soul of each person. The story explores the dichotomy in the person of Dr. Jekyll, an upright member of the community, who, on the ingestion of a certain potion, is transformed into the odious sociopath, Mr. Hyde. Allusions to the detrimental effect of toxic substances, drugs or alcohol, on one's behavior cannot be ignored. However, Stevenson's work explores a deeper mystery as to how a human being can accommodate intention and conduct based in opposing moral camps. In this the novella is a cautionary tale to the notion then popular in England at the height of its industrialized empire – the imminent perfectibility of man.

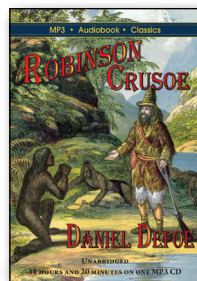


Treasure Island

Author: Robert Louis Stevenson (1850 - 1894)
 Read by: Adrian Praetzelis
 Length: 7 hours 33 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Action & Adventure Fiction, Children's Fiction

Catalog: DB-1047
 UPC: 0684758936158
 MSLP: \$11.99

Treasure Island (1883) is the original adventure story about pirates and buried treasure. It was originally serialized under the pseudonym Captain George North before publication in book form. The story is set in the mid-18th century and narrated by young Jim Hawkins, the young son of the owners of the Admiral Benbow Inn in a seaside village in southwest England. It opens with the arrival of a drunken seaman by the name of Bones, the former first mate of a notorious pirate Captain Flint sought by fellow pirates for information about buried treasure. The pirates arrive and confront Bones, who drops dead. The pirates are routed by customs men. Jim enlists comrades to hire a ship and crew and set out to discover the treasure themselves. The story unfolds with unsavory characters and lively plot twists, with no small amount of treachery and betrayal along the way, before culminating with the return of Jim and company to England.

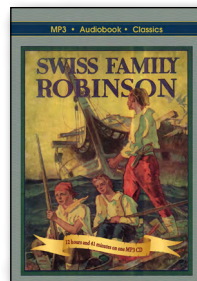


Robinson Crusoe

Author: Daniel Defoe
 Read by: Mark F. Smith
 Length: 11 hours 20 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Action & Adventure Fiction

Catalog: DB-1018
 UPC: 0684758936011
 MSLP: \$12.99

Robinson Crusoe (1719) is a fictional autobiography that tells the story of an English plantation who is shipwrecked off the coast of South America and marooned on an island for 28 years. He salvages tools and supplies sufficient to build a dwelling, reads the Bible, encounters native cannibals and manages to free and adopt one of the captives as a companion, dubbed Friday. He and Friday eventually defeat the natives, and Crusoe returns to England by way of Portugal and Spain. *Robinson Crusoe* was the first novel to appear in English and was based in part on a memoir by a Scottish seaman who had been similarly marooned. Defoe used the plot as a framework and added fantastic and humorous events that give the story much of its appeal. Told in a straightforward style laced with wit and irony, it dug deep into the mind of the character, highly original at the time. The book became an instant hit, going through four editions in the first year, and has remained a bestseller ever since.

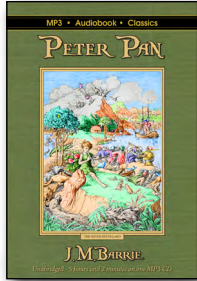


The Swiss Family Robinson

Author: Johann David Wyss (1743 - 1818)
 Read by: Mark F. Smith
 Length: 12 hours and 41 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Action & Adventure Fiction

Catalog: DB-1016
 UPC: 0684758936028
 MSLP: \$12.99

The Swiss Family Robinson is a story about a Swiss family shipwrecked in the East Indies en route to Australia. Modeled on Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe*, the name identifies the book as part of the adventure genre spawned by Defoe's classic. The adventures teach Christian-oriented moral lessons in self-reliance, the natural world and the values of frugality, cooperation, husbandry and civilization. The book is shaped in roughly three parts. The first tells of the ship running aground, the crew abandoning the family, and their actions to rescue provisions, tools, books, livestock, weapons and dogs and establish a homestead on the island. In the second section they build a tree house, discover unusual plants and animals, and build mechanical devices. In the third section they sail around the island, discover another European family hiding from pirates and set the stage for their re-entry into the outside world. The best-known English version was published in 1849, edited by William H.G. Kingston. This reading is based on that version.



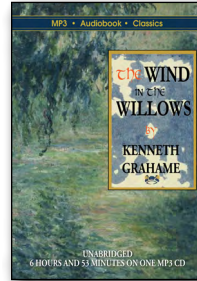
Peter Pan

Author: J. M. Barrie (1860 - 1937)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 5 hours and 2 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Children's Fiction

No character better personifies the fascination with eternal youth than Peter Pan. George Bernard Shaw described the 1904 stage play as "ostensibly a holiday entertainment for children but really a play for grown-up people." Peter is the archetypal adolescent boy: self-centered, boastful, careless, fearless, nonchalant and forgetful. He is also a born leader and highly skilled: he can fly, he can fight; he can do just about anything. Peter, who had flown away from his parents when he was a baby, is caught listening to bedtime stories at the window of Wendy Darling and loses his shadow trying to escape. Wendy re-attaches the shadow when he returns to claim it. He invites her to Neverland to mother his tribe of Lost Boys. There they experience the adventures that introduce us to the characters that have become well known: Tinkerbell the fairy, Tiger Lily the princess, Captain Hook, Hook's nemesis The Crocodile, and others. The work has spawned numerous adaptations, most notably the 1953 Disney film and a 2003 live action film.

Catalog: DB-1192
 UPC: 0701236969108
 MSLP: \$10.99

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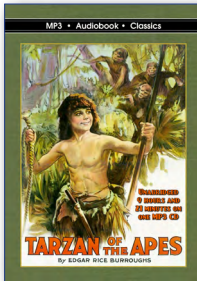
The Wind in the Willows

Author: Kenneth Grahame
 Read by: Adrian Praetzellis
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 6 hours and 53 minutes
 Genre: Children's Fiction

The Wind in the Willows began as a series of bedtime stories and has since become a classic tale of loyal friendship and madcap adventures that has delighted generations since 1908. Its four main animal characters - Toad, Rat, Mole and Badger - spend time "messaging about in boats" on the River Thames and getting in and out of various scrapes. The story centers on the impulsive obsessions of the rich, jovial, amiable but conceited and aimless Toad and the efforts of his loyal friends to rescue him from the consequences of his misadventures. Of course, each has

Catalog: DB-1193
 UPC: 0701236969115
 MSLP: \$11.99

his own surprises and challenges along the way. *The Wind in the Willows* was initially rejected by numerous publishers until President Theodore Roosevelt campaigned for its publication. He later wrote Grahame that he had "read it and reread it, and have come to accept the characters as old friends." The story has undergone numerous adaptations and appears at number 16 on the BBC's list of Britain's best-loved novels of all time.



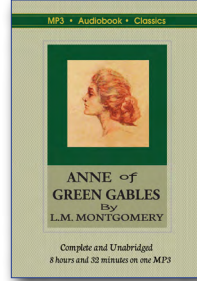
Tarzan of the Apes

Author: Edgar Rice Burroughs
 Read by: Mark F. Smith
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 9 hours and 21 minutes
 Genre: Action & Adventure Fiction, Children's Fiction

Tarzan, first introduced in *Tarzan of the Apes*, is probably the best known and most enduring example of the noble savage has been a stock literary character in the last 100 years. He is John Clayton, Viscount Greystroke, the young son of a British lord and lady who die while marooned on the coast of West Africa. The boy is adopted and raised by a tribe of Great Apes and reverts to a feral state of nature. Twenty years later he meets and falls in love with a young American woman,

Catalog: DB-1196
 UPC: 0701236969146
 MSLP: \$11.99

Jane Porter, who is identically marooned. The relationship awakens his human characteristics and begins his path back to civilization, which he experiences with mixed feelings. The original Tarzan combines the best of both worlds: he is athletic, attractive, emotionally intelligent, ethical, generous and gracious. The story was immensely popular when it first appeared in 1912 and spawned 25 sequels by Burroughs as well as numerous adaptations, most recently the 2016 film *The Legend of Tarzan*.



Anne of Green Gables

Author: Lucy Maud Montgomery (1874 - 1942)
 Read by: Karen Savage
 Length: 8 hours 26 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Children's Fiction

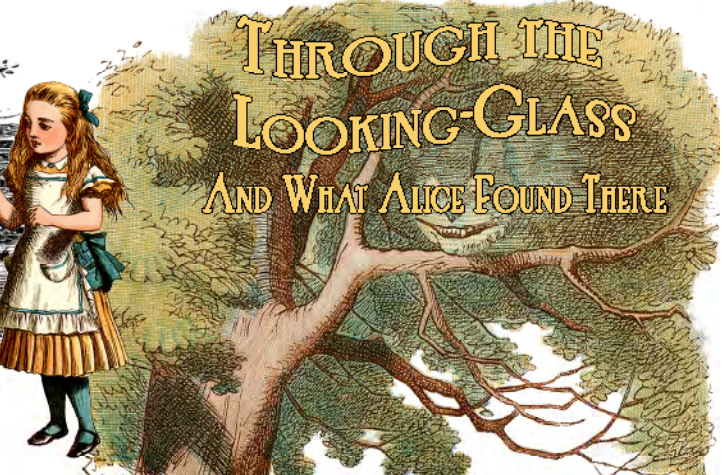
Anne of Green Gables by Canadian author L.M. Montgomery features the exploits of Anne Shirley, an orphan girl with bright red hair, a vivid imagination and an emotional temperament. The story begins when Anne is mistakenly sent to the farmstead of the Cuthberts in Prince Edward Island in place of a young boy they had expected to adopt as a helper. The novel goes on to recount the many incidents and adventures that transpire as she finds her way with the family, at school and in town. *Anne of Green Gables* has sold over 50 million copies and has been translated into 20 languages. The numerous sequels have proven very popular. The character of Anne has become a strong role model for girls all over the world, many of whom make a pilgrimage to Prince Edward Island to immerse themselves in the environment of the inspirational stories.

Catalog: DB-1036
 UPC: 0684758936141
 MSLP: \$11.99

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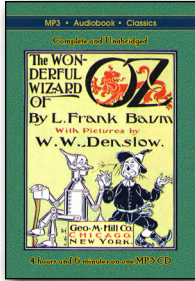


ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND



THROUGH THE LOOKING-GLASS AND WHAT ALICE FOUND THERE

Children's Classics - The Wonderful Wizard of Oz

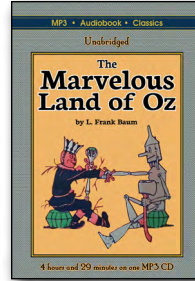


The Wonderful Wizard of Oz

Author: L. Frank Baum (1856-1919)
Read by: Phil Chenevert
Length: 4 hours and 3 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Children's Fiction

The *Wonderful Wizard of Oz* is the first of fourteen novels recounting the adventures of the Dorothy and her trio of companions in the Land of Oz. Swept away from her Kansas farm in a cyclone, she, her dog Toto and their falling house land in Oz, killing the Wicked Witch of the East, ruler of the Munchkins. She is greeted by Glinda, the Good Witch of the North, who gives her the magical Silver Shoes of the Wicked Witch of the East and directs her to seek the help of the Wizard of Oz in the Emerald City by following the Yellow Brick Road. She meets and frees the Tin Man, the Scarecrow, and the Cowardly Lion, who befriend and accompany her. After a series of challenges she is returned home through the power of the Silver Shoes. The book was an immediate hit upon publication in late 1900 and had sold over a million copies by the time the movie version was released in 1939. Productions and adaptations continue to this day, *Wicked* being the most recent.

Catalog: DB-1087
UPC: 0684758936752
MSLP: \$10.99

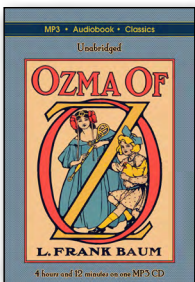


The Marvelous Land of Oz

Author: L. Frank Baum (1856-1919)
Read by: Paul Harvey
Length: 4 hours 27 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Children's Fiction

The Marvelous Land of Oz is the second Oz books and takes place just after the events of the first book. The central character is a boy named Tip, under the care of a witch named Mombi. The cast includes Jack Pumpkinhead, a wooden figure built by Tip and brought to life by Mombi's Powder of Life; an animated Sawhorse; the Scarecrow, now ruler of the Emerald City; the Tin Woodman, ruler of the Winkie Kingdom; and General Jinjur's all-girl Army of Revolt. Tip runs away after Mombi threatens to turn him into a marble statue. He journeys to the palace of Glinda the Good Witch, where he learns that a girl named Ozma had been hidden by the Wizard and is the rightful ruler of the Emerald City. They confront the elusive Mombi, who confesses that she had hidden the infant and transformed it into the boy Tip. Tip is shocked, but, convinced of his destiny by his friends, submits to Mombi's last spell. Tip, now Princess Ozma, makes a triumphant return to the Emerald City. The book has spawned numerous adaptations and spinoffs, the most notable being Disney's *Return to Oz* in 1987.

Catalog: DB-1104
UPC: 0684758936769
MSLP: \$10.99

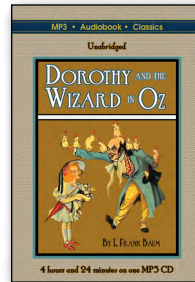


Ozma of Oz

Author: L. Frank Baum (1856-1919)
Read by: Phil Chenevert
Length: 4 hours and 12 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Children's Fiction

Ozma of Oz (1907) was the third Oz book and the first set largely outside the Land of Oz. En route to Australia a violent storm washes Dorothy overboard in a crate with Billina, a yellow hen. They wash ashore in some sort of "fairy country" where Billina can talk and they pick their lunches grow on trees. They meet the raucous "Wheelsers", and run off to find a key beside a door carved into the side of a rocky mountain. Venturing inside, they meet Tik-Tok, a mechanical man, and activate him with the key. They learn they are in the Land of Ev, controlled by the Nome King, who has captured the royal family and turned them into ornaments. Tik-Tok escorts them to the home of Princess Langwidere. Ozma appears on a magic carpet with the Tin Woodsman, the Scarecrow, and the Cowardly Lion, and they set off to the underground kingdom of the Nomes. They are on the brink of disaster when Billina saves the day, rescuing her companions and the royal family. They return to a victory celebration in the Emerald City.

Catalog: DB-1105
UPC: 0684758936776
MSLP: \$10.99

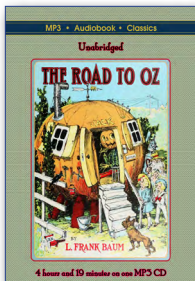


Dorothy and the Wizard in Oz

Author: L. Frank Baum (1856-1919)
Read by: Phil Chenevert
Length: 4 hours and 24 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Children's Fiction

Dorothy and the Wizard in Oz (1908) is the Oz books. The story reunites Dorothy with the humbug Wizard from *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*. Dorothy is visiting friends in San Francisco when an earthquake opens a crevice that hurtles the group deep into the earth, where they alight in the Land of Mangaboos, a race of vegetable people. They are about to be executed for causing the "Rain of Stones" when the Wizard of Oz falls from the sky. The Wizard's bluster and cunning help them escape from the Mangaboos to the Valley of Voe, populated by invisible people. They meet a Braided Man at the Pyramid Mountain and proceed to the Land of the Gargoyles, where they are first imprisoned and then trapped in a cave. Dorothy calls upon Ozma, who rescues them with her Magic Belt. They return to the Emerald City, where the Wizard decides to settle down. Ozma transports Dorothy and her entourage back home to Kansas and California.

Catalog: DB-1106
UPC: 0684758936783
MSLP: \$10.99



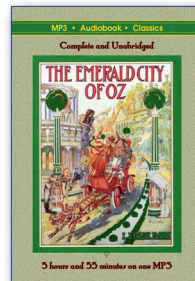
The Road to Oz

Author: L. Frank Baum (1856-1919)
Read by: Phil Chenevert
Length: 4 hours and 19 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Children's Fiction

The Road to Oz (1909), the fifth Oz book, recounts Dorothy's fourth visit to Oz. The journey begins in Kansas, where Dorothy and Toto meet a wandering hobo called the Shaggy Man. The road splits seven ways, and they meet Button-Bright, a little boy who loses his way, and the fairy Polychrome, the Rainbow's Daughter who danced off the edge of a disappearing rainbow. They find themselves on a "fairy adventure" in the rival communities of Foxville and then Dunkinon.

Catalog: DB-1107
UPC: 0684758936790
MSLP: \$10.99

The reach the Deadly Desert surrounding Oz and are transported across the perilous sands in a sand-boat to Oz, where they are greeted by their chums Billina, Tik-Tok, the Scarecrow, the Tin Woodman, and Jack Pumpkinhead, who accompany them to the Emerald City for a celebration of Princess Ozma's birthday, attended by just about every character from all the preceding books. After feasting and gift-giving the Wizard sends everyone off in bubbles.



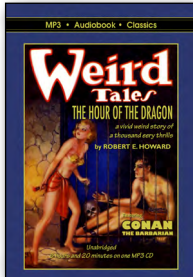
The Emerald City of Oz

Author: L. Frank Baum (1856-1919)
Read by: Phil Chenevert
Length: 5 hours and 55 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Children's Fiction

The Emerald City of Oz (1910) is the sixth Oz book. Uncle Henry is saddled with debt from repairs to the farmhouse, so Dorothy arranges for Princess Ozma to relocate them to Oz, where they are given lodgings, wardrobes and luxuries. We meet a menagerie of new characters – the Fuddles, the Rigamaroles, the Flutterbudgets, the living kitchen tools in Utensia, and the civilized rabbits of Bunbury. In the meantime, in a parallel plot, the Nome King Roquat plots an invasion of Oz and enlists allies from the nations of the Whimsies, the Growleywogs, and the Phantasms. Princess Ozma's Magic Picture gives the people of Oz an advance warning, and she concocts a shrewd plan to defeat the Nome King to defend Oz from any future invasions. Originally intended as the last in the series, descriptions of the somewhat Utopian social organization of Oz are more extensive than in the preceding stories. Gregory Maguire, author of *Wicked* and *Son of a Witch*, has said that *The Emerald City of Oz* is "suffused with an elegiac quality".

Catalog: DB-1108
UPC: 0684758936806
MSLP: \$10.99

Fantasy Fiction - Conan the Barbarian



The Hour of the Dragon

Author: Robert E. Howard
Read by: Mark Nelson
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 8 hours and 20 minutes
Genre: Fantasy Fiction, Science Fiction

The Hour of the Dragon, also known as *Conan the Conqueror*, is the longest and one of the last of the Robert E. Howard fantasy novels featuring Conan the Cimmerian, also known as Conan the Barbarian. In many ways it is a distillation of the motifs and themes common to the Conan canon. We begin with a middle-aged Conan reigning as King of Aquilonia and prey to a group of conspirators who seek to depose him and restore the throne to Valerius, heir of his predecessor,

Catalog: DB-1203
UPC: 0701236969214
MSLP: \$9.99

Numedides. With the aid of the ancient sorcerer Xaltotun they overcome the Aquilonian army and capture Conan. While he awaits execution a sympathetic slave girl, Zenobia, risks her life to set him free. He sets out on an arduous quest to defeat the wizard and regain his throne, vowing to make Zenobia his queen. The story was serialized in five issues of pulp magazine *Weird Tales* from December 1936 – April 1936 before appearing in book form in 1950. Critic Groff Conklin praised the book as “a sanguinary combination of sorcery, skull-duggery, and swordplay.”

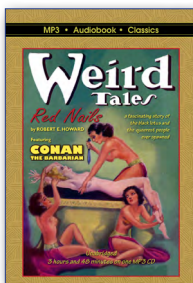


The People of the Black Circle

Author: Robert E. Howard
Read by: Phil Chenevert
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 3 hours and 49 minutes
Genre: Fantasy Fiction, Science Fiction

Catalog: DB-1204
UPC: 0701236969221
MSLP: \$9.99

The People of the Black Circle (1934) is the eleventh of the Conan stories published by *Weird Tales*. Set in the mythical Hyborian Age in the Asian regions of Vendhya and Ghulistan (India-Pakistan and Afghanistan), the story centers around Conan's kidnapping of princess Devi Yasmina of Vendhya and thwarting an attempt at world domination by the Black Seers of Yimsha. The action begins when Conan, chief of a tribe of hillmen, sets out to rescue seven of his men that have been captured and held by the princess to force him into killing her enemies. Conan instead kidnaps the princess, but the two are set upon by Kerim Shah, agent of the King of Turan, intent upon invading Vendhya. They escape into the mountains, followed by Kemsha, who catches up with them just as he is attacked by Rakhshas from Yimsha, who kill him and capture Devi. Enter a group of Irakzai, who team up with Conan to rescue the princess. All are eventually rescued by the Vendhyan army and join forces to defeat the Turanians. The inevitable attraction between Conan and the princess smolders but never catches fire as forces inexorably draw them apart. The story is considered one of the finest in the Conan canon due to its epic sweep and insights into magical powers.



Red Nails

Author: Robert E. Howard
Read by: Phil Chenevert
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 3 hours and 48 minutes
Genre: Fantasy Fiction, Sword & Sorcery

Red Nails was the last of the Conan stories published in *Weird Tales*. Set in the jungles far from human habitation in the mythic Hyborian Age, Conan and Valeria of the Red Brotherhood are set upon and defeat a dragon. They then stumble upon the lost city of Xuchotil, a twilight world made from a single block of jade by a people that had been slaughtered by a band of degenerate conquerors led by two brothers. Conan and Valeria arrive at the end of a deadly feud caused by one brother stealing the bride of the other. Our warriors

Catalog: DB-1205
UPC: 0701236969238
MSLP: \$9.99

help decide the matter in favor of Olmec, who then tries to double-cross Conan and seduce Valeria, only to be outdone by the stolen bride, a sorceress. A final bloody showdown leaves everyone dead except, of course, for Conan and Valeria. *Red Nails* refers to the scarlet heads of copper nails driven into an ebony tree trunk to keep count of the slain enemy soldiers. Grim, deadly and decadent, *Red Nails* is considered one of the best tales in the Conan canon.



Queen of the Black Coast

Author: Robert E. Howard
Read by: Phil Chenevert
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 1 hour and 28 minutes
Genre: Fantasy Fiction, Science Fiction

Catalog: DB-1206
UPC: 0701236969245
MSLP: \$9.99

We begin as the ever just Conan has refused to betray a friend to a fascist magistrate in the port city of Argos, emphasizing his point by killing the man. Conan forces his way onto a sailing barge and soon finds himself set upon by a gang of pirates led by Belit, the Queen of the Black Coast. His mates on the Argus are no match for the pirates, and Conan jumps ship and is spared by Belit, who admires his ferocity and other manly virtues. She asks him to be her mate. Together they plunder and terrorize the Black Coast, eventually sailing up river to find a lost treasure, skulking hyenas and a winged monster among ancient ruins. Amidst various horrors they carry on a deep theological dialog intermixed with intense romance until Belit acquires a cursed jeweled necklace that renders her mad and leads to her demise. Conan fights his way out with the help of her spirit, avenges her death and sends her off with a Viking funeral. First published in *Weird Tales* in May 1934, the epic sweep and intense (and atypical) romance mark *Queen of the Black Coast* as one of the favorites of Conan aficionados.



"He heard Yasmina scream."

The People of the Black Circle

By ROBERT E. HOWARD



"Strike, I command you! Strike!"

Fantasy Fiction - Conan the Barbarian



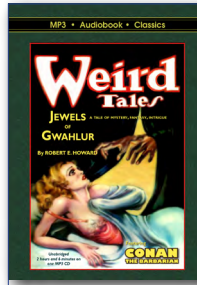
A Witch Shall Be Born

Author: Robert E. Howard
Read by: Phil Chenevert
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 2 hours and 5 minutes
Genre: Fantasy Fiction, Sword & Sorcery

Written in a few days in the spring of 1934 and published by *Weird Tales* that same year, *A Witch Shall Be Born* by Robert E. Howard tells the story of a witch, Salome, who replaces her twin sister, Queen Taramis of the city-state Khauran, as queen and her resulting conflict with Conan, the captain of the deposed queen's guard. Themes of paranoia, the good and evil reflected in the duality of the sisters, and the conflict of civilization and barbarism are prominent. There is a strong undertone of Christianity as well. A prophecy by Salome makes

Catalog: DB-1207
UPC: 0701236969252
MSLP: \$9.99

clear she is an early incarnation of the Salome of the New Testament. The second chapter, "The Tree of Death," is noted for the scene of Conan's crucifixion, a variation of which was included in the 1982 film *Conan the Barbarian* featuring Arnold Schwarzenegger as Conan.



Jewels of Gwahlur

Author: Robert E. Howard
Read by: Phil Chenevert
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 2 hours and 6 minutes
Genre: Fantasy Fiction, Sword & Sorcery

The *Teeth of Gwahlur* are the legendary jewels kept in the abandoned city of Alkmeenon in the mythical African country of Keshan during the ancient Hyborian Age. No fewer than four factions vie to take possession of the jewels: the native Keshans, the neighboring country of Punt, another neighboring country, Zembabwei, and a band of Pelishti. Conan has learned of the treasure and journeyed to Keshan to lead the Keshan army, where he learns from the high priest,

Catalog: DB-1210
UPC: 0701236969283
MSLP: \$9.99

Gorulga, that all depends on the guidance of Yelaya, a mummified oracle. One faction hires a slave girl to impersonate the oracle but Conan soon unmasks the fraud. Another, Pelishti leader Bit-Yakin, something of a using ventriloquist, turns out to have delivered false prophecies behind the curtain all along. Things come to a head, of course, and Conan is forced choose between making off with the treasure of saving the slave girl. Originally titled "The Servants of Bit-Yakin", *Jewels of Gwahlur* was first published in *Weird Tales* in March, 1935.

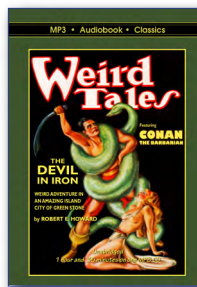


Shadows in Zamboula

Author: Robert E. Howard
Read by: Phil Chenevert
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 1 hour and 27 minutes
Genre: Fantasy Fiction, Sword & Sorcery

Originally titled *The Man-Eaters of Zamboula*, *Shadows in Zamboula* is one of the original Conan stories written by Robert E. Howard and published in *Weird Tales* in November, 1935. Set in the desert city of Zamboula, the story takes place over the course of an evening as cannibals who prey only on travelers roam the street. Conan has taken a room in a cheap tavern run by a proprietor who allows the cannibals to capture his guest while he confiscates their property. Conan, of course, gets the better of his adversary and takes to the streets, where he rescues a naked woman and her deranged woman, who turn out to be the satrap Jungir Khan and his mistress Nafertari. They promise him wealth and prestige in return for his help. Conan extracts revenge on the innkeeper and skips town with gold and a magic ring stolen from the satrap.

Catalog: DB-1209
UPC: 0701236969276
MSLP: \$9.99



The Devil in Iron

Author: Robert E. Howard
Read by: Phil Chenevert
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 1 hour and 35 minutes
Genre: Fantasy Fiction, Sword & Sorcery

The Devil in Iron is one of the original Conan stories written by Robert E. Howard and published in *Weird Tales* in August 1934. We begin with greedy fisherman awakening an ancient demon, Khosatral Khel, on the remote island of Xapur. The demon then resurrects the island's dormant ancient fortress and its long-dead citizens, giant pythons, and labyrinthine ramparts. Conan, engaged in leading the Vilayet kozaks, is tricked by Jehungir Agha, the nefarious governor of Turan, and lured to the island in pursuit of the ravishing Octavia. The awakening of the demon and the resurrection thwart the governor's plot. Conan arrives alive and kicking and defeats the forces of the Agha, a giant python, and the demon Khosatral Khel itself.

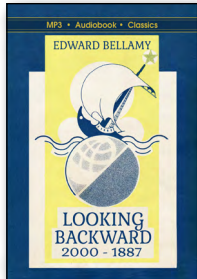
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MSLP: \$9.99



"Her like I have thimmar
story beneath the moon."



Fantasy Fiction - Dystopia and Utopia



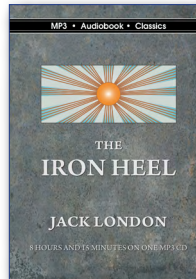
Looking Backward: 2000 - 1887

Author: Edward Bellamy
Read by: progressingamerica
Length: 10 hours and 39 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Political Science, Media Studies, Journalism

The 21st century has produced an exponential growth in the volume and complexity of communications. The growth of social media and decline of mainstream media has given rise to concerns about information “echo chambers”, entrenched partisanship, and disagreement on and even dismissal of fundamental facts. Given this, there is no better time to revisit Walter Lippmann’s *Public Opinion* (1922). Considered “the founding book of modern journalism” and “the founding book in American media studies”, it is an astute analysis

Catalog: DB-1212
UPC: 0701236969184
MSLP: \$12.99

of the irrational and self-serving perceptions that drive individual behavior and impede social progress. Lippmann argues that the power of propaganda and the expertise needed to understand public affairs renders traditional ideas of democracy untenable. To combat that, he challenged journalism to engage in the “manufacture of consent”, to parse issues and events as accurately and objectively as possible to help society cope and make more effective political decisions. The message resonates today as much as ever, perhaps even more so.

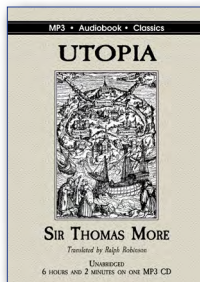


The Iron Heel

Author: Jack London
Read by: Matt Soar
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 8 hours and 15 minutes
Genre: Fantasy Fiction, Science Fiction

The Iron Heel (1908) is considered the first modern dystopian novel. Set in the distant future, the book is based on a fictional first person narrative of the rise of an oligarchic tyranny in the United States in the early twentieth century. The “Iron Heel” monopoly corporations have forced smaller businesses into bankruptcy and farmers and the middle class into poverty and serfdom. A privileged class of laborers in essential industries arises along with a military caste. It lasts for three centuries until overthrown by the “Revolution”. The “Everhard Manuscript” was written during the First Revolt and tells of Avis Everhard’s privileged childhood, her marriage to socialist revolutionary Ernest Everhard, the fall of the Iron Heel and years of underground resistance. An introduction and footnotes by scholar Anthony Meredith add depth. *The Iron Heel* was a forerunner of later soft science fiction novels and an important influence on George Orwell and *Nineteen Eighty-Four*.

Catalog: DB-1216
UPC: 0701236969351
MSLP: \$11.99



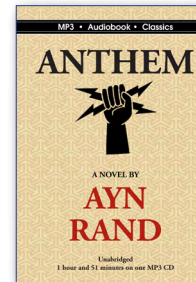
Utopia

Author: Sir Thomas More (1478 - 1535)
Translated by: Ralph Robinson (1520 - 1577)
Read by: Ruth Golding
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 6 hours 2 minutes
Genre: Fiction, Political Philosophy, Satire

Sir Thomas More invented the word “utopia” by blending the Greek words meaning “no place” as a title for his fictional work of political philosophy. Raphael, a voyager, describes the customs he observed during a journey to Utopia, a mythical island in the New World with representative government and no private property. Meals are communal. Everyone wears the same clothes. Men and women are equals.

Catalog: DB-1158
UPC: 0683422134739
MSLP: \$11.99

Everyone works six hours a day. Each household has two slaves. There are no lawyers. Health care is free. Multiple religions are tolerated. Priests can marry, couples may divorce, but premarital sex is punished by lifelong celibacy and adulterers are enslaved. Written in Latin and published in 1516 in Belgium, the book was not published in England until sixteen years after More’s death. Many of the concepts stand in direct opposition to More’s beliefs as a devout Catholic. Most see it as a satirical commentary on the evils of European society and an influence on later works such as Francis Bacon’s *New Atlantis* and *Candide* by Voltaire.



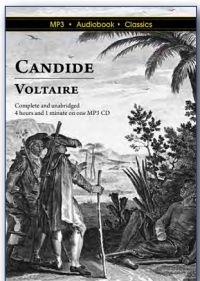
Anthem

Author: Ayn Rand (1905 - 1982)
Read by: Caden Vaughan Clegg
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 1 hour 51 minutes
Genre: Fantasy Fiction, Political Philosophy

Anthem is set in a dystopian future Dark Age in which totalitarianism has imposed a strict order based on technology and collectivism. The main character is Equality 7-252, who is raised in a collective home and was born with a “curse” that enables him to learn quickly and ask probing questions. He discovers a tunnel in a work area containing metal tracks, a remnant from the Unmentionable Times. He finds sanctuary, and soon steals some paper and begins a journal. He meets a Peasant girl, Liberty 5-3000 and falls for her, dubbing

Catalog: DB-1149
UPC: 0683422134791
MSLP: \$9.99

her “The Golden One”. He rediscovers electricity and presents it to the World Council of Scholars, who seek to destroy the invention. Equality escapes to the Uncharted Forest. The Golden One joins him a day later. They settle in a house in the mountains and spend their time reading books discovered in the library. They rediscover the word “I”, grapple with love, rename themselves Prometheus and Gaea, and make plans for a future in which individuality is regained. Published in England in 1938, *Anthem* was re-released in 1946 after the spectacular success of *The Fountainhead* and has since sold more than 3.5 million copies.



Candide

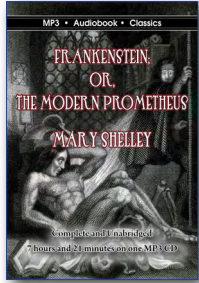
Author: Voltaire (1694 - 1778)
Read by: Paul Adams
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 3 hours 44 minutes
Genre: Fantasy Fiction, Satire

Is this the best of all possible worlds? The title character in Voltaire’s classic novel, *Candide*, doesn’t ask the question so much as he’s force fed the answer. Raised in a sheltered environment with the words of Leibnizian positivism dropped into his mouth by his tutor, Dr. Pangloss, Candide accepts that all is for the best. Armed with this sunny belief, he leaves the comfort of home and hits the big bad world only to duck and cover as the big bad world hits back again

Catalog: DB-1052
UPC: 0684758936172
MSLP: \$10.99

and again. He begins to think that “If this is the best of all possible worlds, then the Creator is an under-achiever”. Subjected to trial after trial and witnessing the many injustices that are the fact and fabric of the world of experience, Candide, as per Voltaire, learns that perhaps the best that one can do is to tend one’s own garden. Written over the course of three days in the middle of the 18th Century (the Age of Enlightenment), this brilliant satire delivers an eloquent argument in a matter of fact voice bathed in the humor that stings with the barb of truth.

Horror & Supernatural Fiction



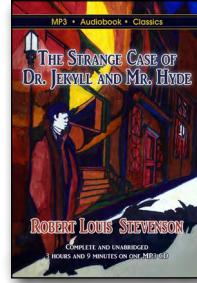
Frankenstein

Author: Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley (1797 - 1851)
 Read by: Caden Vaughn Clegg
 Length: 7 hours and 21 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Horror and Supernatural Fiction

The timeless classic *Frankenstein* was written by Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley, the wife of Romantic poet, Percy Bysshe Shelley, and published anonymously in 1818, then under her name in 1823. The novel is a strange, exotic and brilliant investigation into those subjects deemed to be the forbidden knowledge of their time – creation, creativity, the nature of life, the life force, and the existence and nature of the soul. *Frankenstein* is the story of a doctor

Catalog: DB-1015
 UPC: 0684758936004
 MSLP: \$11.99

on a quest to discover the secret of life who steals bodies from graves to try to create life from the parts and instead creates a monster. It is both Gothic and Romantic, full of dark wanderings, night visions, death and destruction. As unintended consequences multiply and overwhelm Dr. Frankenstein, he is driven to avenge the dead and repair the damage – the result of having gone a step too far beyond the jurisdictions of 19th century science. Yes, there's terror here, worthy of Boris Karloff, but there's even more terror in *Frankenstein's* consideration of those forbidden things we keep to the side, safe, and locked away in the dark.

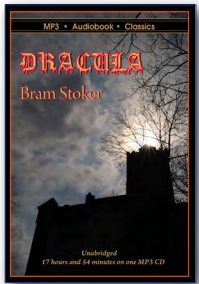


The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde

Author: Robert Louis Stevenson (1850 - 1894)
 Read by: David Barnes
 Length: 3 hours 9 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Horror and Supernatural Fiction

Catalog: DB-1074
 UPC: 0684758936165
 MSLP: \$10.99

The phrase “Jekyll and Hyde” has come to signify a person who displays opposite moral character depending on the situation, often without warning or explanation. All of this originates with, Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, written in 1886. Stevenson was a sick man and not unacquainted with medicines and drugs ministered to ease his condition. He was also fascinated with the interplay of good and evil, as both exist in the same heart and soul of each person. The story explores the dichotomy in the person of Dr. Jekyll, an upright member of the community, who, on the ingestion of a certain potion, is transformed into the odious sociopath, Mr. Hyde. Allusions to the detrimental effect of toxic substances, drugs or alcohol, on one's behavior cannot be ignored. However, Stevenson's work explores a deeper mystery as to how a human being can accommodate intention and conduct based in opposing moral camps. In this the novella is a cautionary tale to the notion then popular in England at the height of its industrialized empire – the imminent perfectibility of man.

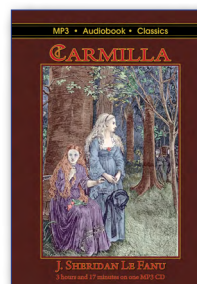


Dracula

Author: Bram Stoker (1847 - 1912)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 17 hours 54 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Horror and Supernatural Fiction

Our culture is fascinated by zombies. Vampire novels, films and television shows abound in the lists of popular entertainments. Most modern takes, however, are pale imitations of the real goods served up by Bram Stoker in his classic novel, *Dracula*. As inescapable as the fact of mortality is the persistence with which the creative mind travels dark roads to attempt to overcome the terminal nature of our lives. Stoker didn't invent the notion of vampires, the undead who sustain themselves on the blood of the living, nor their nighttime wanderings, nor the undercurrent of unrestrained id that renders them a forbidden fruit. But his masterpiece, *Dracula*, codifies the story and distills its essential elements. *Dracula* is timeless; it remains a novel for today because Stoker tells the story with such great skill that we see, as if for the first time, what we thought we knew of the Count, his castle, and his brood, which have too often been obscured by adaptations of lesser quality.

Catalog: DB-1014
 UPC: 0684758935991
 MSLP: \$13.99

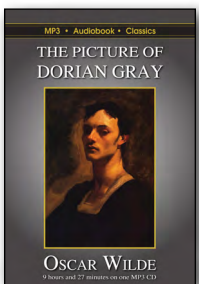


Carmilla

Author: Joseph Sheridan LeFanu
 Read by: Elizabeth Klett
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 3 hours and 14 minutes
 Genre: Horror & Supernatural Fiction

Catalog: DB-1201
 UPC: 0701236969191
 MSLP: \$10.99

Countess Karnstein, bears an identical likeness to their visitor. Laura and her father journey to their ancestral village, where they meet his colleague, General Spielsdorf, who relates a story of the vampire who caused of his daughter's death and is searching for the tomb of the Countess. The General unmasks Carmilla when she appears on the scene, which leads to the inevitable conflict and climax. Serialized in 1871-2 and published as a book soon after, the story has influenced many others since, notably *Dracula* and *The Turn of the Screw*.

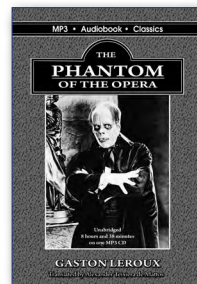


The Picture of Dorian Gray

Author: Oscar Wilde (1854 - 1900)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 9 hours 17 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Fiction

The portrait of the good-looking young aristocrat Dorian Gray by painter Basil Hallward depicts him as a figure from Greek mythology. Basil fears that perhaps too much feeling is being conveyed in the work. His louche friend Lord Henry admires the work but upsets Dorian with a cautionary speech about the transience of youth and beauty. Dorian curses the picture, wishing it would age as he stays forever young. Dorian falls in love with actress Sibyl Vane, but breaks their engagement. Sibyl kills herself and Dorian sinks into a life of debauchery. Basil confronts Dorian, shows him the decay in the hidden portrait, and beseeches him to repent his misbehavior, which prompts a fit of rage with a tragic outcome. Sibyl's brother attempts to avenge her death, but is accidentally shot. Dorian tries and fails to change, and attempts to destroy the unfortunate portrait, which, of course, has the last word. *The Picture of Dorian Gray* (1890) is the only published novel by Oscar Wilde. Wilde later revised the story for book publication including an aphoristic Preface that has since become famous in its own right. The amended version was published by in April 1891.

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 UPC: 0684758936332
 MSLP: \$11.99



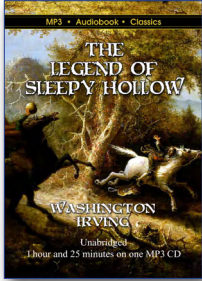
The Phantom of the Opera

Author: Gaston Leroux
 Read by: Ralph Snelson
 Length: 8 hours 35 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Horror and Supernatural Fiction

Catalog: DB-1080
 UPC: 0684758936592
 MSLP: \$11.99

Before the Broadway hit and the Lon Chaney movie, *The Phantom of the Opera* (1910) was a book by French author Gaston Leroux. It is a shame, as it is a beautiful, poignant, suspenseful work with a Gallic tone of love wrapped in danger that has seduced readers for centuries. Christine, the ingénue, takes the stage of the Paris Opera and scores a brilliant success. Her former lover attends the performance, hears her voice and falls in love again. The two plan to wed. On a subsequent night the massive chandelier falls into the audience. In the ensuing confusion the Phantom, until then an incorporeal presence, kidnaps Christine and whisks her away to his hiding place deep beneath the Opera House. Known up to that time only through letters and malevolent acts, he becomes flesh and bone. He shows himself to Christine, and in time he will remove his mask and show her his face. The story is a love story in the deepest, most mysterious sense of the word. It portrays the many mansions within a single heart, with its consequent confusion of devotion, jealousy, possessiveness, passion, desire, and heat, contradictory and utterly human.

Horror & Supernatural Fiction



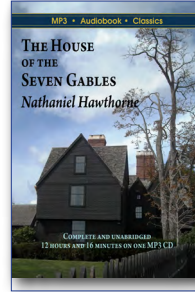
The Legend of Sleepy Hollow

Author: Washington Irving (1783 - 1859)
 Read by: Phil Chenevert
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 1 hour and 24 minutes
 Genre: Horror & Supernatural Fiction

Set in the secluded glen of Sleepy Hollow in the countryside near New York, *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* tells of the mysterious disappearance of Icabod Crane, a gangly, superstitious schoolmaster from Connecticut who competes with a town rowdy for the hand of the daughter of a wealthy farmer. He attends a harvest party to propose and is rejected. Returning home with a heavy heart and his mind alive with imaginings from ghost stories told at the party, he encounters a Headless Horseman.

Catalog: DB-1163
 UPC: 0683422134821
 MSLP: \$9.99

Thinking it the ghost of a Hessian soldier, he races off to the bridge by a burial ground, where legend says the ghost will disappear, but is overtaken by the specter, who hurls his head into Crane's horrified face. Crane disappears, and the rowdy seems to have some inside information whenever the matter comes up. The story has remained a staple of horror and supernatural fiction, inspiring numerous adaptations for film, television and the stage for nearly 200 years.

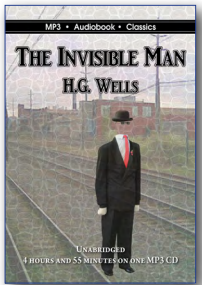


The House of the Seven Gables

Author: Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804 - 1864)
 Read by: Mark F. Smith
 Length: 12 hours and 16 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: General Fiction, Horror & Supernatural

Set in Salem, Massachusetts in the mid-19th century, *The House of the Seven Gables* traces the history of a haunted mansion belonging to the Pyncheon family built on land seized from Matthew Maule in the 1600's after Colonel Pyncheon accused and convicted Maule of witchcraft. Maule laid a curse on the family at his execution, resulting first in the untimely death of the Colonel at the housewarming festivities. Over the long years events follow a fate set by character, the evil are punished, and the righteous are rewarded and released from the curse. *The House of the Seven Gables* was the follow up to Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter* and sold out four printings in its first year. His treatment of generational guilt, retribution, and atonement has been an inspiration for many over the years.

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 UPC: 0684758936684
 MSLP: \$12.99



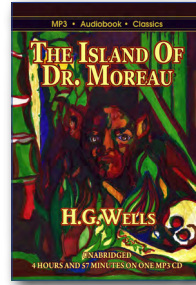
The Invisible Man

Author: H.G. Wells
 Read by: Alex Foster
 Length: 4 hours 55 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Horror & Supernatural Fiction, Science Fiction

The Invisible Man (1897) was the third of Wells' five "scientific romances". The title character, Griffin, is a scientist studying optics who discovers a way to change a body's refractive index to that of air, thus rendering the body invisible. He successfully tests the invention on himself but fails to reverse the effects. He wraps himself in bandages, finds lodging at a village inn, and spends his days seeking an antidote, venturing out only at night. He falls behind on his bill and skips out by undressing and taking flight. Increasingly desperate, he seeks refuge in the home of Kemp, a former colleague, but finds he cannot manage in the open. He tries to use his invisibility

Catalog: DB-1076
 UPC: 0684758936554
 MSLP: \$9.99

to conduct a "Reign of Terror" but is foiled, leading to a dramatic, fatal denouement. The premise and the portrayal of the gradual progression from gifted obsessive to insane psychopath have become staples of the genre and have led to countless adaptations and offshoots.



The Island of Dr. Moreau

Author: H.G. Wells
 Read by: Bob Neufeld
 Length: 4 hours 57 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Horror & Supernatural Fiction, Science Fiction

Scientist Edward Prendick is shipwrecked in the Pacific and alights on an island owned by a certain Doctor Moreau. Prendick recalls the public outcry in London occasioned by Moreau's experiments in vivisection, and soon discovers the island is populated by humans with marked bestial characteristics. He attempts to flee, but Moreau apprehends him and explains his mission is to humanize animals, not the reverse, and that his efforts were marred by an unfortunate tendency of the subjects to revert to animal form. Eventually a subject breaks free and attempts to kill the good doctor. Both are killed in the conflict and the compound is destroyed. The animals revert to nature, and Prendick escapes and returns home. His account of the story is greeted as the ravings of a lunatic. Upon his return to civilization he sees many of his fellow men reverting to an animal state and retires to a reclusive life in the country.

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 UPC: 0684758936547
 MSLP: \$10.99



The Metamorphosis

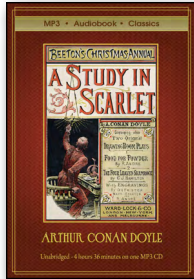
Author: Franz Kafka (1883 - 1924)
 Translated by Ian Johnston
 Read by: David Barnes
 Length: 2 hours 34 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Fiction

The Metamorphosis (1915) tells the tale of a traveling salesman, Gregor Samsa, who one day wakes up to find that he has been transformed into a "monstrous vermin". Part I begins with the discovery. Thinking he is dreaming, he cannot communicate with his family or unlock the door to his bedroom. When he finally manages to enter the room his family is horrified and forces him back in. Part II describes family adapting to their strange situation and Gregor becoming acclimated to his new body. After a scuffle

Catalog: DB-1091
 UPC: 0684758936691
 MSLP: \$9.99

in his bedroom, his father pelts him with apples, causing serious injury. In Part III Gregor ventures into the living room to listen to his sister play the violin for boarders, who spot him and move out immediately. The exhausted family wishes Gregor would leave. Hearing this, Gregor retreats to his bedroom and dies. Relieved and remorseless, the family makes plans to find a suitable husband for their daughter. *The Metamorphosis* one of the most original and provocative stories ever written. It is considered one of the foundational works of modern literature.

Mystery & Detective Fiction - Sherlock Holmes



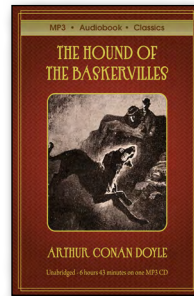
A Study in Scarlet

Author: Arthur Conan Doyle (1859 - 1930)
 Read by: David Clarke
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 4 hours and 35 minutes
 Genre: Mystery, Detective Fiction

A Study in Scarlet (1887) is the first of four full-length novels featuring the brilliant Sherlock Holmes. It sets the stage with the characters and themes that recur throughout the Holmes stories and novels. *Part I* opens with the reminiscences of Dr. Watson: the initial meeting with the eccentric Holmes and their decision to share lodgings at 221B Baker Street. Dazzled by Holmes' extraordinary intelligence and puzzled by his motley cast of visitors at all hours, he learns that Holmes is a "consulting detective" specializing in the "scarlet thread" of murder. Soon

Catalog: DB-1102
 UPC: 0684758935922
 MSLP: \$10.99

Scotland Yard requests Holmes' assistance in a baffling murder case and Watson is invited along as Inspectors Gregson and Lestrade chase down obvious but erroneous leads while Sherlock, with the help of the "Baker Street Irregulars", manages to apprehend the murderer. *Part II* flashes back to in Salt Lake Valley in Utah and describes the convoluted misdeeds of the murder victims and the revenge sought by the murderer. The papers give Scotland Yard all the credit, which prompts Watson to publish the adventure and set the record straight.



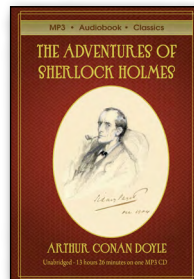
The Hound of the Baskervilles

Author: Arthur Conan Doyle (1859 - 1930)
 Read by: Bob Neufeld
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 6 hours and 41 minutes
 Genre: Mystery, Detective Fiction

The Hound of the Baskervilles is the best known of four full-length novels featuring world famous detective Sherlock Holmes. Set on the moors in Devon, England, it chronicles a murder case involving the family curse of the Baskervilles and the legend of a ferocious, supernatural hound. Holmes and Watson are called to the case by a family friend, who senses something amiss in the death of the baronet and fears for the safety of his Canadian nephew, the inheritor of the estate. The story that unfolds involves a clandestine love affair,

Catalog: DB-1101
 UPC: 0684758935946
 MSLP: \$11.99

a long lost heir impersonating a local naturalist, an escaped convict, a mysterious cabbie, and the Baker Street Irregulars collecting useful intelligence in London. Holmes is miles ahead of everyone in determining that things are not what they seem and deducing the truth from evidence overlooked by everyone else. The story was serialized in the *Strand Magazine* in 1901 and 1902 before publication in book form. The novel marked the return of Holmes from his apparent death years before in *The Final Problem*. It ranks 123rd on the BBC's list of 200 best-loved novels in the UK.

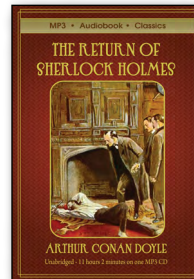


The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes

Author: Arthur Conan Doyle (1859 - 1930)
 Read by: Ruth Golding
 Length: 13 hours 26 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Mystery, Detective Fiction

The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes by Arthur Conan Doyle is the first collection of short stories featuring the famous consulting detective character Sherlock Holmes. The stories are narrated by Holmes' friend Doctor Watson and are presented as case histories that showcase Holmes' extraordinary powers of observation and deduction. The stories followed the publication of the first two Holmes novels *A Study in Scarlet* and *The Sign of Four* and first appeared in the *Strand Magazine* between July 1891 and June 1892. They became so popular that twelve stories were collected in book form and published in both England and the United States in October 1892. *The Adventures* includes the Holmes classics "The Red-Headed League", "A Scandal in Bohemia", and "The Adventure of the Speckled Band". These and nine others are narrated here by Ruth Golding.

Catalog: DB-1010
 UPC: 0684758935892
 MSLP: \$12.99

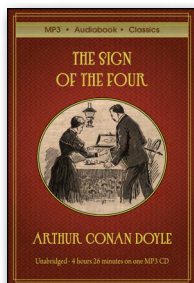


The Return of Sherlock Holmes

Author: Arthur Conan Doyle (1859 - 1930)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 11 hours 2 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Mystery, Detective Fiction

The Return of Sherlock Holmes by Arthur Conan Doyle is the second collection of short stories featuring the famous detective Sherlock Holmes. The stories followed the publication of *The Hound of the Baskervilles* in 1902, which had created intense pressure for Doyle to revive the escapades of his famous sleuth. The thirteen stories first appeared in the *Strand Magazine* in 1903-1904 and marked Holmes' extraordinary return from the dead (or the presumption of his death), which is addressed in "The Adventure of the Empty House". The stories also address the issue of Holmes' whereabouts during the years 1891-1894, dubbed "The Great Hiatus" by his ardent followers. The collection closes with a statement by Watson in the "The Adventure of the Second Stain" that Holmes has retired and has forbidden him to publish any further accounts.

Catalog: DB-1011
 UPC: 0684758935908
 MSLP: \$12.99

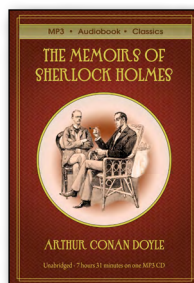


The Sign of the Four

Author: Arthur Conan Doyle (1859 - 1930)
 Read by: David Clarke
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 4 hours and 25 minutes
 Genre: Mystery, Detective Fiction

The Sign of the Four is the second of four full-length novels featuring the brilliant Sherlock Holmes. Published in 1890 and sometimes titled *The Sign of Four*, the story begins with the mysterious disappearance of British Army Captain Arthur Morstan and proceeds to unravel a complex plot that centers on a stolen treasure, a secret pact among four convicts, and corrupt prison guards, with much of the action set in India beginning at the time of the Indian Rebellion of 1857. The story humanizes and deepens the character of Holmes, partly by introducing us to his use of cocaine. It also introduces Morstan's daughter, Mary, who eventually becomes Watson's bride. The book was originally serialized in *Lippincott's* magazine before publication in book form and has been adapted for the cinema thirteen times.

Catalog: DB-1103
 UPC: 0684758935939
 MSLP: \$10.99

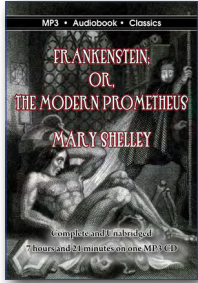


The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes

Author: Arthur Conan Doyle (1859 - 1930)
 Read by: Eric Leach
 Length: 7 hours 1 minute
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Mystery, Detective Fiction

The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes is a collection of stories featuring the iconic consulting detective Sherlock Holmes. The stories originally appeared in the *Strand Magazine* and numbered twelve in all in the first U.S. edition published in 1894. "The Adventure of the Cardboard Box" was omitted from subsequent editions. No reason for the suppression has been explicitly given, but it is likely that it was removed at Doyle's request. He felt that it was unsuitable for younger readers since it included adultery. The story was later included in *His Last Bow*.

Catalog: DB-1065
 UPC: 0684758935915
 MSLP: \$11.99

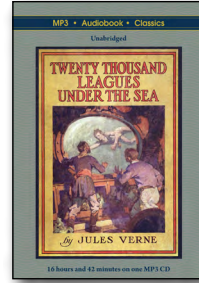


Frankenstein

Author: Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley (1797 - 1851)
 Read by: Caden Vaughn Clegg
 Length: 7 hours and 21 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Horror & Supernatural Fiction, Science Fiction

The timeless classic *Frankenstein* was written by Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley, the wife of Romantic poet, Percy Bysshe Shelley, and published anonymously in 1818, then under her name in 1823. The novel is a strange, exotic and brilliant investigation into those subjects deemed to be the forbidden knowledge of their time – creation, creativity, the nature of life, the life force, and the existence and nature of the soul. Frankenstein is the story of a doctor on a quest to discover the secret of life who steals bodies from graves to try to create life from the parts and instead creates a monster. It is both Gothic and Romantic, full of dark wanderings, night visions, death and destruction. As unintended consequences multiply and overwhelm Dr. Frankenstein, he is driven to avenge the dead and repair the damage – the result of having gone a step too far beyond the jurisdictions of 19th century science. Yes, there's terror here, worthy of Boris Karloff, but there's even more terror in Frankenstein's consideration of those forbidden things we keep to the side, safe, and locked away in the dark.

Catalog: DB-1015
 UPC: 0684758936004
 MSLP: \$11.99

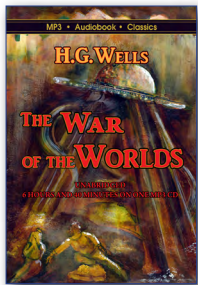


Twenty Thousand Leagues Under The Sea

Author: Jules Verne (1828 - 1905)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 16 hours and 7 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Action & Adventure Fiction, Science Fiction

Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea (1869) chronicles a 69,000 mile voyage through the world's oceans in the submersible ship Nautilus, the sixth in a series of fifty-four written by Jules Verne between 1863 and 1905. Noted reviewer Gary Westfahl remarks that it is refreshing to read "truly scientific, prophetic science-fiction with the full accent on science", not "the weird or fantastic type which mistakenly masquerades under the name of science-fiction today." The messages of today's popular sci-fi apocalyptic scenarios spell doomsday for mankind or, at best, a dystopian nightmare. Missing in current trends of anti-science craziness, snide social commentary, and reworked mythology is the wondrous anticipation that science and its potential for bettering the human condition once held. *Twenty Thousand Leagues* points back to the traditional values of honesty, courage, virtue, honor, and hope that a scientifically empowered mankind will require to realize its noblest dreams.

Catalog: DB-1048
 UPC: 0683422134241
 MSLP: \$13.99

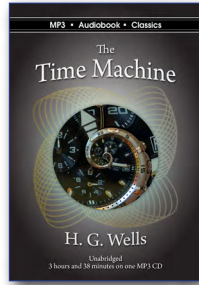


The War of the Worlds

Author: H.G. Wells
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 6 hours 40 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Science Fiction

The discovery of canals on Mars in 1877 prompted speculation that intelligent inhabitants of the planet were attempting to send signals. *The War of the Worlds* (1898) is a fictionalized chronicle of such an encounter that created the formula for alien invasion stories. In *Book 1 – The Coming of the Martians* a cylindrical object lands in Surrey. The narrator is among the first to encounter the "intense, inhuman, crippled and monstrous" Martians, and proceeds to document the entire invasion. The Martian technology incinerates human opposition, Londoners are evacuated, and the Martians inherit the devastated landscape. In *Book 2 – The Earth Under The Martians* the narrator encounters Martians harvesting humans for nourishment and eventually escapes to a barren West London where he finds the invaders dying from infections for which they have no resistance. In 1938 a radio broadcast of *The War of the Worlds* presented as a news bulletin led to widespread panic when listeners believed actual events were taking place.

Catalog: DB-1077
 UPC: 0684758936561
 MSLP: \$11.99

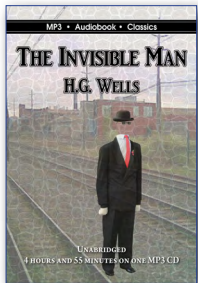


The Time Machine

Author: H.G. Wells
 Read by: Mark Nelson
 Length: 3 hours 38 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Science Fiction

The Time Machine (1895) turns on the notion of a "time machine" that can travel forward and backward in time at will. Its principle character is an English inventor known only as the Time Traveler, who tells an extraordinary tale of a journey hundreds of thousands of years into the future, where he encounters a passive race of humans called the Eloi and a brutish parallel race of Morlocks, who live underground and feed on the Eloi. They discover and impound his machine; the story revolves on his efforts to get it back and escape. After recounting this tale he embarks on a second journey and disappears. Along the way we are treated to descriptions and speculations on how and why the race has degenerated and the earth is dying, views that reflect Wells' own views. The story has been frequently, most notably in the 1960 film, which won the Academy Award for its time-lapse photographic effects.

Catalog: DB-1062
 UPC: 0684758936530
 MSLP: \$10.99



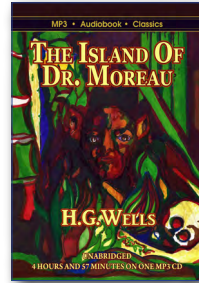
The Invisible Man

Author: H.G. Wells
 Read by: Alex Foster
 Length: 4 hours 55 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Horror & Supernatural Fiction, Science Fiction

The Invisible Man (1897) was the third of Wells' five "scientific romances". The title character, Griffin, is a scientist studying optics who discovers a way to change a body's refractive index to that of air, thus rendering the body invisible. He successfully tests the invention on himself but fails to reverse the effects. He wraps himself in bandages, finds lodging at a village inn, and spends his days seeking an antidote, venturing out only at night. He falls behind on his bill and skips out by undressing and taking flight. Increasingly desperate, he seeks refuge in the home of Kemp, a former colleague, but finds he cannot manage in the open. He tries to use his invisibility

Catalog: DB-1076
 UPC: 0684758936554
 MSLP: \$9.99

to conduct a "Reign of Terror" but is foiled, leading to a dramatic, fatal denouement. The premise and the portrayal of the gradual progression from gifted obsessive to insane psychopath have become staples of the genre and have led to countless adaptations and offshoots.

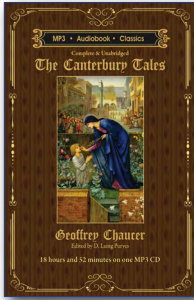


The Island of Dr Moreau

Author: H.G. Wells
 Read by: Bob Neufeld
 Length: 4 hours 57 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Horror & Supernatural Fiction, Science Fiction

Scientist Edward Prendick is shipwrecked in the Pacific and alights on an island owned by a certain Doctor Moreau. Prendick recalls the public outcry in London occasioned by Moreau's experiments in vivisection, and soon discovers the island is populated by humans with marked bestial characteristics. He attempts to flee, but Moreau apprehends him and explains his mission is to humanize animals, not the reverse, and that his efforts were marred by an unfortunate tendency of the subjects to revert to animal form. Eventually a subject breaks free and attempts to kill the good doctor. Both are killed in the conflict and the compound is destroyed. The animals revert to nature, and Prendick escapes and returns home. His account of the story is greeted as the ravings of a lunatic. Upon his return to civilization he sees many of his fellow men reverting to an animal state and retires to a reclusive life in the country.

Catalog: DB-1075
 UPC: 0684758936547
 MSLP: \$10.99

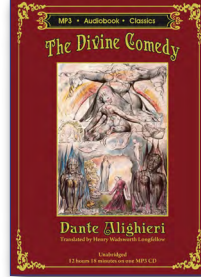


The Canterbury Tales

Author: Geoffrey Chaucer (c. 1343 – 1400)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 18 hours and 52 minutes
 Genre: Poetry

The Canterbury Tales by Geoffrey Chaucer is a collection of stories told by a group of pilgrims who compete in a story-telling contest for a prize of a free dinner as they journey from Southwark to the shrine of Saint Thomas a Becket in Canterbury. The tales, which are told in both prose and poetry, are earthy, candid, comic and ironic, and often cast English society and the Anglican Church in a critical light. The structure of the work resembles *The Decameron* of Boccaccio, which Chaucer, a courtier and diplomat as well as an author, is likely to have read. *The Canterbury Tales* appeared at the end of the 14th Century and is considered the first important literary work written in Middle English, the language of the people, and became the base for the use of English in those great works that might otherwise have been written in Latin for the ever-dwindling audience who spoke, wrote and read that dying language. Chaucer produced a long list of notable works, but *The Canterbury Tales* stand as his magnum opus that sealed his reputation as England's first great poet.

Catalog: DB-1174
 UPC: 0683422135132
 MSLP: \$13.99



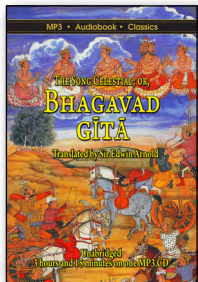
The Divine Comedy

Author: Dante Alighieri (1265 - 1321),
 Translated by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807 - 1882)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 12 hours 23 minutes
 Genre: Poetry

The Divine Comedy is the centerpiece of Italian literature and one of the greatest works in world literature. Written between 1308 and 1321, at the end of the Middle Ages and the dawn of the Renaissance, it distills the essence of the medieval world-view. The poem is structured in three canticas that represent the three realms of the dead: Inferno, Purgatorio and Paradiso. Each cantica is composed of 33 cantos, which, together with the introductory canto, comprise a total of 100 cantos.

Catalog: DB-1004
 UPC: 0684758935847
 MSLP: \$12.99

The narrative describes Dante's own allegorical journey through the realms to salvation, accompanied first by the poet Virgil and later by his beloved Beatrice, and offers philosophical and moral commentary along the way. The *Divine Comedy* is a complex work full of symbol and allegory. Publication in Italian made the work accessible to a wide audience and contributed to the general growth in literacy. Its influence is nothing short of monumental. As T.S. Eliot wrote, "Dante and Shakespeare divide the world between them, there is no third."



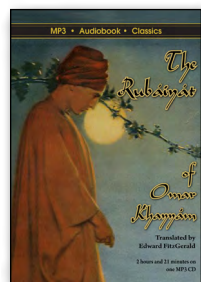
The Bhagavad-Gita

Author: Vyasa (2nd - 5th century BC)
 Translated by Sir Edwin Arnold
 Read by: Jothi Tharavant
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 3 hours 15 minutes
 Genre: Poetry, Epics, Classics

The *Bhagavad-Gita* is a core book in Hindu scripture that recounts a dialog between warrior prince Arjuna and his charioteer Lord Krishna in 700 verses framed by a conversation between a blind ruler and his minister, a clairvoyant who eavesdrops on Krishna and Arjuna. The central conflict is warfare that threatens to destroy the kingdom. Arjuna is torn between his duty to serve the family on one side of the conflict and the sense that the conflict itself violates the laws of Dharma, which he

Catalog: DB-1155
 UPC: 0683422134708
 MSLP: \$10.99

is also sworn to uphold. Frozen, he refuses to fight. Krishna realizes that he must impart the mysteries of Dharmic action to Arjuna and so reveals himself as a many-sided divine being. He instructs Arjuna in the structure of the universe, primordial nature, and the importance of self-control, faith, equanimity, unselfishness, and devotion. Only by attending to his duty will Arjuna transcend the bonds of matter and human behavior and achieve immortality. The battle is generally seen as an allegory for the struggles of human life and has prompted many interpretations over time.

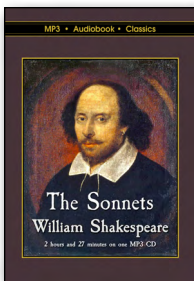


The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam

Author: Omar Khayyam (1048 - 1131)
 Translated by Edward FitzGerald (1809 - 1883)
 Read by: Algy Pug
 Length: 2 hours 21 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Poetry

The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam is a translation by Englishman Edward FitzGerald of poems by the Persian Omar Khayyam. The word rubaiyat combines the term 'rubai', meaning a two line stanza with two parts per line, and 'yat', meaning four. Khayyam produced over one thousand such stanzas. The English translations by Fitzgerald are the best known and consist of about one hundred quatrains in each of five editions which appeared over the course of thirty years between 1859 and 1889. The translations are by no means literal or exacting. FitzGerald admittedly took liberties while taking pains to capture and render the spirit of the original. Numerous phrases that have entered the cultural lexicon have their origins in the Rubaiyat, the most common cited being "A Book of Verses underneath the Bough, A Jug of Wine, a Loaf of Bread--and Thou". Lines and phrase from the poem have served as titles for many literary and dramatic works.

Catalog: DB-1100
 UPC: 0684758936479
 MSLP: \$10.99



The Sonnets

Author: William Shakespeare
 Read by: Elizabeth Klett
 Length: 2 hours and 27 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Poetry

"Shall I compare thee to a summer's day? / Thou art more lovely and more temperate..." These lines from Shakespeare's Sonnet 18 and many others that are quoted to this day come from *The Sonnets*, a collection of 154 poems written for a private readership and published in 1609. The poems are about affairs of the heart and fall into two groups – lust for a dark complexioned married woman (the "dark lady") and a conflicted love for a young man (the "fair youth"). It is unclear if the subjects were real

Catalog: DB-1126
 UPC: 0683422134470
 MSLP: \$10.99

people or if the voice of the author is that of Shakespeare himself. The mystery is compounded by the dedication of the 1609 edition to a "Mr WH", whose identity is unknown. Whatever the particulars, it is universally agreed that *The Sonnets* are a "profound meditation on the nature of love, sexual passion, procreation, death, and time." William Wordsworth commented that "Shakespeare unlocked his heart" in the sonnets. (*Quotations from Wikipedia*)

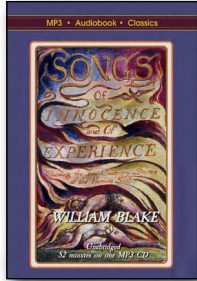


Faust, Part I and Part II

Author: Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)
 Translated by Bayard Taylor
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 11 hours and 37 minutes
 Genre: Poetry; Drama; Myths, Legends and Fairy Tales

The enduring theme of making a deal with the devil is derived from the German legend of Faust, the tale of a scholar who trades his soul for a life of unlimited knowledge and hedonistic pleasure. Goethe's *Faust* is considered the last word on the subject and the greatest work of German literature. *Part I*, published in 1808, hews closely to the legend and depicts the everyday "small world". Faust and the devil make a deal: the devil will serve Faust here on earth and strive to grant him a moment so sublime he will wish it to last forever, but, if Faust is ever fully satisfied, he will die and serve the devil in Hell for eternity. *Part II*, finished in 1831, is very different and by no means a sequel. Complex and full of references to mythology, it depicts the wider world in five acts with attention to larger political, historical, philosophical and mystical issues. After conflicts, struggles, and travels through space and time, Faust finds a measure of redemption and grace for his striving.

Catalog: DB-1194
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 MSLP: \$12.99

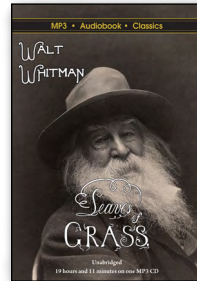


Songs of Innocence and of Experience

Author: William Blake (1757 - 1827)
 Read by: D. S. Harvey
 Length: 52 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Poetry

Songs of Innocence and of Experience is a collection of 66 poems by English poet William Blake. *Songs of Innocence* is the first part of the collection and appeared in 1789 with engraved illustrations by Blake. The second part, *Songs of Experience*, also illustrated, was added in 1794 when Blake published the whole under the full title of *Songs of Innocence and Experience Showing the Two Contrary States of the Human Soul*. The categories of innocence and experience are states of mind and ways of seeing that roughly correspond to the classical model of "paradise" and "fall", as in Milton's *Paradise Lost* and *Paradise Regained*. Blake helped formulate the then contemporary Romantic notion of childhood as a state of innocence, without fear, inhibition, or corruption; and adulthood as a contrary and fallen state of original sin prey to oppression, corruption, and power. The opposition is reinforced by poems with like titles and contrasting themes in each part. The poems are short, simple, and acutely sensitive to both joys of life and the harsh realities of class and poverty in the emerging Industrial Revolution.

Catalog: DB-1132
 UPC: 0683422134500
 MSLP: \$9.99

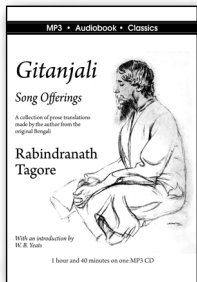


Leaves of Grass

Author: Walt Whitman
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 19 hours and 5 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Poetry

We forget how big America must have seemed in the nineteenth century, especially to Europe. By the time of the English Romantics and Emerson and Transcendentalism, America was ready to give birth to a distinctly American voice that would capture its sweep, unbounded potential and vast promise. In 1855 an unknown, Walt Whitman, published the first edition of *Leaves of Grass*. This is the great American work, twelve poems that became more than 400 poems written over forty years that revel in the unapologetic glory of the physical, sensual necessities, as well as the abstract mysteries of life. Whitman's represented Life with a capital "L", as it is, without the artifice of masks, manners or social niceties. Like Life and America, Whitman's poems are beautiful, wild, cruel, unpredictable, yearning, sensual, direct, desirous, self-evident, arbitrary, contradictory, and, sometimes confusing, as large and generous as America and as grand as nature. It is the voice that says America is alive and well, generative, creative, and filled with infinite promise.

Catalog: DB-1085
 UPC: 0684758936608
 MSLP: \$13.99

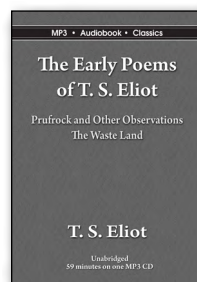


Gitanjali

Author: Rabindranath Tagore (1861 - 1941)
 Translated by the author
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 1 hour and 40 minutes
 Genre: Poetry

Gitanjali is a collection of 103 poems translated from the original Bengali collection by the author, Rabindranath Tagore. The word gitanjali combines the words for "song" and "offering", hence the subtitle "Song Offerings". The word "anjali" has a devotional connotation, which can be applied to the volume, which is sometimes called a "prayer offering of song". The original volume was published in 1910 and contained 157 poems. Tagore took extensive liberties in producing the 1912 English edition, omitting some, altering others, and combining still others. The book included an introduction by the noted Irish poet William Butler Yeats and became famous in the west, which led Tagore becoming the first non-European author to win the Nobel Prize in 1913.

Catalog: DB-1188
 UPC: 0683422135095
 MSLP: \$9.99

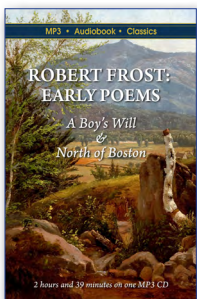


The Early Poems of T. S. Eliot

Author: T. S. Eliot
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 59 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Poetry

This volume collects readings of the poems of T. S. Eliot published by the early 1920's and includes selections from his *Prufrock and Other Observations* (1915) and the *The Waste Land* (1922) in entirety. These are the poems that established Eliot's position as a major and influential modern poet. Most of the poems had been published in literary magazines. It includes such well-known favorites as "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock", "Portrait of a Lady" and "Rhapsody on a Windy Night", many of which are in a "stream of consciousness style" characteristic of modernism. *The Waste Land*, first published in *The Criterion*, is Eliot's best known work and marked a significant turning point for 20th century poetry, both in substance and in style. It is noted for its many obscure references and quotations, for its structural complexity, with frequent shifts in narrator, time and location, and a strange mixture of prophecy and satire.

Catalog: DB-1143
 UPC: 0683422134425
 MSLP: \$9.99

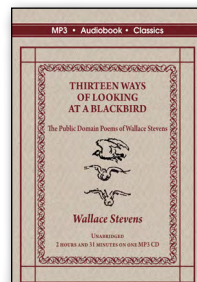


Early Poems: A Boy's Will and North of Boston

Author: Robert Frost (1874 - 1963)
 Read by: Becky Miller and Brad Bush
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 2 hours and 39 minutes
 Genre: Poetry

Early Poems combines the first two collections of Robert Frost poems. *A Boy's Will* is the first book of poems by Frost and was published in 1913. The title comes from a line from Longfellow's "My Lost Youth", and the collection deals with the ideas of development and maturity. The pastoral settings paint a distinctively New England landscape and give rise to questions of the relationship of man and nature. *North of Boston* followed in 1914 and more clearly positions New England as the locus and inspiration of Frost's work. Containing classic poems such as "Mending Wall", "Death of the Hired Man", and "After Apple-Picking", the collection conjures the sense of time and loss associated with the seasons and the sense of isolation and contemplation inherent in the rural environment. The publication of these two volumes established Frost's reputation upon his return from England. By the 1920's he had become the most celebrated poet in America and remained so for the rest of his life.

Catalog: DB-1030
 UPC: 0684758936349
 MSLP: \$10.99



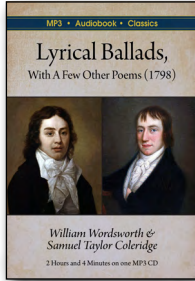
Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Blackbird: The Public Domain Poems of Wallace Stevens

Author: Wallace Stevens (1879 - 1955)
 Read by: Alan Davis Drake, Winston Tharp & Ruth Golding
 Length: 2 hours and 31 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Poetry

These readings of 97 poems Stevens includes many of his better known works, including the "Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Blackbird", "Anecdote of the Jar", "The Emperor of Ice Cream", "The Snow Man", "Peter Quince at the Clavier", and "Sunday Morning". Many of them appeared in *Harmonium*, Stevens' first collection published in 1923. Stevens is the quintes-

Catalog: DB-1117
 UPC: 0683422134388
 MSLP: \$10.99

sential Modernist poet, given to meditative reflection and abstraction but resisting any kind of static or objective reality. In his view, reality is more of a dynamic activity, the product of the imagination shaping the world as it perceives and seeks coherence and understanding, with piecemeal and fluctuating results. The poems abound in specific objects and rich visual imagery, which commingle with associated abstractions to produce a poetry that is "the Supreme fiction" that draws us to engage with a reality that resonates with truth, if only for a fleeting moment.



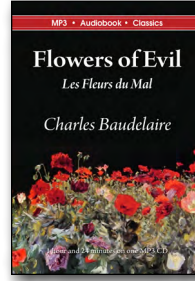
Lyrical Ballads, With A Few Other Poems

Author: William Wordsworth & Samuel Taylor Coleridge
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 2 hours and 4 minutes
 Genre: Poetry

Lyrical Ballads, with a Few Other Poems is a landmark collection of poems by William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge published in 1798 that marked the beginning of the Romantic Movement in English literature. The authors sought to find a voice rooted in the simple, everyday language and experience of the common man and by doing so upend the stilted, studied and highly struc-

Catalog: DB-1238
 UPC: 0701236969573
 MSLP: \$9.99

tured forms of 18th century English poetry. Their intent is reflected in the title: "lyrical" refers to the tradition of the rustic bard, and "ballads" is the term for folk songs that convey stories in the oral tradition. The departure from tradition is reflected in the subject matter as well, with its focus on simple, unlettered country people closer to the original state of nature and, by implication, a more pure and innocent existence as propounded by Rousseau. The initial 1798 edition contained 24 poems, 4 by Coleridge and 20 by Wordsworth, and an "Advertisement" setting out the poetical concept. A second edition in 1800 contained a preface and assembled the original poems less "The Convict" in Volume I and added a Volume II consisting of an additional 38 poems by Wordsworth.



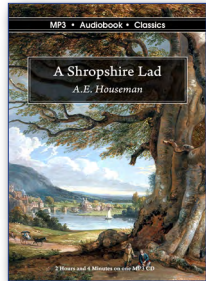
Flowers of Evil

Author: Charles Baudelaire (1821-1867)
 Read by: Read by D. S. Harvey
 Length: 1 hour and 24 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Poetry

The Flowers of Evil (Les Fleurs du Mal) is a collection of poems by Charles Baudelaire influential on several levels. Fellow artists were impressed and unsettled when it was published in 1857; one described the effect as "immense, prodigious, unexpected, mingled with admiration and some indefinable anxious fear". Admirers included Victor Hugo and Gustave Flaubert, who wrote "you are as unyielding as marble and as penetrating as English mist". The general public,

Catalog: DB-1237
 UPC: 0701236969566
 MSLP: \$9.99

however, was scandalized by the themes of sex and death and frank treatment of subjects such as lesbianism, which led to a prosecution of Baudelaire, his publisher and printer for offenses against publish morals. The conviction resulted in a fine and the removal of six poems. A second edition was released in 1861 that deleted the offending poems and added 35 poems, including a new section, Parisian Scenes, which described the effects of modernization symbolized by the identical streets and buildings taking shape during the renovation of Paris and a resulting alienation and estrangement as well as a sense of loss. On a stylistic level, the collection introduced a kind of highly ordered prose poetry and the use of a cynical and ironic voice that broke with Romantic traditions by acknowledging moral complexity, urban corruption, loss of innocence, and indulging in sensual and aesthetic pleasures. The work captures the fleeting sense of life and beauty in the emerging urban industrial world for which Baudelaire coined the term modernity and has had a lasting influence that continues to be an inspiration to this day.



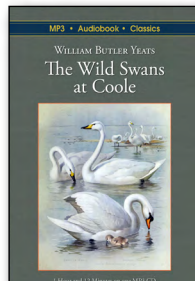
A Shropshire Lad

Author: A. E. Houseman (1859 - 1936)
 Read by: V.1 read by Alaaious. V.2 read by Jon Sindell.
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 2 hours and 4 minutes
 Genre: Poetry

The sixty-three short poems that constitute *A Shropshire Lad* conjure a pastoral countryside that is remembered sentimentally by the young men who express a melancholy lament for the lost time of happy youth, the transience and unfairness of love, the disillusionment of shattered ideals, and the grim possibility of an early death in the service of the British Crown. There is no single Shropshire Lad per se, and Shropshire itself, although an actual

Catalog: DB-1235
 UPC: 0701236969542
 MSLP: \$9.99

place, is largely an imagined idyll and literary construct. Published in 1896, the book gradually gained popularity during the Second Boer War and then the First World War, owing to the themes of military action and dying young. Poet A. E. Houseman targeted the poems to a young male readership, and the publisher kept prices low enough to issue small, inexpensive pocket editions which were carried by many British soldiers. All but seven of the poems have been set to music, twelve more than ten times. Composers are naturally attracted to the mix of emotional feeling, lyrical style, and folksy subject matter. W. H. Auden wrote that "no other poet seemed so perfectly to express the sensibility of a male adolescent" of his generation. George Orwell recollected that "these were the poems which I and my contemporaries used to recite to ourselves, over and over."



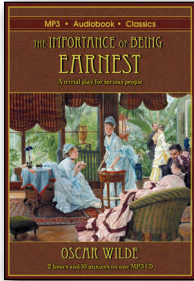
The Wild Swans at Coole

Author: William Butler Yeats (1865 - 1939)
 Read by: Peter Tucker
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 1 hour and 12 minutes
 Genre: Poetry

The Wild Swans at Coole is a lyric poem by W. B. Yeats as well as the title of collections of his poems published in 1917 and 1919. Coole refers to the Galway home of his friend and colleague Lady Gregory. The collection is dedicated to the memory of her son Major Robert Gregory, an airman who lost his life to friendly fire in World War I. The initial release of the collection contained 19 poems and a play. The second edition published in London and New York by Macmillan dropped the play and grew to include 40 poems. Written

Catalog: DB-1236
 UPC: 0701236969511
 MSLP: \$9.99

during his mid-fifties, the title poem wrestles with the melancholy of encroaching age, romantic rejections, and the ongoing tensions of both Irish and European political conflicts. The larger collection iterates themes of Irish Nationalism and the establishment of a distinct Irish literary voice and aesthetic. Notable poems in the collection include "The Wild Swans at Coole", "An Irish Airman Foresees his Death", and "On Being Asked for a War Poem".



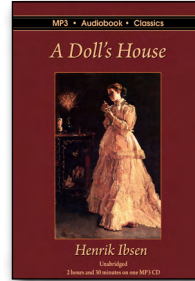
The Importance of Being Earnest

Author: Oscar Wilde (1854 - 1900)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 2 hours 10 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Plays

The Importance of Being Earnest, A Trivial Comedy for Serious People was first performed on February 14, 1895 at the St. James's Theatre in London. It is a farcical comedy in which the protagonists maintain fictitious personae in order to escape burdensome social obligations. Working within the social conventions of late Victorian London, the play's major themes are the triviality with which it treats institutions as serious as marriage, and the resulting satire of Victorian ways.

Contemporary reviews all praised the play's humor, though some were cautious about its explicit lack of social messages, while others foresaw the modern consensus that it was the culmination of Wilde's artistic career so far. Its high farce and witty dialogue have helped make *The Importance of Being Earnest* Wilde's most enduringly popular play. It has been revived many times since its premiere and has been adapted for the cinema on three occasions.

Catalog: DB-1049
 UPC: 0684758936325
 MSLP: \$10.99



A Doll's House

Author: Henrik Ibsen (1828 - 1906)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 2 hours and 30 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Drama

Catalog: DB-1157
 UPC: 0683422134722
 MSLP: \$10.99

A Doll's House generated a great deal of controversy and box office when it premiered in 1879. At a time when strict social conventions were sacrosanct, Ibsen dared to have Nora Helmer leave her suffocating marriage and her children to "find herself". The domestic drama takes place over several days during Christmas in which the delicate balance of the household is disrupted by the gradual exposure of secrets and lies. Nora secretly borrowed money to help her husband from a man he is about to fire, himself a forger. He blackmails Nora, but relents when he reconciles with his beloved, a former nanny to the family recently freed of a loveless marriage. Nora is exposed nonetheless and disowned by her husband. When the incriminating note is destroyed, he forgives her, thinking her mistake a product of her daffy femininity. But the damage is done. He is not the man she thought he was and she is not the doll he so often calls her. She has to go. It is no wonder *A Doll's House* is the most performed play in the world.



Pygmalion

Author: George Bernard Shaw (1856 - 1950)
 Read by: Dramatic reading by multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 2 hours and 53 minutes
 Genre: Plays

Pygmalion (1913) is the most popular and best known of Bernard Shaw's plays. It tells the story of the transformation of Eliza Doolittle, a coarse Cockney flower-girl with an accent, vocabulary and grammar unfettered by education, into a facsimile of a proper Victorian lady through the tutelage of Professor Henry Higgins. Higgins, a phoneticist who believes that correct speech is the key to gentility, takes her in and drills her on proper speech so that he can win a bet with a colleague that he can pass her off

as a duchess at an ambassador's ball. The circumstances are ripe for misunderstandings and the clash of the classes, which unspool over the course of the play's five acts. The play takes its name from the character Pygmalion in Ovid's *Metamorphosis*, a sculptor who falls in love with a statue he has carved, which is then brought to life by the goddess Aphrodite. The play, in turn, became the inspiration for the musical *My Fair Lady*.

Catalog: DB-1182
 UPC: 0683422135033
 MSLP: \$10.99



Mrs. Warren's Profession

Author: George Bernard Shaw (1856 - 1950)
 Read by: Dramatic reading by multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 2 hours and 15 minutes
 Genre: Plays

Catalog: DB-11483
 UPC: 0683422135040
 MSLP: \$10.99

Mrs. Warren's Profession is a textbook example of the "problem play" genre, which depicts social issues through the debates between the characters, who symbolize the conflicting points of view on a particular issue. The issue here is prostitution. The problem starts when Vivie, the daughter of Mrs. Kitty Warren, graduates from Cambridge and returns home to get to know her estranged mother. The play turns on the revelation that her mother had once been a prostitute and now is an owner of a chain of brothels. Vivie is horrified at first, and further confounded to learn that the father of Frank, her love interest, has a history with her mother and may well be her father. Learning more about her mother's life journey, Vivie first comes to celebrate her as a champion of female independence, but eventually becomes disillusioned. We come away with a clear understanding of the hypocrisy of attitudes towards the "profession" and the limited employment opportunities available to women at the time.



Faust, Part I and Part II

Author: Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)
 Translated by Bayard Taylor
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 11 hours and 37 minutes
 Genre: Poetry, Drama, Myths, Legends and Fairy Tales

The enduring theme of making a deal with the devil is derived from the German legend of Faust, the tale of a scholar who trades his soul for a life of unlimited knowledge and hedonistic pleasure. Goethe's *Faust* is considered the last word on the subject and the greatest work of German literature. *Part I*, published in 1808, hews closely to the legend and depicts the everyday "small world". Faust and the devil make a deal: the devil will serve Faust here

on earth and strive to grant him a moment so sublime he will wish it to last forever, but, if Faust is ever fully satisfied, he will die and serve the devil in Hell for eternity. *Part II*, finished in 1831, is very different and by no means a sequel. Complex and full of references to mythology, it depicts the wider world in five acts with attention to larger political, historical, philosophical and mystical issues. After conflicts, struggles, and travels through space and time, Faust finds a measure of redemption and grace for his striving.

Catalog: DB-1194
 UPC: 0701236969122
 MSLP: \$12.99

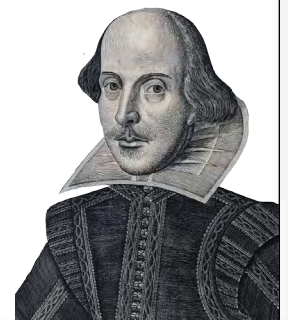
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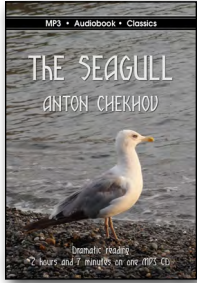
Shakespeare

- Othello
- Julius Caesar
- The Merchant of Venice
- The Taming of the Shrew
- As You Like It
- Much Ado About Nothing

Moliere

- The Bourgeois Gentleman
- Tartuffe
- The Imaginary Invalid
- The Miser





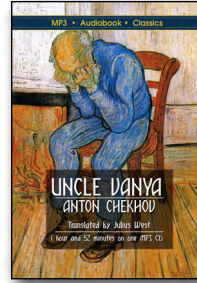
The Seagull

Author: Anton Chekhov
 Read by: Dramatic reading - multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 2 hours and 7 minutes
 Genre: Fiction, Plays

The Seagull is considered the first of Chekhov's major plays. The four act play dramatizes the romantic and artistic conflicts among the four major characters: Boris Trigorin, a famous but mediocre writer; Nina, a young ingénue; Irina Arkadina, a fading actress and Trigorin's lover; and Konstantin Treplev, a symbolist playwright and Arkadina's son. The action, which includes various romantic triangles, often proceeds by indirection and subtext and depends on

Catalog: DB-1218
 UPC: 0701236969375
 MSLP: \$10.99

the interaction of an ensemble cast. Key actions occur offstage. Issues are sidestepped. What is not said is as meaningful as what is said. The seagull of the title is a curious gift to Nina from the emotionally awkward Konstantin. The first performance of the play in 1896 was a famous flop in Petersburg. A subsequent production by the Moscow Art Theatre in 1898 featuring famous actor Stanislavski was enthusiastically received, with the applause being described as "bursting from the audience like a dam breaking."

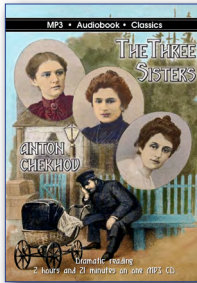


Uncle Vanya

Author: Anton Chekhov
 Read by: Dramatic reading - multiple readers
 Length: 1 hour and 53 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Fiction, Plays

Uncle Vanya (1897) is the second of Chekhov's major plays. An elderly retired professor and his beautiful young wife Yelena pay a visit to the family estate managed by Vanya, the brother of his late first wife, and Sonya, his daughter by his first wife. Also on hand are Astrof, the local doctor; Maria, mother of Vanya and the professor's first wife; Telegin, a tenant; Marina, an old nurse; and an unnamed workman. The visit reveals long simmering resentments and discontents as well as unrequited desires that build during the play's four acts. Things come to a head when the professor proposes to sell the estate, which would dislocate the residents, prompting Vanya to pursue the professor with a pistol. The professor backs down, he and his wife pack up and leave, and life returns to its heavy humdrum patterns. The play has been a staple in the modern theatre and has been adapted for film several times, most recently by David Mamet in 1996 as August.

Catalog: DB-1220
 UPC: 0701236969399
 MSLP: \$9.99



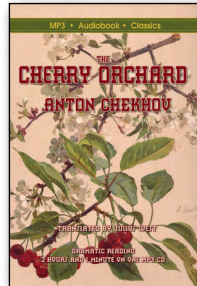
The Three Sisters

Author: Anton Chekhov
 Read by: Dramatic reading - multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 2 hours and 23 minutes
 Genre: Fiction, Plays

The Three Sisters, the third of Chekhov's four major plays, is a chronicle of the dreams, frustrations, transgressions, compromises, and disappointments in the lives of the Prozorov siblings over a span of several years in a provincial town. The eldest sister Olga, 28, is a spinster school teacher. Temperamental Masha, 23, carries on an affair with a dashing soldier, Vershinin, to assuage a disappointing marriage. Irina, 20, hopes to return to life in Moscow

Catalog: DB-1219
 UPC: 0701236969382
 MSLP: \$10.99

to find true love. Their brother Andrei falls off the fast track and gambles his way into debt after an ill-advised marriage to the scheming Natasha, who takes over the household and cheats on him with his boss. A number of soldiers stationed nearby become frequent visitors. Interestingly, several of the key characters are frequently mentioned but never appear on stage. A landmark of modern theatre, the play is a subtle and powerful portrayal of everyday life fenced in by the limits of character and small-town reality.



The Cherry Orchard

Author: Anton Chekhov
 Read by: Dramatic reading - multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 2 hours and 1 minute
 Genre: Fiction, Plays

Written at a time of social upheaval, *The Cherry Orchard* concerns the fate of a family estate that contains a noted cherry orchard. Madame Lyubov Andreievna Ranevskaya is an aristocratic landowner who returns to her estate in the provinces after having fled to Paris in despair after the drowning of her son. A proud woman with a genuine love of her home, she lacks the financial acumen or practicality necessary to keep the estate from being sold to retire family debts. Of course, the estate is sold to a prosperous merchant

Catalog: DB-1217
 UPC: 0701236969368
 MSLP: \$10.99

who is the son of a former serf and the cherry orchard is at risk. Chekhov considered the play a comedy and found humor in the futility of the gentry to adapt and of the bourgeoisie to find meaning in its material prosperity. Stanislavski, who produced its premier in 1904, thought of it as a tragedy. Directors have wrestled with this duality ever since. It is considered a classic of 20th century theatre and an important influence on many playwrights.

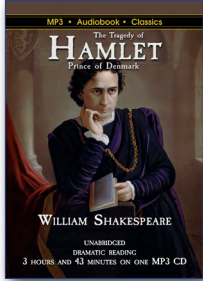
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Plays of William Shakespeare



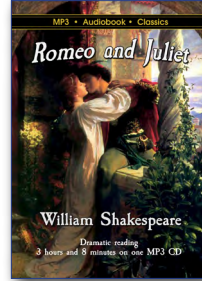
The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark

Author: William Shakespeare
Read by: Multiple Readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 3 hours 43 minutes
Genre: Plays, Drama

The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark, usually referred to as *Hamlet*, is a tragedy by William Shakespeare that is his longest and probably his most popular work, leading the list of performances of the Royal Shakespeare Company for over 100 years and second only to *Cinderella* as the most filmed story in the world. Set in the Kingdom of Denmark, the play dramatizes the revenge Prince Hamlet is visited by the ghost of his father, King Hamlet, and directed to exact revenge for his murder by his brother, Hamlet's uncle Claudius, who subsequently seized the throne and married his widow, Hamlet's mother Gertrude. Hamlet agrees and decides to feign madness, and has doubts about the ghost. The plot proceeds with intrigue, betrayals and tragic errors, with Hamlet staging a play for the court enacting a death of a king by a usurper, and culminating in a deadly sword fight. Memorable characters include the elderly advisor Polonius, his son Laertes, his daughter Ophelia, and Hamlet's friends Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, and the skull of "poor Yorick", a jester from Hamlet's childhood.

Catalog: DB-1122
UPC: 0683422134432
MSLP: \$10.99

Catalog: DB-1122
UPC: 0683422134463
MSLP: \$10.99



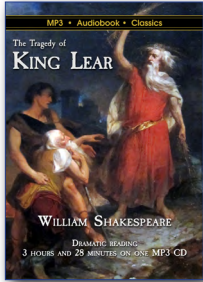
The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet

Author: William Shakespeare
Read by: Multiple Readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 3 hours 8 minutes
Genre: Plays, Drama

Rome and Juliet are the archetypes for star-crossed lovers. There is a feud between their families, the Capulets and Montagues. Romeo and Juliet meet by chance, fall in love at first sight and pledge themselves to one another. Juliet's cousin Tybalt challenges Romeo to a duel, Romeo refuses, his friend Mercutio accepts in his stead and is killed in a mishap. Romeo slays Tybalt and is exiled from Verona. Juliet's father betroths her to Count Paris. She resists and seeks help from Friar Laurence, who gives her a sleeping potion so she can feign death and sends a message to Romeo about the plan. The message never arrives, Romeo is grief-struck, kills Paris at Juliet's tomb in a case of mistaken identity, drinks poison and dies. Juliet awakes, finds Romeo dead, and stabs herself to death. The families arrive to find all three dead and reconcile. The elegy by the Prince says it all: "For never was a story of more woe / Than this of Juliet and her Romeo." Written early in his career, *Romeo and Juliet* is one of the earliest tragedies, one of his most popular during his lifetime, and one of the most frequently performed to this day.

Catalog: DB-1125
UPC: 0683422134463
MSLP: \$10.99

Catalog: DB-1127
UPC: 0683422134487
MSLP: \$10.99



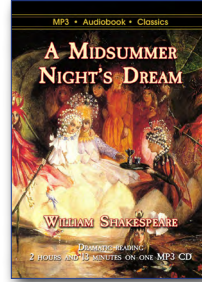
The Tragedy of King Lear

Author: William Shakespeare
Read by: Multiple Readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 3 hours 43 minutes
Genre: Plays, Drama

The Tragedy of King Lear depicts the descent of the title character into madness after retiring from power and disposing of his kingdom. He promised the larger share to the one who loves him most. The older two of his three daughters, Goneril and Regan, flatter him with superficial affection and respect and are awarded accordingly. Cordelia, his seeming favorite, tells him there is nothing to which her love can be compared, that there are no words to express it. Lear misunderstands and, infuriated, disinherits her, the first of numerous blunders which lead to tragic endings. Based on the legend of Leir of Britain, a mythological Celtic king from pre-Roman times, the play is considered one of Shakespeare's finest works. Scholars believe *Lear* was first written in 1603 and first performed in 1606. The role of *Lear* is one of the most challenging and has been played by the many of the world's most accomplished actors. Playwright George Bernard Shaw wrote, "No man will ever write a better tragedy than *Lear*".

Catalog: DB-1124
UPC: 0683422134456
MSLP: \$10.99

Catalog: DB-1127
UPC: 0683422134487
MSLP: \$10.99



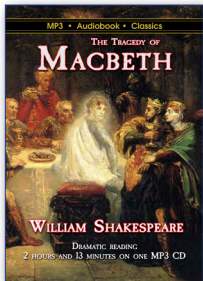
A Midsummer Night's Dream

Author: William Shakespeare
Read by: Multiple Readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 2 hours 13 minutes
Genre: Plays, Drama

A Midsummer Night's Dream, one Shakespeare's most popular plays, weaves four intertwined plots around the themes of love, magic, and dreams. The play is framed by an extended celebration of the wedding of Theseus, Duke of Athens, and Hippolyte, Queen of the Amazons. At the same time, four young Athenians attempt to fulfill their romantic destinies, which conflict with the intentions of the elders and judgment of Theseus. On another level there is a tiff between Oberon, king of the fairies, and Titania, his queen, over an Indian boy. Throughout Puck, Oberon's "shrewd and knavish sprite", dispenses love potions to guide the course of various romances for better and for worse. Lastly, there is the comic relief of a crew of craftsmen in the woods rehearsing a wretched version of "Pyramus and Thisbe" to perform at the Duke's wedding. After an evening of mishaps and turnabouts in the woods with the fairies, attachments come into alignment; all awake and agree that they must have been dreaming.

Catalog: DB-1124
UPC: 0683422134456
MSLP: \$10.99

Catalog: DB-1128
UPC: 0683422134494
MSLP: \$10.99



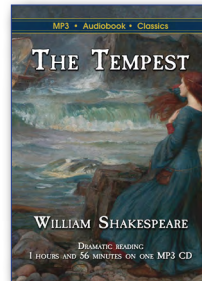
The Tragedy of Macbeth

Author: William Shakespeare
Read by: Multiple Readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 2 hours 13 minutes
Genre: Plays, Tragedy

The Tragedy of Macbeth dramatizes the consequences of the naked lust for power and the devious workings of the mind: its willingness to believe and fulfill a prophecy, to see what it wants to see and overlook what it needs to overlook, and how the power of guilt can lead to paranoia and desperation acts. Macbeth is seen first as a victorious general rewarded by a grateful king, an act mysteriously forecast by Three Witches, along with the prediction of his eventual kingship. Lady Macbeth convinces him to fulfill the destiny immediately by killing King Duncan in his sleep and pinning it on his chamberlains. They do so, and guilt, remorse, paranoia soon follow. Macbeth becomes a vicious tyrant, ruthlessly eliminating threats from rivals real and imagined. Lady Macbeth sleepwalks, washing her hands incessantly and babbling her regrets before taking her own life. Macbeth seeks comfort in the further prophecies of the Three Witches but misinterprets their meanings and falls to the campaign of his avenging enemies. Double, double, toil and trouble, indeed.

Catalog: DB-1128
UPC: 0683422134494
MSLP: \$10.99

Catalog: DB-1129
UPC: 0683422134499
MSLP: \$10.99



The Tempest

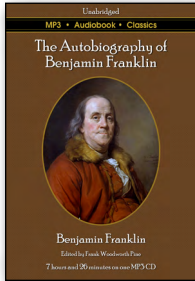
Author: William Shakespeare
Read by: Multiple Readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 1 hour 56 minutes
Genre: Plays, Drama

Neither tragedy nor comedy, but a romance, *The Tempest* (1610-11) is believed to be the last play written in entirety by William Shakespeare. Prospero and his daughter Miranda have lived on a remote island for twelve years with native spirit Ariel as servant and the monstrous Caliban as slave. Prospero's brother, Antonio, conspired with Alonso, King of Naples, to depose him as Duke of Milan. Prospero, a sorcerer, divines that they are passing by and conjures a tempest to maroon them on the island. Prospero separates the survivors into several groups, and several plots unfold. Caliban plots with two drunkards to undo Prospero and fails. Prospero tests Alonso's son Ferdinand, who passes and is rewarded with the hand of Miranda. Alonso's brother Sebastian conspires with Antonio to kill Alonso and gain the kingdom of Naples, and is foiled by Ariel, working under Prospero's guidance. With his powers in full sway, Prospero ends by forgiving the conspirators, freeing Ariel, pardoning Caliban, breaking his magic staff and drowning his magic book.

Catalog: DB-1129
UPC: 0683422134499
MSLP: \$10.99

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Biography, Autobiography & Memoir



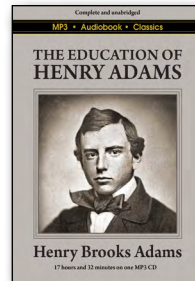
The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin

Author: Benjamin Franklin
Read by: Gary Gilbert
Length: 7 hours and 25 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Biography, Autobiography & Memoir

In the words of biographer Walter Isaacson, Franklin was “the most accomplished American of his age and the most influential in inventing the type of society America would become.” *The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin* is Franklin’s own record of his life, written between 1771 and 1790 and incomplete and unpublished at the time of his death. It languished until his grandson William Temple Franklin published the first three parts in London in 1818.

Franklin’s legacy of “firsts” continues to our time: *The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin* was the first full-length recorded book in history, recorded by actor Michael Rye and released in 1969.

Catalog: DB-1071
UPC: 0684758936516
MSLP: \$11.99



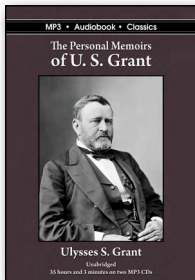
The Education of Henry Adams

Author: Henry Adams (1838 - 1918)
Read by: Jeanie
Length: 17 hours 32 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Non-fiction, Biography & Autobiography, History

The Modern Library ranks *The Education of Henry Adams* as the number one non-fiction book in the English language. Henry Brooks Adams, a Harvard professor, government official and scion of the Adams political dynasty, was raised a proper Bostonian and came of age at the start of the Civil War. His chronicle is a unique blend of autobiography, memoir, and meditation that dwells on the astonishing growth and

Catalog: DB-1045
UPC: 0684758936103
MSLP: \$13.99

change occurred during his lifetime. Adams makes it clear that his formal preparation was thoroughly inadequate to comprehend the emerging world, especially in the areas of science and mathematics, and argues strongly for the value of experience and self-education. The book began as a private limited edition for friends, was published in 1918 after his death, and won the Pulitzer Prize in 1919.



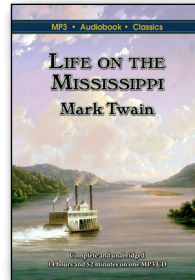
The Personal Memoirs of U. S. Grant

Author: Ulysses S. Grant
Read by: Jim Clevenger
Length: 35 hours and 3 minutes
Format: 2 MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Biography, Autobiography & Memoir, History

The Personal Memoirs of U.S. Grant is an autobiographical account focused on his military career during the Mexican-American and Civil Wars written in the course of a year during which he learned he was dying of throat cancer. The two-volume set was published by Mark Twain shortly after Grant’s death, and marketed directly by ten thousand veterans using a script to sell the sets in versions ranging in price based on the binding. The effort generated sales of

350,000 sets and provided Grant’s family with an income worth over \$10 million today. Twain compared it favorably with *Caesar’s Commentaries*... “the same high merits distinguished both books—clarity of statement, directness, simplicity, unpretentiousness, manifest truthfulness, fairness and justice toward friend and foe alike, soldierly candor and frankness, and soldierly avoidance of flowery speech. I placed the two books side by side upon the same high level.”

Catalog: DB-2010
UPC: 0683422134340
MSLP: \$19.99

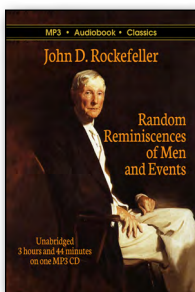


Life on the Mississippi

Author: Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)
Read by: John Greenman
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 14 hours and 39 minutes
Genre: Biography, Autobiography & Memoir

Life on the Mississippi (1883) is a memoir by Mark Twain in two parts. The first recounts Twain’s memories of a halcyon time before the Civil War when Twain was in training to become a steamboat pilot on the river. The second part recounts the trip Twain made down the river many years later after the Civil War. The two parts reflect that as the Mississippi River separates America, east from west, the Civil War separated America, north and south, and continues to separate America, its past and its future. The first part of the memoir is brilliant with the light of youth, potential, and promise. The second part, coming after the Civil War, is the work of a man who has suffered both the good and the bad in a life fully lived. Take the trip down the river with Mark Twain, the writer who knew America so well, its east and west, its north and south, its past and future.

Catalog: DB-1069
UPC: 0684758936295
MSLP: \$12.99



Random Reminiscences of Men and Events

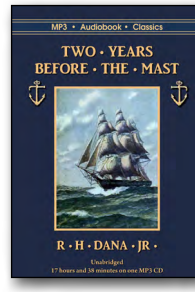
Author: John D. Rockefeller
Read by: William Tomcho
Length: 3 hours and 44 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Biography, Autobiography & Memoir

Random Reminiscences of Men and Events by is a memoir of Rockefeller’s activities in the oil business and philanthropy. Written after Rockefeller had retired from Standard Oil, the book was initially released in 1905 in part as a response to allegations contained in the ground-breaking *History of the Standard Oil Company*. In the preface he remarks on his motives:

Catalog: DB-1119
UPC: 0683422134296
MSLP: \$10.99

For myself, I had decided to say nothing, hoping that after my death the truth would gradually come to the surface and posterity would do strict justice; but while I live and can testify to certain things, it seems fair that I should refer to some points which I hope will help to set forth several much-discussed happenings in a new light. I am convinced that they have not been fully understood.

The book is indeed random and non-linear – a mixture of stories and advice on business conduct from the man who pioneered the concepts of vertical and horizontal business integration and amassed the largest fortune in the history of the world. It is brief, candid, reflective, and surprisingly charming.



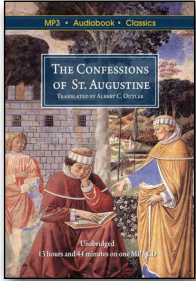
Two Years Before the Mast

Author: Richard Henry Dana, Jr.
Read by: BethAnne (1-47) TriciaG (48-49)
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 17 hours 4 minutes
Genre: Biography, Autobiography & Memoirs

Harvard undergraduate Richard Henry Dana left school in 1834 to ship out as a common sailor for a two-year voyage around Cape Horn to California. He kept a diary during the voyage and upon his return wrote the classic *Two Years Before the Mast*, which was published in 1840 and quickly became a best seller. The term “before the mast” refers to the quarters of common sailors, located in the front of the ship. His initial motive in writing the memoir was to expose the poor treatment of common sailors at sea. The ship was bound with U.S. goods to trade with the missions and ports for cow hides in California, a Mexican colony. The book recounts stays along the California coast, the heavy work involved in transporting the hides, and the ways of the Native Americans and Mexican *Californios*. Dana learns Spanish and becomes interpreter for the ship. The book is famous for his account of the mid-winter return voyage around Cape Horn that took weeks as they battled storms, wind, cold and icebergs, cited by Herman Melville as the best description ever written of the perils of Cape Horn. The book was made into a popular film starring Alan Ladd in 1946.

Catalog: DB-1159
UPC: 0683422134746
MSLP: \$13.99

Biography, Autobiography & Memoir



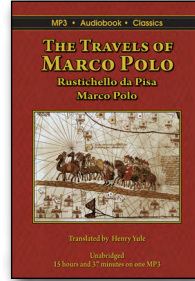
The Confessions of St. Augustine

Author: Augustine of Hippo
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 13 hours and 44 minutes
 Genre: Biography, Autobiography & Memoir, Religion

The Confessions of St. Augustine is an autobiographical work written by St. Augustine of Hippo consisting of thirteen books written as prayers to God designed to be read aloud, each as a complete unit thought to symbolize aspects of the Trinity. The Confessions is widely considered the first Western biography ever written and is by far the most complete existing record of the life any person in the 4th and 5th centuries. Written in his early 40's, it outlines his sinful youth and the process of his conversion to Christianity. The first nine books comprise an unbroken narrative of his life from infancy through boyhood, youth and into adulthood. Books ten through thirteen are commentary and contemplation, with significant insights into the operation of the senses and memory, the nature of time, and the nature and meaning of creation. The Confessions played a key role in shaping the medieval mindset and has inspired writers and thinkers for centuries with its remarkable candor and profound insights.

Catalog: DB-1042
 UPC: 0683422134586
 MSLP: \$12.99

40's, it outlines his sinful youth and the process of his conversion to Christianity. The first nine books comprise an unbroken narrative of his life from infancy through boyhood, youth and into adulthood. Books ten through thirteen are commentary and contemplation, with significant insights into the operation of the senses and memory, the nature of time, and the nature and meaning of creation. The Confessions played a key role in shaping the medieval mindset and has inspired writers and thinkers for centuries with its remarkable candor and profound insights.



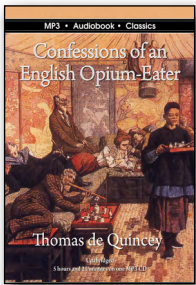
The Travels of Marco Polo

Author: Rustichello da Pisa (1274 - 1300) & Marco Polo (September 15, 1254 – January 8, 1324)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 15 hours and 37 minutes
 Genre: Biography, Autobiography & Memoir, Travel

The Travels of Marco Polo is the English title of a travelogue about Marco Polo's travels to Asia and his experiences at the court of Kublai Khan in the 13th century. Polo left Venice with his father and uncle in 1276 for China and left to return in 1291, arriving in Italy in 1295. The book was written by French writer Rustichello da Pisa from stories he heard from Marco Polo when two were imprisoned in Genoa during 1298-1299. The book was published about 1300 and titled both *Book of the Marvels of the World* and *Description of the World* in French. It consists of four books: Book One describes the Middle East and Central Asia; Book Two describes China; Book Three covers coastal lands of the east; Book Four describes the return to Italy. Produced before the advent of the printing press, the book was quite popular. *The Travels of Marco Polo* were an important influence in Christopher Columbus' quest to seek a western route to Asia by sea.

Catalog: DB-1143
 UPC: 0683422134524
 MSLP: \$13.99

1298-1299. The book was published about 1300 and titled both *Book of the Marvels of the World* and *Description of the World* in French. It consists of four books: Book One describes the Middle East and Central Asia; Book Two describes China; Book Three covers coastal lands of the east; Book Four describes the return to Italy. Produced before the advent of the printing press, the book was quite popular. *The Travels of Marco Polo* were an important influence in Christopher Columbus' quest to seek a western route to Asia by sea.



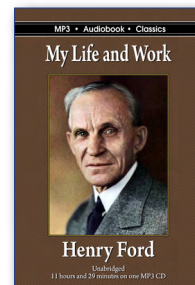
Confessions of an English Opium-Eater

Author: Thomas de Quincey
 Read by: Martin Geeson
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 5 hours and 21 minutes
 Genre: Biography, Autobiography & Memoir

Confessions of an English Opium-Eater (1821) is an autobiographical account by Thomas de Quincey of his addiction to opium and its effect on his life. It was first published by London Magazine and brought fame to de Quincey overnight as much for its style as its subject matter. It was released in book form the following year organized in two parts. *Part I, Preliminary Confessions*, recounts his childhood and youth and the factors that led to his use of laudanum. *Part II* is divided into three parts: *The Pleasures of Opium*, which narrates his early and largely favorable experience; *Introduction to the Pains of Opium*, a second chapter of autobiography covering youth to maturity; and *The Pains of Opium*, which recounts the extremes of his usage and debilitating physical effects. *Confessions* is often cited as the first "addiction memoir" and dominated views on the effects of the drug for several generations before the advent of more systematic studies.

Catalog: DB-1139
 UPC: 0683422134364
 MSLP: \$11.99

and largely favorable experience; *Introduction to the Pains of Opium*, a second chapter of autobiography covering youth to maturity; and *The Pains of Opium*, which recounts the extremes of his usage and debilitating physical effects. *Confessions* is often cited as the first "addiction memoir" and dominated views on the effects of the drug for several generations before the advent of more systematic studies.



My Life and Work

Author: Henry Ford (1863 - 1947) with Samuel Crowther
 Read by: LivelyHive
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 11 hours and 29 minutes
 Genre: Biography, Autobiography and Memoir; Business

My Life and Work, written with Samuel Crowther, chronicles the life and career of the American industrialist Henry Ford, founder of the Ford Motor Company. We learn about his childhood on a Michigan farm, his apprenticeship as a machinist, and his work for Westinghouse and Edison as an engineer before he founded the Ford Motor Company in 1903. His fortune and fame were assured with the introduction of the Model T in 1908, an inexpensive car that went on to dominate the market. Ford was famous for his innovations, which included the use of assembly line technology; paying top wages; selling through independent dealerships; and operating as a multinational, selling a third of the world's automobiles by 1932. Ford staunchly opposed labor unions but also opposed war, believing that wars were encouraged by greedy financiers who profited handsomely. He retired in the 1920's but resumed control of Ford Motor Company after his only son Edsel died in 1943, turning the company over to his grandson Henry Ford II in 1945 before his death in 1947. Much of his wealth went to establish the Ford Foundation. His legacy lies on, as the Ford family continues to control the Ford Motor Company today.

Catalog: DB-1166
 UPC: 0683422134852
 MSLP: \$12.99

My Life and Work, written with Samuel Crowther, chronicles the life and career of the American industrialist Henry Ford, founder of the Ford Motor Company. We learn about his childhood on a Michigan farm, his apprenticeship as a machinist, and his work for Westinghouse and Edison as an engineer before he founded the Ford Motor Company in 1903. His fortune and fame were assured with the introduction of the Model T in 1908, an inexpensive car that went on to dominate the market. Ford was famous for his innovations, which included the use of assembly line technology; paying top wages; selling through independent dealerships; and operating as a multinational, selling a third of the world's automobiles by 1932. Ford staunchly opposed labor unions but also opposed war, believing that wars were encouraged by greedy financiers who profited handsomely. He retired in the 1920's but resumed control of Ford Motor Company after his only son Edsel died in 1943, turning the company over to his grandson Henry Ford II in 1945 before his death in 1947. Much of his wealth went to establish the Ford Foundation. His legacy lies on, as the Ford family continues to control the Ford Motor Company today.

Authors Born in February Save 10% all month

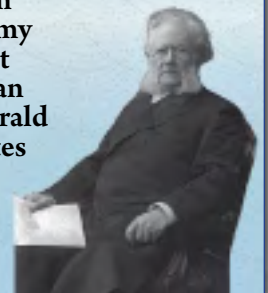
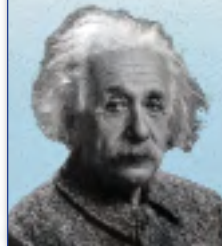
Frederick Douglass
 James Joyce
 Ayn Rand
 Thomas More
 Sinclair Lewis
 Charles Dickens
 Kate Chopin
 Jules Verne

Thomas Paine
 Harriet Jacobs
 Charles Darwin
 Thomas Malthus
 Russel H. Conwell
 Susan B. Anthony
 Henry Adams
 W.E. B. DuBois

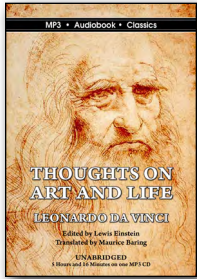


Authors Born in March Save 10% all month

Kenneth Grahame
 Albert Einstein
 Richard Francis Burton
 Henrik Ibsen
 Edward Bellamy
 Robert Frost
 A. E. Housman
 Edward FitzGerald
 Rene Descartes



Biography, Autobiography & Memoir



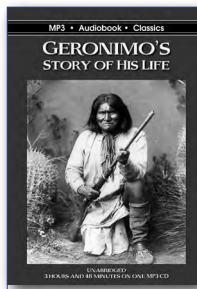
Thoughts on Art and Life

Author: Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519) Translated by Maurice Baring. Edited by Lewis Einstein.
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 5 hours and 16 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Non-Fiction, Philosophy, Art, Design, Memoir

At the age of 55 Leonard da Vinci set out to organize his ideas from a review of the thousands of pages of notebooks he had produced over an intensely productive lifetime. He begins with "Begun at Florence in the house of Piero di Braccio Martelli, on the 22nd day of March, 1508; and this is to be a collection without order, taken from many papers which I have copied here, hoping to arrange them later, each in its place, according to the various subjects treated." The result is Thoughts on Life and Art, a collection of thoughts made in simple statements, some as short as one sentence, many a single paragraph, seldom more. Many take on the character of an epigram, an axiom, perhaps a revelation. Others show a keen mind paring a subject down to its essence. Each idea seems described as it occurred to Leonardo in the instant of its conception. There 333 entries in all, organized into three groups, Life, Art and Science. It is a remarkable digest of the workings of one of the greatest minds ever to grace the planet.

Catalog: DB-1239
 UPC: 0701236969580
 MSLP: \$9.99

is Thoughts on Life and Art, a collection of thoughts made in simple statements, some as short as one sentence, many a single paragraph, seldom more. Many take on the character of an epigram, an axiom, perhaps a revelation. Others show a keen mind paring a subject down to its essence. Each idea seems described as it occurred to Leonardo in the instant of its conception. There 333 entries in all, organized into three groups, Life, Art and Science. It is a remarkable digest of the workings of one of the greatest minds ever to grace the planet.



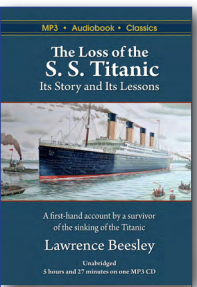
Geronimo's Story of His Life

Author: Geronimo (1829 - 1909)
 Translated by Asa Deklugie
 Read by: Sue Anderson
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 3 hours and 48 minutes
 Genre: Biography, Autobiography & Memoir, History

Geronimo. No word or image better symbolizes the fierce, fearless nature of the Native American warrior than Geronimo. Given the large place he occupies in the public mind, it is fascinating to hear the story of his life in his own words, which are recounted here in *Geronimo's Story of His Life*. Geronimo was a prominent leader of the Bedonkohe band of the Chiricahua Apache tribe. He joined with three other Apache bands to conduct raids to oppose military campaigns in the Mexican states of Chihuahua and Sonora

Catalog: DB-1184
 UPC: 0683422135057
 MSLP: \$10.99

and the U.S. Territories of Arizona and New Mexico. In 1886, after 36 years and an intense pursuit by some five thousand soldiers, Geronimo surrendered for the last time and was taken as a prisoner of war along with 27 other Apaches. He became a celebrity in his old age, attending the St. Louis Fair in 1904 and riding in the inaugural parade of President Theodore Roosevelt in 1905 while still a prisoner of war after 19 years.



The Loss of the S. S. Titanic: Its Story and Its Lessons

Author: Lawrence Beesley (1877 - 1967)
 Read by: Allyson Hester
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 5 hours and 27 minutes
 Genre: Biography, Autobiography & Memoir, History

The sinking of the Titanic, largest ship afloat, after colliding with an iceberg in the North Atlantic in April 1912, was greeted with shock and outrage at the systemic failures that caused such a huge loss of life. While Titanic boasted numerous advanced safety features, she was equipped with lifeboats for only 1,178 people, just over half of capacity. Lawrence Beesley was a passenger on the voyage who managed to survive and was soon after persuaded to publish his account of the event to counter the misinformation already stemming from the piecemeal accounts by those who were not present. Although reluctant at first, Beesley felt a duty to bring the need for reform to public attention in recognition of the many that died needlessly as a result of management shortcomings. His memoir is a gripping story that stands the test of time and helped lead to public inquiries that resulted in significant maritime safety improvements.

Catalog: DB-1199
 UPC: 0701236969177
 MSLP: \$11.99

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Authors Born in April Save 10% all month

Hans Christian Andersen	Leonardo Da Vinci
Washington Irving	Henry James
Booker T. Washington	Charlotte Bronte
Thomas Hobbes	Marcus Aurelius
Charles Baudelaire	William Shakespeare
Low Wallace	Ulysses S. Grant



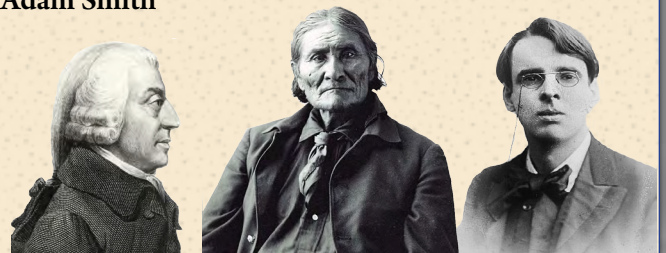
Authors Born in May Save 10% all month

Henry M. Robert	Bertrand Russell
Nicolo Machiavelli	John Stuart Mill
Jacob Riis	Ralph Waldo Emerson
Gaston LeRoux	Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
Sigmund Freud	Arnold Bennett
Gustave Le Bon	Walt Whitman
J. M. Barrie	Johann David Wyss
Rabindranath Tagore	G. K. Chesterton
L. Frank Baum	

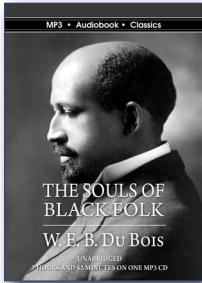


Authors Born in June Save 10% all month

Thomas Hardy	Silvanus P. Thompson
Harriet Beecher Stowe	Blaise Pascal
W. B. Yeats	Donald E. Keyhoe
Geronimo	Ambrose Bierce
Adam Smith	



Biographies - Black Lives Matter



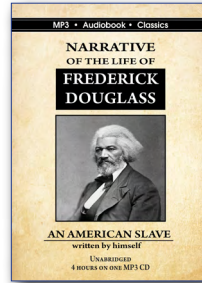
The Souls of Black Folk

Author: W. E. B. Du Bois (1868 - 1963)
 Read by: Toria's Uncle
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 7 hours and 22 minutes
 Genre: Non-Fiction, History, Sociology

The Souls of Black Folk is a fundamental work in three distinct areas: it is a classic in the annals of American Literature, a seminal work in the discipline of sociology, and a cornerstone of Afro-American literature. Published in 1903, the book is a collection of essays that cover the various aspects of the black experience. In it he introduces the metaphor of the veil as a visual symbol of the color line and the corresponding idea of "double-consciousness" that describes the reality of constantly perceiving one's self both subjectively and through the eyes of others. In addition to sections on history, education, the sociology of the black community, and the role of the black church, there are narratives of the lives of individuals, a short story, and a closing chapter on black music. The importance and the impact of the book cannot be overstated. In *Living Black History*, Du Bois's biographer, Manning Marable, observes: "The Souls of Black Folk... helped to create the intellectual argument for the black freedom struggle in the twentieth century... justified the pursuit of higher education for Negroes and thus contributed to the rise of the black middle class."

Catalog: DB-1150
 UPC: 0683422134654
 MSLP: \$11.99

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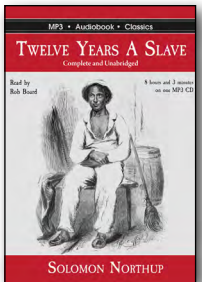
Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass

Author: Frederick Douglass (1818 - 1895)
 Read by: Jeanette Ferguson
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 4 hours
 Genre: Biography, Autobiography & Memoir; History

Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, published in 1845, was one of the first accounts written by slaves about their experience and was influential in stimulating the abolitionist movement. The first nine chapters deal with his earliest years, his separation from his mother, the cruel treatment of slaves, his childhood struggles to learn to read and write, his growing awareness of the possibility of freedom, and his movements as a piece of property through numerous masters during his youth. In the last two chapters he brawls with a cruel master, serves 2 years in prison, works as a tradesman, becomes engaged to a free black woman, and finally escapes to the north. The book was a quick success, selling 5,000 copies in the first few months and 30,000 by 1860. Ironically, the awareness it generated forced him to flee to England and Ireland to avoid being recaptured in the U.S., as prevailing laws required. The public was astonished that a former slave could be so literate. Margaret Fuller, a noted critic and reviewer, wrote "we have never read [a narrative] more simple, true, coherent, and warm with genuine feeling."

Catalog: DB-1154
 UPC: 0683422134692
 MSLP: \$10.99

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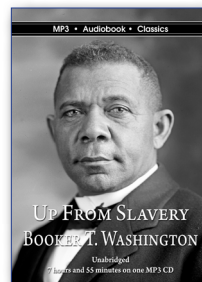
Twelve Years A Slave

Author: Solomon Northup (1808 - 1863)
 Read by: Rob Board
 Length: 8 hours and 4 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Biography, Autobiography & Memoir; History

Twelve Years a Slave (1853) is a memoir by Solomon Northup, a black man who was born free. The story tells of being kidnapped, sold as a slave, and shipped to work on plantations in Louisiana for 12 years. Northup narrative describes the slave markets in Washington DC and New Orleans and his experience on the cotton and sugar plantations. With the help of a sympathetic ally he was eventually able to contact friends and family in New York and secure his release. The work was published on the heels of Harriet Beecher Stowe's best-selling *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (1852) and also became a bestseller, selling 30,000 copies.

Catalog: DB-1051
 UPC: 0684758936318
 MSLP: \$11.99

ally he was eventually able to contact friends and family in New York and secure his release. The work was published on the heels of Harriet Beecher Stowe's best-selling *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (1852) and also became a bestseller, selling 30,000 copies. After several editions the book fell into obscurity until the early 1960s. It has since been adapted and produced as the 1984 PBS television movie *Solomon Northup's Odyssey* and the 2013 Academy Award-winning film *12 Years a Slave*.



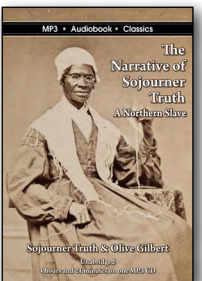
Up From Slavery

Author: Booker T. Washington (1856 - 1915)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 7 hours and 55 minutes
 Genre: Biography, Autobiography & Memoir; History

In his autobiography, *Up from Slavery*, Booker T. Washington chronicles his personal experiences as he rose from a slave child emancipated at age nine to the obstacles he overcame to attend Hampton University and become the leader of the Tuskegee Institute. He recalls the generosity of teachers and of philanthropists such as the leaders of Standard Oil, Kodak, and Sears in helping blacks and Native Americans get an education. He emphasizes the importance of instilling self-esteem, manners, and good health in his students and the virtue of combining academics with practical knowledge of a trade. *Up from Slavery* was published in 1901 and became a best seller. It was listed by the Modern Library at No. 3 on its 1998 list of the 100 Best Non-Fiction Books of the 20th Century.

Catalog: DB-1169
 UPC: 0683422134883
 MSLP: \$11.99

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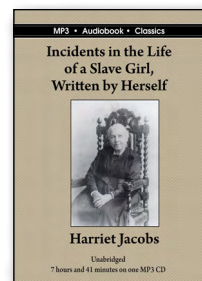
The Narrative of Sojourner Truth

Author: Sojourner Truth (1797-1883) and Olive Gilbert (1801-1884)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 4 hours and 21 minutes
 Genre: Biography, Autobiography & Memoir; History

The Narrative of Sojourner Truth: A Northern Slave (1850) reminds us that slavery at one time existed throughout the United States. Born Isabella Baumfree to a slave family 95 miles north of New York City, her narrative describes the world of northern slavery: squalid living conditions, disruption of families, sale at auction, and cruel treatment. In 1826 she escaped to freedom and soon after became a devout Christian. In 1843 she changed her name to Sojourner Truth and took to the road as a preacher and social reformer. A mesmerizing public speaker, she delivered hundreds of speeches advocating equal rights for blacks and women. She gained national recognition for a speech at the Ohio Women's Rights Convention in 1851 that came to be known as "Ain't I a Woman?". The Smithsonian Institution named her to their list of 100 Most Significant Americans in 2014 and she was chosen by the U.S. Treasury in 2016 as one of five women to appear on the back of the \$10 bill.

Catalog: DB-1168
 UPC: 0683422134876
 MSLP: \$10.99

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Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

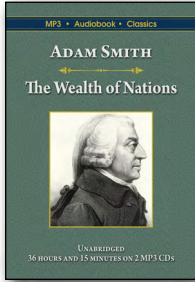
Author: Harriett Jacobs (1813 - 1897)
 Read by: Elizabeth Klett
 Length: 7 hours and 41 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Biography, Autobiography & Memoir; History

Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl is one of the first books in the slave narrative genre that spoke to the issues of sexual abuse faced by slave women. The book is addressed to northern white women, with the underlying message that abuse of female slaves by white male masters is corrosive to the family and marriage unit. Harriet Jacobs wrote her account secretly at night in the nursery of the home of her employer. It was serialized in the *New York Tribune* and then published in 1861 in book form under the pseudonym Linda Brent to protect the identity of its author, who was subject to capture and return to her owner under the terms of the Fugitive Slave Act. Names of all the key characters were changed as well. The release of the book in 1861 met with favorable reviews but coincided with the bankruptcy of the publisher. After the war it was considered a novel due to the use of the pseudonym. Interest was revived when scholar Jean Fagan Yellin confirmed the identity of the author and historians began to better understand the connection to feminist issues.

Catalog: DB-1167
 UPC: 0683422134869
 MSLP: \$11.99

form under the pseudonym Linda Brent to protect the identity of its author, who was subject to capture and return to her owner under the terms of the Fugitive Slave Act. Names of all the key characters were changed as well. The release of the book in 1861 met with favorable reviews but coincided with the bankruptcy of the publisher. After the war it was considered a novel due to the use of the pseudonym. Interest was revived when scholar Jean Fagan Yellin confirmed the identity of the author and historians began to better understand the connection to feminist issues.

Theoretical Foundations of Modern Economics



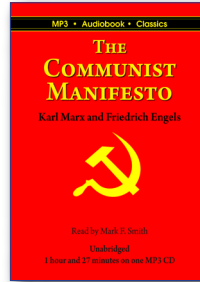
The Wealth of Nations

Author: Adam Smith (1723 - 1790)
 Read by: Stephen Escalera
 Format: 2 MP3 CDs in DVD case
 Length: 36 hours and 15 minutes
 Genre: Economics, Political Philosophy

The Wealth of Nations is a profound work that helped lay the intellectual foundations of the modern world. Over a period of seventeen years Adam Smith assembled notes and observations of discussions among economists and spent ten years writing a treatise that offered a practical reformed economic theory to meet the challenges of the emerging Industrial Revolution and replace increasingly obsolete

mercantilist and physiocratic economic theories. The notion that individuals guided by their enlightened self-interest will achieve an economic outcome that benefits the public at large is a sacred tenet of neoclassical economics, as is the related idea of "an invisible hand" that creates economic equilibrium and prosperity when markets are allowed to operate freely. The book was an instant success when it was published in 1776 and went through five editions in Smith's lifetime. The ideas and policies articulated by Smith have influenced countless economists and authors as well as governments and organizations over the ages. It continues to be a fundamental work in classical economics to this day.

Catalog: DB-2011
 UPC: 0683422134975
 MSLP: \$19.99



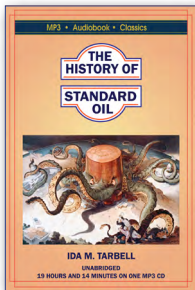
The Communist Manifesto

Author: Friedrich Engels (1820 -1895) and Karl Marx (1838 -1911)
 Read by: Mark F. Smith
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 1 hour and 27 minutes
 Genre: Non-Fiction, Economics, Political Philosophy

Catalog: DB-1165
 UPC: 0683422134845
 MSLP: \$9.99

The Communist Manifesto is a short pamphlet that articulated Marx and Engels' theories about class struggle in society and politics, the problems of capitalism, and how capitalism would eventually evolve into socialism. There are four sections. The first elucidates the materialist concept of history, in which an oppressed proletariat majority lives under the dominion of an oppressive bourgeois minority. The second positions communists as advocates for the general will of the working class and proposes the abolition of private property and the adoption of state-owned production, universal employment, free public education, centralized banking and credit, and nationalized communication and transportation. The third distinguishes communism from other socialist doctrines of the time. The fourth briefly discusses the struggles in specific countries, predicts a world revolution, and calls for unified international proletarian action. The Manifesto arose at the time of revolutions across Europe in 1848 and fell into obscurity until the Paris Commune of 1871, after which it grew in popularity along with the growth of social-democratic parties across Europe, culminating in the Russian Revolution in 1917.

John D. Rockefeller and the Standard Oil Company



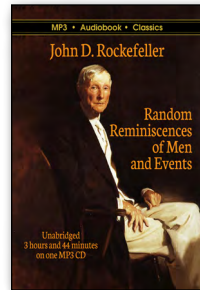
The History of Standard Oil

Author: Ida Mae Tarbell
 Read by: Tom Weiss
 Length: 19 hours and 8 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Economics, History

In 1900 Ida Tarbell, one of the first "muckraking" investigative journalists, began exhaustive research on the Standard Oil Corporation, which resulted in a 19-part series in McClure's magazine and was published in 1904 as *The History of Standard Oil*. The book confronts the irony inherent in corporate success: can corporate dominance ultimately harm the consumer, since dominance can extend to the unfettered setting of prices and the overwhelming potential competitors?

Catalog: DB-1066
 UPC: 0684758936455
 MSLP: \$13.99

This is the story of John D. Rockefeller, a preternaturally gifted manager and financier who used anti-competitive tactics to create the most successful company of its time and become the wealthiest American of all time. The book continues to be relevant in our new gilded age. NYU lists it as number 5 on its list of the top 100 non-fiction works of all time. Like many works of non-fiction, it's too good to be true – but it is.



Random Reminiscences of Men and Events

Author: John D. Rockefeller
 Read by: William Tomcho
 Length: 3 hours and 44 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Biography, Memoir

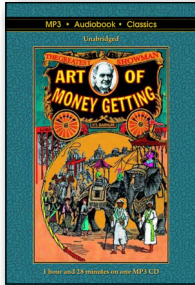
Catalog: DB-1119
 UPC: 0683422134296
 MSLP: \$10.99

Random Reminiscences of Men and Events by is a memoir of Rockefeller's activities in the oil business and philanthropy. Written after Rockefeller had retired from Standard Oil, the book was initially released in 1905 in part as a response to allegations contained in the ground-breaking *History of the Standard Oil Company*. In the preface he remarks on his motives:

For myself, I had decided to say nothing, hoping that after my death the truth would gradually come to the surface and posterity would do strict justice; but while I live and can testify to certain things, it seems fair that I should refer to some points which I hope will help to set forth several much-discussed happenings in a new light. I am convinced that they have not been fully understood.

The book is indeed random and non-linear – a mixture of stories and advice on business conduct from the man who pioneered the concepts of vertical and horizontal business integration and amassed the largest fortune in the history of the world. It is brief, candid, reflective, and surprisingly charming.

How To Make A Fortune



Catalog: DB-1120
UPC: 0683422134289
MSLP: \$9.99

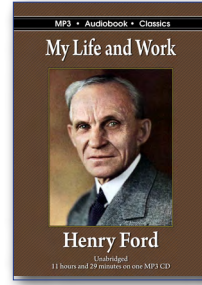
The Art of Money Getting

Author: Phineas Taylor "P.T." Barnum (1810 - 1891)
Read by: D. S. Harvey
Length: 1 hour and 28 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Economics, Education, Self Help

Learn The 20 Time Tested Business Rules To Attract More Money, More Prospects and More Customers To You From "The Father Of Marketing" - PT Barnum

So read the copy for advertisements for *The Art of Money Getting; or, Golden Rules for Making Money*, a concise guide to the principles of sound business and financial management written

by P. T. Barnum and published in 1880 as a 96-page paperback at the height of his worldwide popularity. The book consists of an introduction on the general subject followed by twenty concise chapters on Barnum's rules of success, and is considered by many as the first and possibly the manual for effectively using advertising, promotion and public relations as essential tools of getting the message to the public as a critical factor in business development.



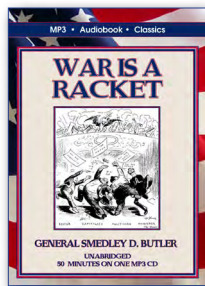
Catalog: DB-1166
UPC: 0683422134852
MSLP: \$12.99

My Life and Work

Author: Henry Ford with Samuel Crowther
Read by: LivelyHive
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 11 hours and 29 minutes
Genre: Biography, Autobiography and Memoir; Business

My Life and Work, written with Samuel Crowther, chronicles the life and career of the American industrialist Henry Ford, founder of the Ford Motor Company. We learn about his childhood on a Michigan farm, his apprenticeship as a machinist, and his work for Westinghouse and Edison as an engineer before he founded the Ford Motor Company in 1903. His fortune and fame were assured with the introduction of the Model T in 1908, an inexpensive car that went on to dominate the market. Ford was famous for his innovations, which included the use of assembly line technology; paying top wages; selling through independent dealerships; and operating as a multi-national, selling a third of the world's automobiles by 1932. Ford staunchly opposed labor unions but also opposed war, believing that wars were encouraged by greedy financiers who profited handsomely. He retired in the 1920's but resumed control of Ford Motor Company after his only son Edsel died in 1943, turning the company over to his grandson Henry Ford II in 1945 before his death in 1947. Much of his wealth went to establish the Ford Foundation. His legacy lies on, as the Ford family continues to control the Ford Motor Company today.

Millionaires, Monopolies and Trusts



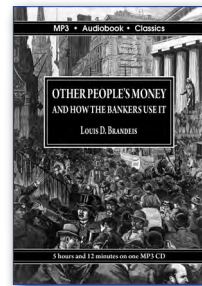
Catalog: DB-1189
UPC: 0683422135101
MSLP: \$9.99

War Is A Racket

Author: General Smedley D. Butler (1881 - 1940)
Read by: D. S. Harvey
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 50 minutes
Genre: Economics, History, Essays, War & Military

After his retirement from the Marine Corps in early 1930's, General Smedley D. Butler embarked on a national lecture tour, where he gave his speech about how commercial interests benefit from war. The speech was well received and he wrote an expanded version of it, which was published as *War Is A Racket*. The work was published by *Reader's Digest* as a condensed book supplement, which added to its popularity. The book consists of five chapters.

The first chapter cites telling statistics. The second chapter compares the profits made by U.S. corporations before and after World War I. The third chapter explains how the costs are borne by the public. Chapter four sets forth three simple methods to limit wars. The final chapter shows the futility of arms limitations negotiations and makes it plain that only total disarmament will break the back of the beast. It can easily be seen as a precursor to Eisenhower's warning of the power of the military-industrial complex.



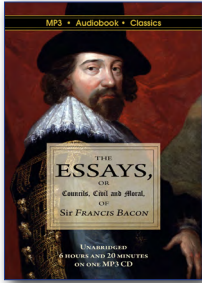
Catalog: DB-1055
UPC: 0684758936394
MSLP: \$11.99

Other Peoples' Money and How The Bankers Use It

Author: Louis D. Brandeis
Read by: D.S. Harvey
Length: 5 hours 4 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Economics, Political Philosophy

Other People's Money and How the Bankers Use It first appeared in *Harper's Weekly* and was published in book form in 1914. The book takes to task the small cadre of investment bankers led by J.P. Morgan & Co. known as the "Money Trust", who habitually used the ordinary person's money on deposit as their own to control the banks, trusts, and public corporations that dominated American business. Brandeis marshaled an exhaustive amount of research to describe the exact extent of the holdings, the interlocking directorships, and the resulting degree of control. He exposes the practices that stifle competition, lead to self-dealing and excessive enrichment, inhibit creativity and progress, foster inefficiency, and go against the grain of fundamental ideas of liberty crucial to America's identity. His warnings reverberate eerily today in light of the practices that recently damaged the American economy. One feels nothing much has changed except the decimal points in the numbers. Viewed in this light, Brandeis' message has never been more on-point.

Essays and Short Works

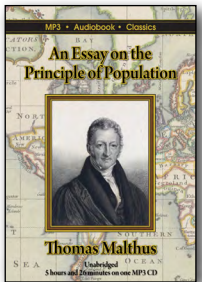


The Essays of Francis Bacon

Author: Francis Bacon (1561 - 1626)
Read by: Carl Vonnoh, III
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 6 hours 20 minutes
Genre: Non-Fiction, Essays, Philosophy

Francis Bacon thought of his Essays as "recreation of my other studies" in politics, law, natural philosophy, and science. First published in 1597 as *Essays: Religious Meditations, Places of Perswasion and Disswasion, Scene and Allowed*, the collection was expanded to 38 essays in 1612 and again in 1625 to 58 essays under the title *Essays or Counsels, Civill and Morall*. The Essays have no logical sequence or theme (ironic for the man who brought method and organization to science) and find their topics in diverse areas, public and private. Bacon had a gift for making catchy phrases, and many expressions still in use are found first in *The Essays*. The Oxford Dictionary of Quotations contains 91 quotations from *The Essays*. Although the treatments vary in style from the unadorned to the epigrammatic, he invariably covers the topic at hand from all angles in a systematic and considered fashion. They were well received and so well done that some have thought of Bacon as the originator of the essay form; they clearly stand with the work of Aristotle and Montaigne and have stood the test of time.

Catalog: DB-1112
UPC: 0684758936660
MSLP: \$9.99

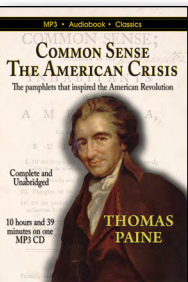


An Essay on the Principle of Population

Author: Thomas Malthus (1741 - 1803)
Read by: Multiple readers
Length: 5 hours 26 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Science, Economics

An Essay on the Principle of Population (1798) was the most influential work on the subject of population of its time. In it Malthus formulated the Iron Law of Population, which holds that an increase in the supply of labor leads inevitably to lower wages and thus to poverty, famine and disease. He held that population generally increased in times and places of plenty until demand for resources exceeded supply, and that epidemics, famines and wars that stymied growth also masked the fundamental problem. He proposed that the only solution was to limit the birth rate through moral restraint on a wide scale. The book fueled debate on the size of the British population and helped speed the passage of the Census Act of 1800, which mandated a national census to be conducted every ten years. Malthus revised the work over the course of six editions, incorporating new material and changes in his thinking. The book has been cited as an important influence in the development of the theory of natural selection by Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace.

Catalog: DB-1098
UPC: 0683422134227
MSLP: \$10.99



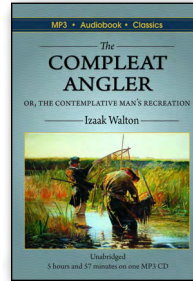
Common Sense and the American Crisis

Author: Thomas Paine
Read by: Multiple readers
Length: 10 hours and 35 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: History, Political Philosophy

This volume contains the pamphlets by Thomas Paine that inspired the American Revolution. *Common Sense* argued for seeking independence from Britain when the matter was the issue of the day. Reasoned and written in a clear, simple style, Paine structured *Common Sense* as a sermon to make his case, drawing together the drive for independence with prevailing dissenting Protestant tenets to forge a uniquely American political identity.

Catalog: DB-1037
UPC: 852679827439
MSLP: \$12.99

Published January 10, 1776, it became an instant sensation. The first of sixteen *The American Crisis* pamphlets published during the American Revolution begins with "These are the times that try men's souls...". Signed "Common Sense", Paine's writings clarified the issues, improved morale, appealed to the good sense of the English and argued against a negotiated peace. George Washington had it read aloud to the Continental Army before the Battle of Trenton to bolster morale.

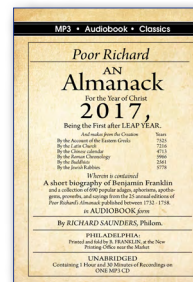


The Compleat Angler

Author: Izaak Walton (1593-1683)
Read by: Nicole Lee
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 5 hours and 57 minutes
Genre: Education, Essays

The Compleat Angler, or, the Contemplative Man's Recreation (1653) is a unique classic work, a treatise that celebrates the art and spirit of fishing. The subtitle conveys its essence well, as the material ranges from technical tips to quotations, anecdotes, poems, songs, turns of phrase and musings on the nature of creation. Walton revised the work through five editions in the twenty-five years following its initial publication, during which time it grew from thirteen to twenty-one chapters. Originally structured with two speakers, Piscator and Venator, later editions added new companions who each discoursed on the aspects of his favorite pastime. Walton was a reputed master in the use of worms, frogs, and grasshoppers for bait fishing, but turned to humorist and retired cook Thomas Barker for the fly fishing section, which was added to and completed by his friend Charles Cotton in later editions. The book was thus a living thing, and developed much the way a blog might evolve in the present day.

Catalog: DB-1164
UPC: 0683422134838
MSLP: \$11.99

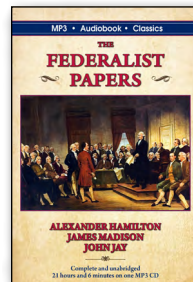


Poor Richard's Almanack

Author: Benjamin Franklin
Read by: Michelle Fry
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 1 hour and 30 minutes
Genre: Humor, Philosophy

Poor Richard's Almanack was a yearly almanac published by Benjamin Franklin using the pseudonym Richard Saunders, the "Poor Richard" of the title. Almanacs offered an amalgam of weather forecasts, sunrises, sunsets, phases of the moon, and tides along with household tips, puzzles and other amusements. Both useful and entertaining, they were immensely popular, and none more so than Franklin's, which sold quite well, as many as 10,000 copies per year, and made him a wealthy man. Published for 25 years between 1732 and 1758, the pamphlet was known for its wordplay and extensive sprinkling of witty and wise sayings throughout, many of which have found their way into the American vernacular. Some 690 of these aphorisms and sayings are collected here.

Catalog: DB-1211
UPC: 0701236969290
MSLP: \$9.99



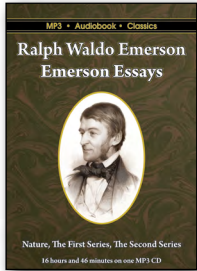
The Federalist Papers

Author: Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, & John Jay
Read by: Multiple readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 21 hours and 6 minutes
Genre: Political Philosophy, Essays, History

Catalog: DB-1190
UPC: 0683422134937
MSLP: \$14.99

The Federalist Papers is a series of 85 articles arguing in favor of ratification of the United States Constitution by the thirteen original colonies. During the Constitutional Convention that met in 1787 to revise the Articles of Confederation, James Madison and Alexander Hamilton advocated instead for the creation of a new government. The delegates agreed on the principles contained in Madison's Virginia Plan and produced the Constitution, which was submitted to the states in September 1787. The Federalist papers were written in response to criticism of the Constitution. The articles were first published between October 1787 and August 1788 in newspapers and then published in 1788. Hamilton is the author of 51 articles, Madison the author of 26, and John Jay, who fell ill, authored 5. In the words of historian Richard B. Morris, they are an "incomparable exposition of the Constitution, a classic in political science unsurpassed in both breadth and depth by the product of any later American writer."

Essays and Short Works

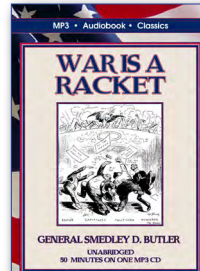


Essays: Nature, The First Series, The Second Series

Author: Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 - 1883)
Read by: Nature - Multiple readers
First Series and Second Series - Bob Neufeld
Length: 17 hours 32 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Essays, Philosophy

This volume aggregates the essays by Ralph Waldo Emerson first collected in *Nature* (1837), *Essays: The First Series* (1841) and *Essays: The Second Series* (1844). His essays derived from his many lectures on the subject topics and articulated the ideas and values that came to be known at the time as the Transcendentalist movement and have since become woven into the fabric of the American temperament. He was a champion of the emerging idea of individualism and a critic of the constraints imposed by conformity to prevailing social and religious beliefs. The first and formative expression of the Transcendentalist philosophy appeared in 1836 in his essay "Nature". With Margaret Fuller, he founded the Transcendentalist journal *The Dial* in 1840 and published his seminal *Essays: First Series* in 1841 and *Essays: Second Series* in 1844. His essays and lectures set the course of much of the intellectual life of the country.

Catalog: DB-1079
UPC: 0684758936585
MSLP: \$13.99

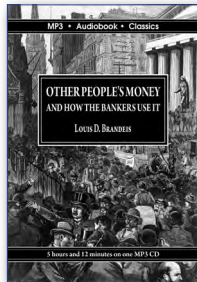


War Is A Racket

Author: General Smedley D. Butler (1881 - 1940)
Read by: D. S. Harvey
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 50 minutes
Genre: Economics, History, Essays, War & Military

After his retirement from the Marine Corps in early 1930's, General Smedley D. Butler embarked on a national lecture tour, where he gave his speech about how commercial interests benefit from war. The speech was well received and he wrote an expanded version of it, which was published as *War Is A Racket*. The work was published by *Reader's Digest* as a condensed book supplement, which added to its popularity. The book consists of five chapters. The first chapter cites telling statistics. The second chapter compares the profits made by U.S. corporations before and after World War I. The third chapter explains how the costs are borne by the public. Chapter four sets forth three simple methods to limit wars. The final chapter shows the futility of arms limitations negotiations and makes it plain that only total disarmament will break the back of the beast. It can easily be seen as a precursor to Eisenhower's warning of the power of the military-industrial complex.

Catalog: DB-1189
UPC: 0683422135101
MSLP: \$9.99



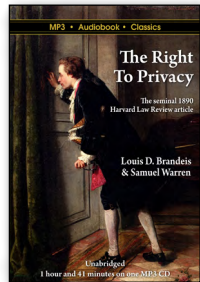
Other Peoples' Money and How The Bankers Use It

Author: Louis D. Brandeis
Read by: D.S. Harvey
Length: 5 hours 4 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Economics, Political Philosophy

Other People's Money and How the Bankers Use It first appeared in *Harper's Weekly* and was published in book form in 1914. The book takes to task the small cadre of investment bankers led by J.P. Morgan & Co. known as the "Money Trust", who habitually used the ordinary person's money on deposit as their own to control the banks, trusts, and public corporations that dominated American business. Brandeis marshaled an exhaustive amount of research to describe the exact extent

Catalog: DB-1055
UPC: 0684758936394
MSLP: \$11.99

of the holdings, the interlocking directorships, and the resulting degree of control. He exposes the practices that stifle competition, lead to self-dealing and excessive enrichment, inhibit creativity and progress, foster inefficiency, and go against the grain of fundamental ideas of liberty crucial to America's identity. His warnings reverberate eerily today in light of the practices that recently damaged the American economy. One feels nothing much has changed except the decimal points in the numbers. Viewed in this light, Brandeis' message has never been more on-point.

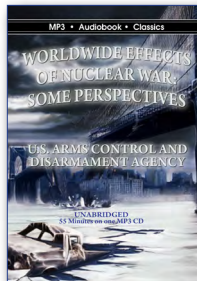


The Right to Privacy

Author: Louis D. Brandeis and Samuel Warren
Read by: D. S. Harvey
Length: 52 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Political Philosophy, Law

Inspired by the coverage of intimate details of private lives made possible by instantaneous photography and mass circulation of newspapers, *The Right to Privacy* (1890) is the first essay that argued for an inherent right to privacy, the "right to be left alone". The core argument is an extension of the fundamental right of the individual to full protection in person and property, principles continually reconfigured in light of political, social and economic change, in much the same way that definitions of protection against bodily harm and protection of property were expanded. Libel, slander, and intellectual property law are considered as possible protections and found inadequate. The argument examines case law and attempts to define privacy itself, and finally imposes limitations on the protection. *The Right to Privacy* is especially relevant today as new technologies and business models seek ever more personal data and threats of terror invoke escalating surveillance tactics.

Catalog: DB-1136
UPC: 0683422134517
MSLP: \$9.99

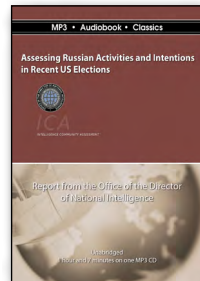


Worldwide Effects of Nuclear War: Some Perspectives

Author: U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency
Read by: Alyson Hester
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 55 minutes
Genre: Political Philosophy, Science

In 1974 the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency commissioned the National Academy of Sciences to produce a study that became *Long-Term Worldwide Effects of Multiple Nuclear Weapons Detonations*. The report ran to over 200 pages, so the Agency produced an abbreviated version of the study which conveyed its essential findings along with information from other studies and basic background facts. The Academy found that a massive attack with multiple detonations was likely to create such widespread and long-lasting environmental damage that an aggressor nation would itself suffer serious environmental effects even without a response. Perhaps the most compelling conclusion is that existing knowledge is largely based on hypothesis and so uncertainty as to the consequences is the central truth. We just don't really know what would happen, and that alone should serve as a deterrent. The report presents the findings in language that common people can understand; scientific background is not necessary.

Catalog: DB-1223
UPC: 0701236969429
MSLP: \$9.99

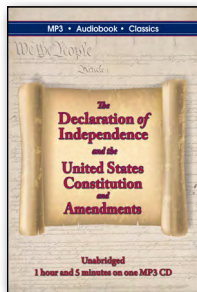


Assessing Russian Activities and Intention In Recent U. S. Elections

Author: Office of the Director of National Intelligence
Read by: D. S. Harvey
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 1 hour and 7 minutes
Genre: History

The 2016 United States Presidential Election was one of the closest, nastiest, and most contentious in the history of the country. The narrow victory of Donald J. Trump was an unprecedented upset. When Wikileaks released thousands of emails from the Democratic National Committee and the Republican platform became surprisingly friendly to Russia, it became evident that extraordinary forces were at play and influencing the public conversation. After the election President Obama ordered the three major intelligence agencies to coordinate their findings and report them to key persons in the US Government. The classified report was shared with the Executive branch, the Congress and the President-elect in early January. A shortened, declassified version with the same assessments was released at the same time. That report, entitled *Assessing Russian Activities and Intentions in Recent US Elections*, is read here verbatim. It reveals that the Russian activities were deliberate, extensive, and originated at the very top of the Russian government.

Catalog: DB-1221
UPC: 0701236969405
MSLP: \$9.99



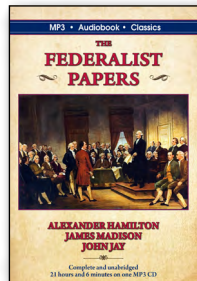
The Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution and Amendments

Author: Thomas Jefferson, The Constitutional Convention
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 1 hour and 40 minutes
 Genre: Political Philosophy, History

The Declaration of Independence is a list of grievances against King George II and the assertion of natural and legal rights designed to explain why the Congress had voted to declare independence. Thomas Jefferson composed the declaration under the editorial supervision of John Adams and Benjamin Franklin. **The United States Constitution** articulates the structure and powers of the federal government and serves as the supreme law of the land.

Catalog: DB-1191
 UPC: 0683422135118
 MSLP: \$9.99

It originally consisted of seven articles. The document was created by the Philadelphia Convention of 1787, ratified in 1788 and put into force in 1789. The original language of the articles and all amendments remain intact and can only be modified by a succeeding amendment. This practice was put into force with the first series of ten amendments ratified in 1791 that are known as the **Bill of Rights**, an articulation of rights not defined in the seven articles of the constitution. There are twenty-seven amendments in all.

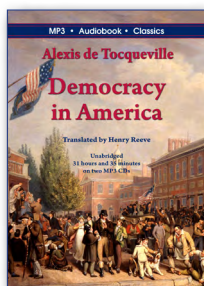


The Federalist Papers

Author: Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, & John Jay
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 21 hours and 6 minutes
 Genre: Political Philosophy, Essays, History

The Federalist Papers is a series of 85 articles arguing in favor of ratification of the United States Constitution by the thirteen original colonies. During the Constitutional Convention that met in 1787 to revise the Articles of Confederation, James Madison and Alexander Hamilton advocated instead for the creation of a new government. The delegates agreed on the principles contained in Madison's Virginia Plan and produced the Constitution, which was submitted to the states in September 1787. The Federalist papers were written in response to criticism of the Constitution. The articles were first published between October 1787 and August 1788 in newspapers and then published in 1788. Hamilton is the author of 51 articles, Madison the author of 26, and John Jay, who fell ill, authored 5. In the words of historian Richard B. Morris, they are an "incomparable exposition of the Constitution, a classic in political science unsurpassed in both breadth and depth by the product of any later American writer."

Catalog: DB-1190
 UPC: 0683422134937
 MSLP: \$14.99

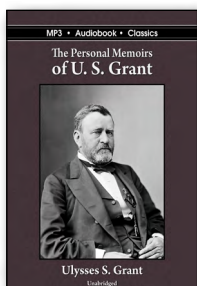


Democracy in America

Author: Alexis de Tocqueville Trans. by Henry Reeve
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: 2 MP3 CDs in DVD case
 Length: 31 hours and 4 minutes
 Genre: Political Philosophy, Sociology, History

In 1831 Alexis de Tocqueville traveled the United States making a broad survey of the character of the young nation. In 1835 he published the first of two volumes of *Democracy in America*. He begins by noting the equality brought about by an egalitarian clergy, the abolition of primogeniture, and the growth of commerce. The first volume dwells on political analysis of why a democratic republic has succeeded in America, citing separation of church and state, respect for women, and economic mobility as critical factors. The second volume (1840) treats civil laws and society in a similar manner. The book is often cited for its insights, such as a concern for the tyranny of the majority, the acrimony over the abolition of slavery, the emergence of the United States and Russia as the dominant world powers, and the rise of the industrial elite. Harvard professor Harvey C. Mansfield described it as "at once the best book ever written on democracy and the best book ever written on America."

Catalog: DB-2006
 UPC: 0683422134784
 MSLP: \$19.99

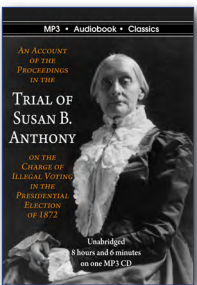


The Personal Memoirs of U. S. Grant

Author: Ulysses S. Grant
 Read by: Jim Clevenger
 Length: 35 hours and 3 minutes
 Format: 2 MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Biography, Memoir, History

The Personal Memoirs of U.S. Grant is an autobiographical account focused on Grant's military career during the Mexican-American and Civil Wars written in the course of a year during which he learned he was dying of throat cancer. The two-volume set was published by Mark Twain shortly after Grant's death, and marketed directly by ten thousand veterans to canvass the North using a script to sell the sets in versions ranging in price based on the binding. The effort generated sales of 350,000 sets and provided Grant's family with an income worth over \$10 million today. Twain compared it favorably with Caesar's Commentaries... "the same high merits distinguished both books—clarity of statement, directness, simplicity, unpretentiousness, manifest truthfulness, fairness and justice toward friend and foe alike, soldierly candor and frankness, and soldierly avoidance of flowery speech. I placed the two books side by side upon the same high level."

Catalog: DB-2010
 UPC: 0683422134340
 MSLP: \$19.99



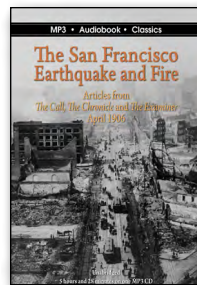
The Trial of Susan B. Anthony

Author: Anonymous
 Read by: Maria Kaspar
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 8 hours and 6 minutes
 Genre: History

When the Fourteenth Amendment was ratified in 1868, women's suffragists interpreted the equal protection clause as an implicit guarantee of a woman's right to vote. Four years later, fifty women led by Susan B. Anthony attempted to vote in the 1872 Presidential election in Rochester, New York. Fourteen were arrested for casting illegal ballots. Expecting a sympathetic jury in Rochester, the prosecution moved the venue. The case was

Catalog: DB-1195
 UPC: 0701236969139
 MSLP: \$11.99

assigned to a judge with no trial experience. Miss Anthony was not allowed to speak until after the verdict. After two days Judge Hunt directed the jury to deliver a guilty verdict. Miss Anthony, asked if she had anything to say, responded with "the most famous speech ever given in the history of the agitation for women's suffrage". When the sentence of a \$100 fine was delivered, she said "I shall never pay a dollar of your unjust penalty", and she never did. The proceedings of that trial, including her famous speech, are read here by Maria Kaspar.

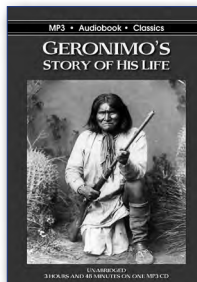


The San Francisco Earthquake and Fire

Author: San Francisco Newspapers
 Read by: Maria Kaspar
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 5 hours and 28 minutes
 Genre: History, Journalism

On the morning of April 18, 1906 an earthquake with an estimated magnitude of 7.8 struck the coast of Northern California. In the city of San Francisco buildings collapsed and fires broke out. The natural disaster resulted in approximately 3,000 deaths and the destruction of over 80% of the city. During the peak of the disaster reporters from the major papers made a herculean effort to keep the public informed even as their offices and presses were destroyed. They located printing presses across the bay and continued to publish amid the pandemonium. The accounts read here from the articles published from April 19 to April 22 give a first-hand account of the experience of living through one of the worst natural disasters to ever strike the United States. The first day features articles from reporters from all three of the major dailies, who collaborated to get out the word.

Catalog: DB-1197
 UPC: 07012369691538
 MSLP: \$11.99

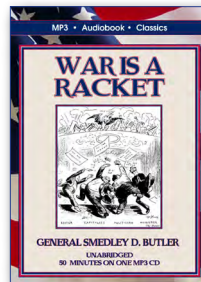


Geronimo's Story of his Life

Author: Geronimo (1829 – 1909) Translated by Asa Deklugie
 Read by: Sue Anderson
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 3 hours and 48 minutes
 Genre: Biography, Autobiography & Memoir, History

Geronimo. No word or image better symbolizes the fierce, fearless nature of the Native American warrior than Geronimo. Given the large place he occupies in the public mind, it is fascinating to hear the story of his life in his own words, which are recounted here in *Geronimo's Story of His Life*. Geronimo was a prominent leader of the Bedonkohe band of the Chiricahua Apache tribe. He joined with three other Apache bands to conduct raids to oppose military campaigns in the Mexican states of Chihuahua and Sonora and the U.S. Territories of Arizona and New Mexico. In 1886, after 36 years and an intense pursuit by some five thousand soldiers, Geronimo surrendered for the last time and was taken as a prisoner of war along with 27 other Apaches. He became a celebrity in his old age, attending the St. Louis Fair in 1904 and riding in the inaugural parade of President Theodore Roosevelt in 1905 while still a prisoner of war after 19 years.

Catalog: DB-1184
 UPC: 0683422135057
 MSLP: \$10.99

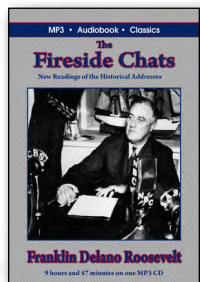


War Is A Racket

Author: General Smedley D. Butler (1881 - 1940)
 Read by: D. S. Harvey
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 50 minutes
 Genre: Economics, History, Essays, War & Military

Catalog: DB-1189
 UPC: 0683422135101
 MSLP: \$9.99

After his retirement from the Marine Corps in early 1930's, General Smedley D. Butler embarked on a national lecture tour, where he gave his speech about how commercial interests benefit from war. The speech was well received and he wrote an expanded version of it, which was published as *War Is A Racket*. The work was published by *Reader's Digest* as a condensed book supplement, which added to its popularity. The book consists of five chapters. The first chapter cites telling statistics. The second chapter compares the profits made by U.S. corporations before and after World War I. The third chapter explains how the costs are borne by the public. Chapter four sets forth three simple methods to limit wars. The final chapter shows the futility of arms limitations negotiations and makes it plain that only total disarmament will break the back of the beast. It can easily be seen as a precursor to Eisenhower's warning of the power of the military-industrial complex.



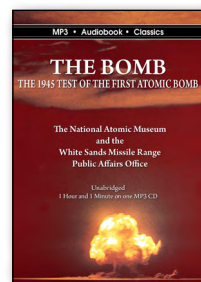
The Fireside Chats of Franklin Delano Roosevelt

Author: Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1882 – 1945)
 Read by: D. S. Harvey
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 9 hours and 47 minutes
 Genre: History, Political Philosophy

The Fireside Chats is the term for the thirty radio broadcasts President Franklin Roosevelt delivered to the American public between 1933 and 1944. In simple, plain language, he explained the basic mechanics of the key events of the day and the steps he was taking to manage them. It was the first time an American President had bypassed the traditional channels of communication and taken his message directly to the people. In doing so, he conveyed a sense of intimacy and engagement with the decision-making process that earned the trust and affection of the American people and built public support for the most radical social changes and the largest war in the history of the United States. They are testimony to what great leadership looks like, sounds like, and what it can accomplish. Most, but not all, of the original addresses were recorded in part or in full but the sound quality is often quite poor. These are new recordings of the published texts of the original addresses, the first audiobook that we are aware of.

Catalog: DB-1121
 UPC: 0683422134272
 MSLP: \$11.99

On July 16, 1945 at 5:29 am the United States Army detonated the first atomic bomb in the Jornada del Muerto desert 35 miles southeast of Socorro, New Mexico. It was a key event in the Manhattan Project, a top secret effort to develop fissile material that grew to employ over 130,000 people and cost about \$27 billion in today's dollars. The weapons were developed at the Los Alamos Laboratory. The test was code-named "Trinity" and involved the detonation of a plutonium device nicknamed "The Gadget" similar to the "Fat Man" bomb later detonated over Nagasaki, Japan on August 9, 1945. The complexity of the design led to concerns about whether the device would work, and that led to the decision to conduct a test. The test was planned and directed by Kenneth Nichols. The two readings in this volume are of government publications, the first released by the National Atomic Museum in 1984 and the second by the White Sands Missile Range Public Affairs Office in 1995.

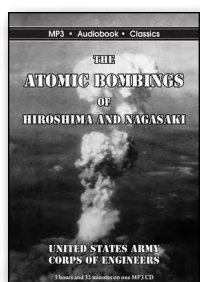


The Bomb: The 1945 Test of the First Atomic Bomb

Author: The National Atomic Museum and The White Sands Missile Range Public Relations Office
 Read by: David Wales
 Length: 1 hour and 1 minute
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: History, Science, War & Military

Catalog: DB-1222
 UPC: 0701236969412
 MSLP: \$9.99

On July 16, 1945 at 5:29 am the United States Army detonated the first atomic bomb in the Jornada del Muerto desert 35 miles southeast of Socorro, New Mexico. It was a key event in the Manhattan Project, a top secret effort to develop fissile material that grew to employ over 130,000 people and cost about \$27 billion in today's dollars. The weapons were developed at the Los Alamos Laboratory. The test was code-named "Trinity" and involved the detonation of a plutonium device nicknamed "The Gadget" similar to the "Fat Man" bomb later detonated over Nagasaki, Japan on August 9, 1945. The complexity of the design led to concerns about whether the device would work, and that led to the decision to conduct a test. The test was planned and directed by Kenneth Nichols. The two readings in this volume are of government publications, the first released by the National Atomic Museum in 1984 and the second by the White Sands Missile Range Public Affairs Office in 1995.



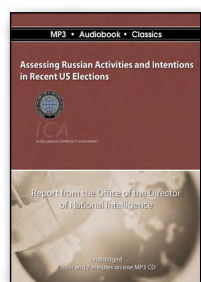
Atomic Bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki

Author: U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
 Read by: Denny Sayers
 Length: 3 hours and 32 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Non-Fiction, Science, History

This is the official report, published nearly 11 months after the first and only atomic bombings in history (to date), of a group of military physicians and engineers who accompanied the initial contingent of U.S. soldiers into the destroyed cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The report presents a clinical description of the devastation, loss of life and continued suffering of the survivors that resulted from the world's first and only atomic

Catalog: DB-1083
 UPC: 0684758936622
 MSLP: \$10.99

bombings, to date. The appendix is an eyewitness account, contrasting vividly with the dispassionate sang-froid of the report itself, written by a German Jesuit priest who survived the blast at Hiroshima, and whose order assisted in rescue efforts following the catastrophic attack. This recording was completed on the 63rd anniversary of the events. (Summary by Dennis Sayers).

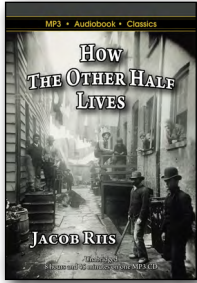


Assessing Russian Activities and Intention In Recent U. S. Elections

Author: Office of the Director of National Intelligence
 Read by: D. S. Harvey
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 1 hour and 7 minutes
 Genre: History

Catalog: DB-1221
 UPC: 0701236969405
 MSLP: \$9.99

The 2016 United States Presidential Election was one of the closest, nastiest, and most contentious in the history of the country. The narrow victory of Donald J. Trump was an unprecedented upset. When Wikileaks released thousands of emails from the Democratic National Committee and the Republican platform became surprisingly friendly to Russia, it became evident that extraordinary forces were at play and influencing the public conversation. After the election President Obama ordered the three major intelligence agencies to coordinate their findings and report them to key persons in the US Government. The classified report was shared with the Executive branch, the Congress and the President-elect in early January. A shortened, declassified version with the same assessments was released at the same time. That report, entitled *Assessing Russian Activities and Intentions in Recent US Elections*, is read here verbatim. It reveals that the Russian activities were deliberate, extensive, and originated at the very top of the Russian government.



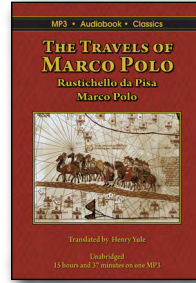
How the Other Half Lives

Author: Jacob Riis (1849 - 1914)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 8 hours and 45 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Non-Fiction, History, Political Science

How the Other Half Lives: Studies among the Tenements of New York by Jacob Riis documented the squalid living conditions in the New York City tenements in the 1880's. The book evolved from a magazine article in Scribner's magazine in 1889 and is one of the first examples of photojournalism. Riis used the newly invented technique of flash photography to capture images of the dark, unlit corners of the slums and portrayed a world

Catalog: DB-1135
 UPC: 0683422134548
 MSLP: \$11.99

unknown or overlooked by the middle- and upper-classes of society where poor migrants and immigrants lived in unsanitary housing and often worked in sweatshops for pennies a day. He assumed that raising the consciousness of the public about the poor conditions and the crime rate, drunkenness and recklessness that were the consequence would motivate efforts to make improvements. The direct result was a decade of what we would now call "urban renewal" in the Lower East Side, where tenements were torn down, schools reformed, child labor eliminated and sweatshops closed.

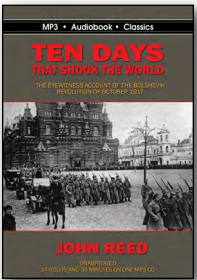


The Travels of Marco Polo

Author: Rustichello da Pisa (1274 - 1300) & Marco Polo (1254 - 1324)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 15 hours and 37 minutes
 Genre: Biography, Autobiography & Memoir, History

The Travels of Marco Polo is the English title of a travelogue about Marco Polo's travels to Asia and his experiences at the court of Kublai Khan in the 13th century. Polo left Venice with his father and uncle in 1276 for China and left to return in 1291, arriving in Italy in 1295. The book was written by French writer Rustichello da Pisa from stories he heard from Marco Polo when two were imprisoned in Genoa during 1298-1299. The book was published about 1300 and titled both *Book of the Marvels of the World* and *Description of the World* in French. It consists of four books: Book One describes the Middle East and Central Asia; Book Two describes China; Book Three covers coastal lands of the east; Book Four describes the return to Italy. Produced before the advent of the printing press, the book was quite popular. *The Travels of Marco Polo* were an important influence in Christopher Columbus' quest to seek a western route to Asia by sea.

Catalog: DB-1143
 UPC: 0683422134524
 MSLP: \$12.99



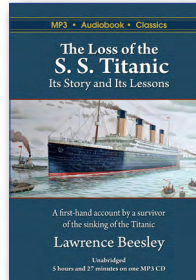
Ten Days That Shook The World

Author: John Reed
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 10 hours and 10 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Non-Fiction, History

In October 1917 Vladimir Lenin led the revolutionary Bolsheviks in an armed insurrection in Petrograd, an event known as the October Revolution and a pivotal moment in the larger Russian Revolution. American journalist John Reed was there reporting for a socialist magazine and witnessed much of the critical action. When he returned to the United States in April 1918 he was interrogated and his notes and materials were confiscated. After recovering the material seven months

Catalog: DB-1227
 UPC: 0701236969498
 MSLP: \$11.99

later he sequestered himself and wrote his account of the proceedings in a frenzy. It was published in 1919 to a generally positive reception in spite of Reed's admitted bias in favor of the revolutionaries. It is considered today as the best account of possibly the most important event of the 20th century. It is listed by the New York Times on its 1999 list of the Top 100 Works of Journalism and is central to the noted film *Reds*, which chronicles Reed's life and work covering the revolution.

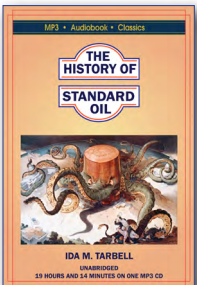


The Loss of the S. S. Titanic: Its Story and Its Lessons

Author: Lawrence Beesley (1877 - 1967)
 Read by: Allyson Hester
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 5 hours and 27 minutes
 Genre: Biography, Autobiography & Memoir, History

The sinking of the Titanic, largest ship afloat, after colliding with an iceberg in the North Atlantic in April 1912, was greeted with shock and outrage at the systemic failures that caused such a huge loss of life. While Titanic boasted numerous advanced safety features, she was equipped with lifeboats for only 1,178 people, just over half of capacity. Lawrence Beesley was a passenger on the voyage who managed to survive and was soon after persuaded to publish his account of the event to counter the misinformation already stemming from the piecemeal accounts by those who were not present. Although reluctant at first, Beesley felt a duty to bring the need for reform to public attention in recognition of the many that died needlessly as a result of management shortcomings. His memoir is a gripping story that stands the test of time and helped lead to public inquiries that resulted in significant maritime safety improvements.

Catalog: DB-1199
 UPC: 0701236969177
 MSLP: \$11.99



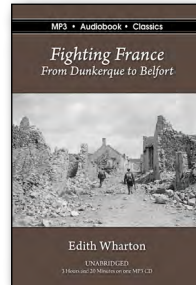
The History of Standard Oil

Author: Ida Mae Tarbell
 Read by: Tom Weiss
 Length: 19 hours and 8 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Economics, History

In 1900 Ida Tarbell, one of the first "muckraking" investigative journalists, began exhaustive research on the Standard Oil Corporation, which resulted in a 19-part series in McClure's magazine and was published in 1904 as *The History of Standard Oil*. The book confronts the irony inherent in corporate success: can corporate dominance ultimately harm the consumer, since dominance can extend to the unfettered setting of prices and the overwhelming potential competitors?

Catalog: DB-1066
 UPC: 0684758936455
 MSLP: \$13.99

This is the story of John D. Rockefeller, a preternaturally gifted manager and financier who used anti-competitive tactics to create the most successful company of its time and become the wealthiest American of all time. The book continues to be relevant in our new gilded age. NYU lists it as number 5 on its list of the top 100 non-fiction works of all time. Like many works of non-fiction, it's too good to be true - but it is.

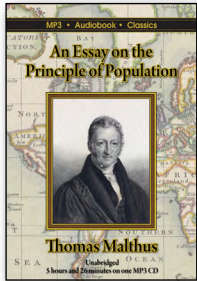


Fighting France, From Dunkerque to Belfort

Author: Edith Wharton
 Read by: Elizabeth Klett
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 3 hours and 20 minutes
 Genre: History

When the First World War broke out Edith Wharton, who had settled permanently in Paris after the breakup of her marriage, joined the French Red Cross and began to record her experiences so that Americans would have a better understanding of the war and its consequences. She was one of the few foreigners permitted to travel to the front lines and with her novelist's eye vividly described the destruction of the countryside, the oppressive dread of the trenches, the "sudden scream of a battery", and a military hospital populated by "battered, shattered, frostbitten, deafened and half-paralysed" soldiers from the front. She manages to maintain an analytical distance from the subject which gives her the perspective to fully and clearly describe the utterly hellish reality of the war on the ground. The articles appeared in *Scribner's Magazine* in 1915 and were published in book form as *Fighting France, From Dunkerque to Belfort* in 1918 as part of *The War on All Fronts* series.

Catalog: DB-1228
 UPC: 0701236969474
 MSLP: \$10.99

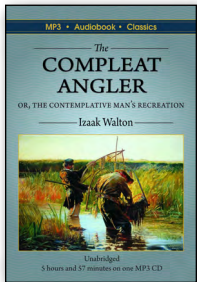


An Essay on the Principle of Population

Author: Thomas Malthus (1741 - 1803)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 5 hours 26 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Science, Economics

An Essay on the Principle of Population (1798) was the most influential work on the subject of population of its time. In it Malthus formulated the Iron Law of Population, which holds that an increase in the supply of labor leads inevitably to lower wages and thus to poverty, famine and disease. He held that population generally increased in times and places of plenty until demand for resources exceeded supply, and that epidemics, famines and wars that stymied growth also masked the fundamental problem. He proposed that the only solution was to limit the birth rate through moral restraint on a wide scale. The book fueled debate on the size of the British population and helped speed the passage of the Census Act of 1800, which mandated a national census to be conducted every ten years. Malthus revised the work over the course of six editions, incorporating new material and changes in his thinking. The book has been cited as an important influence in the development of the theory of natural selection by Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace.

Catalog: DB-1098
 UPC: 0683422134227
 MSLP: \$10.99



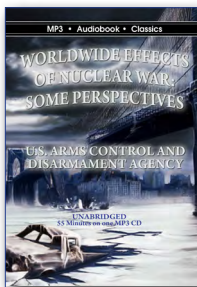
The Compleat Angler

Author: Izaak Walton (1593-1683)
 Read by: Nicole Lee
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 5 hours and 57 minutes
 Genre: Education, Essays

The Compleat Angler, or, the Contemplative Man's Recreation (1653) is a unique classic work, a treatise that celebrates the art and spirit of fishing. The subtitle conveys its essence well, as the material ranges from technical tips to quotations, anecdotes, poems, songs, turns of phrase and musings on the nature of creation. Walton revised the work through five editions in the twenty-five years following its initial publication, during which time it grew from thirteen

Catalog: DB-1164
 UPC: 0683422134838
 MSLP: \$11.99

to twenty-one chapters. Originally structured with two speakers, Piscator and Venator, later editions added new companions who each discoursed on the aspects of his favorite pastime. Walton was a reputed master in the use of worms, frogs, and grasshoppers for bait fishing, but turned to humorist and retired cook Thomas Barker for the fly fishing section, which was added to and completed by his friend Charles Cotton in later editions. The book was thus a living thing, and developed much the way a blog might evolve in the present day.



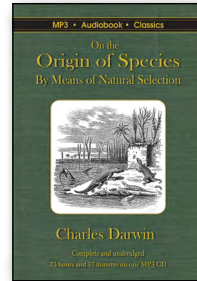
Worldwide Effects of Nuclear War: Some Perspectives

Author: U. S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency
 Read by: Alyson Hester
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 55 minutes
 Genre: Political Philosophy, Science

In 1974 the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency commissioned the National Academy of Sciences to produce a study that became *Long-Term Worldwide Effects of Multiple Nuclear Weapons Detonations*. The report ran to over 200 pages, so the Agency produced an abbreviated version of the study which conveyed its essential findings along with information from other studies and basic background facts. The Academy found that a massive attack with multiple detonations was likely to create such wide-

Catalog: DB-1223
 UPC: 0701236969429
 MSLP: \$9.99

spread and long-lasting environmental damage that an aggressor nation would itself suffer serious environmental effects even without a response. Perhaps the most compelling conclusion is that existing knowledge is largely based on hypothesis and so uncertainty as to the consequences is the central truth. We just don't really know what would happen, and that alone should serve as a deterrent. The report presents the findings in language that common people can understand; scientific background is not necessary.



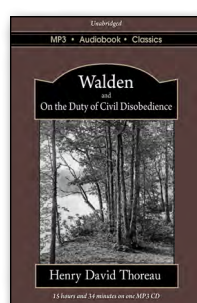
The Origin of Species

Author: Charles Darwin (1809 - 1882)
 Read by: Michael Armenta
 Length: 23 hours and 44 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Science, Nature

The Origin of Species (1859) laid the foundation for the science of evolutionary biology that revolutionized our understanding of nature and mankind's place within it. Published in 1859, the original title was *On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection, or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life* and was abbreviated for the sixth edition in 1872. The central premise is that the diversity of life results from a branching pattern of evolution from a common source and that populations change over the generations to adapt to changing circumstances through natural selection. Darwin was an established scientist, and the

Catalog: DB-1086
 UPC: 0683422134814
 MSLP: \$13.99

work, which was written for the general reader, included exhaustive documentation from decades of research and analyzed the theory from philosophical and religious perspectives as well as scientific. As such, it was taken seriously and gained widespread interest. During the late 19th century the notion of evolution became generally accepted, but it wasn't until the mid 20th century that the significance of natural selection was fully understood as scientists combined Darwin's work with Mendel's genetic theories to arrive at the modern evolutionary synthesis. This central notion is now the unifying concept of the life sciences.

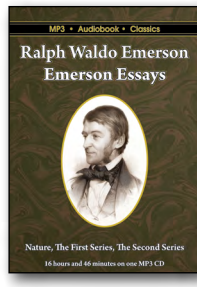


Walden and On the Duty of Civil Disobedience

Author: Henry David Thoreau (1817 - 1862)
 Read by: Gord Mackenzie
 Length: 14 hours 7 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Nature, Philosophy,

When Henry David Thoreau, transcendentalist and friend of Emerson, retreated to Walden Pond in Concord, Massachusetts, he stripped himself of every unnecessary object and distraction and chose to live deliberately. He sought to examine the nature of Life itself, something so dear, precious, imminent and yet so often elusive to so many. There may be no time more in need of the teachings of Thoreau's *Walden* than today. In the age of instant information and big data we are bombarded with enormous amounts of facts, figures and stories, both pertinent and superfluous, and left to our own devices to "process" the information. We become so tied to our "screens" and enmeshed in the flow that we risk mistaking the virtual for the real. And our lives remain stubbornly, undeniably real. Thoreau would counsel a pause and a closer examination, never blinking in the face of Life itself, and never confusing the atoms of data or the molecules of information for the elements of knowledge and wisdom.

Catalog: DB-1017
 UPC: 0684758936110
 MSLP: \$12.99



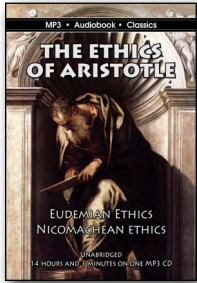
Essays: Nature, The First Series, The Second Series

Author: Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 - 1883)
 Read by: Nature - Multiple readers
 First Series and Second Series - Bob Neufeld
 Length: 17 hours 32 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Essays, Philosophy

This volume aggregates the essays by Ralph Waldo Emerson first collected in *Nature* (1837), *Essays: The First Series* (1841) and *Essays: The Second Series* (1844). His essays derived from his many lectures on the subject topics and articulated the ideas and values that came to be known at the time as the Transcendentalist movement and have since become woven into the fabric of the American temperament. He was a champion of the emerging idea of individualism and a critic of the constraints imposed by conformity to prevailing social and religious beliefs. The first and formative expression of the Transcendentalist philosophy appeared in 1836 in his essay "Nature". With Margaret Fuller, he founded the Transcendentalist journal *The Dial* in 1840 and published his seminal *Essays: First Series* in 1841 and *Essays: Second Series* in 1844. His essays and lectures set the course of much of the intellectual life of the country.

Catalog: DB-1079
 UPC: 0684758936585
 MSLP: \$13.99

Greek and Roman Philosophy

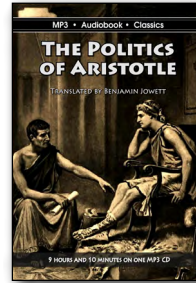


The Ethics of Aristotle

Author: Aristotle (384 BC - 322 BC)
Eudemian Ethics translated by J. Solomon
Nicomachean Ethics translated by Thomas Taylor
Read by: Geoffrey Edwards
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 14 hours and 43 minutes
Genre: Classics, Philosophy

Aristotle coined the term "ethics" to define a field of study first undertaken by Socrates and Plato that seeks a rational answer to the question of how human beings should best live. He considered ethics as a practical study, along with politics and poetics and rhetoric. At the core is the notion of moral virtue, an excellence of character that develops in part due to upbringing and in part as a result of habits of action. He outlines four cardinal virtues of prudence, temperance, courage and justice, which combine in the continuing effort to achieve the highest human good. Reason is a critical component of virtue, as it is what sets humans apart. In his words, "The function of man is activity of soul in accordance with reason". This edition includes his two main treatises on Ethics. Chapters IV-VI of the Eudemian Ethics are identical to books V-VII in the Nicomachean Ethics and are omitted from the earlier group.

Catalog: DB-1161
UPC: 0683422134760
MSLP: \$12.99



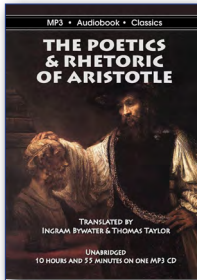
The Politics of Aristotle

Author: Aristotle (384 BC - 322 BC)
Translated by Benjamin Jowett (1817-1893)
Read by: Geoffrey Edwards
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 9 hours and 10 minutes
Genre: Classics, Philosophy, Political Science

The Ethics of Aristotle describes the means to the happy life of virtue intended by nature. In *The Politics of Aristotle* he describes the vital role the political community plays in fostering the well-being of its citizens. In doing so he surveys the types of communities and governments that existed and how many fall short of the ideal, which is a constitutional form. While many of his precepts and goals may seem unusual and outdated today, there is much that stands the test of time, in particular his belief in the need for active participation in politics, in the relationship of the well-being of the people to that of the community, and his analysis of factors that bring about stability and revolution. Many of the issues raised, notably the importance of the middle class and the role of wealth in a democracy, are as relevant today as they were then.

Catalog: DB-1162
UPC: 0683422134777
MSLP: \$12.99

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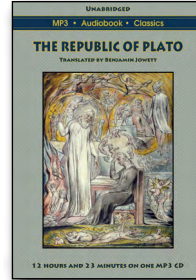
The Poetics and Rhetoric of Aristotle

Author: Aristotle (384 BC - 322 BC)
Read by: Robert Foster (Poetics)
Geoffrey Edwards (Rhetoric)
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 9 hours 33 minutes
Genre: Philosophy, Psychology

Poetics is earliest known work that develops a theory of drama and literary forms. His term poetics encompasses lyric and epic poetry as well as drama in its forms of comedy, tragedy and the satyr play. All are imitations of life but differ in three ways: the sound and form of the language, the characters, and narrative method. The work was lost for centuries and found its way back to the Western world through a Latin translation of an Arabic version written by Averroes.

Catalog: DB-1160
UPC: 0683422134753
MSLP: \$11.99

Rhetoric is the first known attempt to develop a system of techniques in the art of persuasion and is still considered "the most important work on persuasion ever written". It was not written for publication, but is rather a collection of his students' notes from his lectures. It shows the progression of his thought from his decades at Plato's Academy through his later work at the Lyceum. During this time the subject evolved from being seen as a potentially dangerous and immoral tool of manipulation of emotion and omission of facts to one of the three elements of philosophy alongside logic and dialectic.



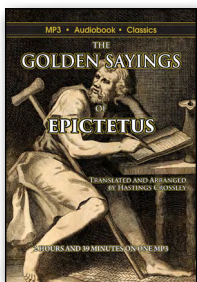
The Republic of Plato

Author: Plato (c. 428 BC - c. 347 BC)
Translated by Benjamin Jowett (1817 - 1893)
Read by: Bob Neufeld
Length: 12 hours 23 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Philosophy

The Republic is the greatest and best known of Plato's works and probably the most influential work of philosophy in history. Its ten books of dialogues between Socrates and various Athenians and foreigners address the question of whether a just man or unjust man achieves the greatest happiness by considering the governance and culture of a series of hypothetical cities. Jowett writes in his introduction that "The principles of definition, the law of contradiction, the fallacy of arguing in a circle, the distinction between the essence and accidents of a thing or notion, between means and ends, between causes and conditions; also the division of the mind into the rational, concupiscent, and irascible elements, or of pleasures and desires into necessary and unnecessary—these and other great forms of thought are all of them to be found in the Republic, and were probably first invented by Plato." It is no wonder that *The Republic* has been a centerpiece of a classical education for centuries.

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UPC: 0684758936653
MSLP: \$12.99

the distinction between the essence and accidents of a thing or notion, between means and ends, between causes and conditions; also the division of the mind into the rational, concupiscent, and irascible elements, or of pleasures and desires into necessary and unnecessary—these and other great forms of thought are all of them to be found in the Republic, and were probably first invented by Plato." It is no wonder that *The Republic* has been a centerpiece of a classical education for centuries.



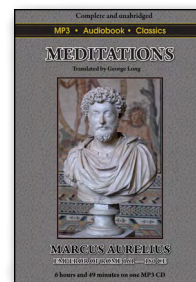
The Golden Sayings of Epictetus

Author: Epictetus (AD c. 55 - 135)
Translated by Hastings Crossley
Read by: Multiple readers
Length: 2 hours 39 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Classics, Philosophy

The Golden Sayings of Epictetus is a collection of almost 300 aphorisms culled from his *Discourses* and the *Enchiridion*. His discourses were transcribed by his pupil Arrian from memory after lessons. The *Enchiridion* is a digest of the *Discourses*; *The Golden Sayings* is a further distillation of the *Discourses*. Epictetus was a philosopher in the Stoic school. He made a core distinction between things within our power and things over which we have no power. He held that the basis of

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MSLP: \$10.99

philosophy is self-knowledge, and that the only things within our power are those we generate from within — impulses, opinions, desires and aversions, which he groups together as "opinions". Everything else is out of our control and subject to fate. Good and evil rests in the power of choice. Reason alone is good; one should understand not only what to do, but why. Application of reason in the choice of action over things within our power is path to finding peace of mind in all things.



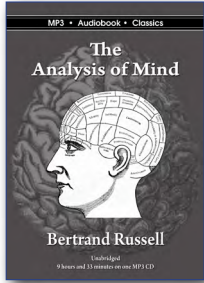
The Meditations of Marcus Aurelius

Author: Marcus Aurelius (129 - 180 AD)
Translated by George Long
Read by: Multiple readers
Length: 6 hours 49 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Classics, Philosophy

Marcus Aurelius embodied the qualities Plato sought in a philosopher-king, the best of leaders. *The Meditations of Marcus Aurelius*, comprised of twelve books, set forth the great man's musings on the judgment of himself and others in accord with those principles of stoicism that look to nature for truths. Unlike so many of his predecessors, Marcus Aurelius actually concerned himself with the moral imperative of goodness and reflected often on what it meant to be a good man. "Alone of the emperors," wrote the historian Herodian, "he gave proof of his learning not by mere words or knowledge of philosophical doctrines but by his blameless character and temperate way of life." The *Meditations* are the written record of his thought, written in Greek while on campaign between 170 and 180 in passages as short as a sentence and as long as an extended paragraph. The effect is cumulative. Marcus Aurelius here distinguishes himself as a philosopher, a thinker and a writer, as well as a man of military might and strategic skill.

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MSLP: \$11.99

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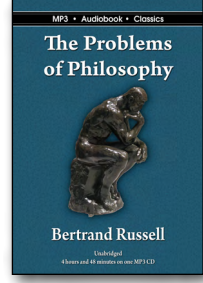
The Analysis of Mind

Author: Bertrand Russell (1872 - 1970)
 Read by: Multiple Readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 9 hours 33 minutes
 Genre: Philosophy, Psychology

The Analysis of Mind was written by Bertrand Russell in 1921 to attempt to reconcile the growing materialism of psychology, which was seeking a grounding in physiology and evidence gained by observation, with the discoveries of modern physics, such as relativity and quantum mechanics, that took the discipline beyond the Newtonian materialistic concepts of matter into the realm of energy and more. In doing so Russell brought forth a new conception of the mind that

draws on the work of William James and the American "new realists" that postulates that "the 'stuff' of the world is neither mental nor material, but a 'neutral stuff', out of which both are constructed." He supports his thinking with comprehensive investigations into belief, instinct, habit, desire, feeling, memory, language and meaning. Russell's reasoning has provided the foundation for many subsequent theories of mind as well as a structure for his subsequent work. As such, *The Analysis of Mind* remains one of the most important works in the field.

Catalog: DB-1145
 UPC: 0683422134579
 MSLP: \$11.99



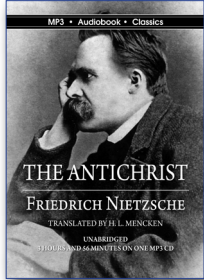
The Problems of Philosophy

Author: Bertrand Russell (1872 - 1970)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 4 hours and 48 minutes
 Genre: Philosophy

The Problems of Philosophy by Bertrand Russell is a concise and accessible guide to the basic concepts and issues in the study of philosophy. The book is noted for its simplicity and clarity, and was intended to give general readers a foundation for philosophical inquiry as well as provoke constructive discussion. As such, it eschews metaphysics for the more concrete discipline of epistemology, or the theory of knowledge.

Catalog: DB-1141
 UPC: 0683422134401
 MSLP: \$10.99

The fundamental theories of Plato, Aristotle, Descartes, David Hume, Immanuel Kant, John Locke, Hegel and others are outlined and explained. Russell begins by delving into the subject of appearance versus reality. He postulates that knowledge is largely derived empirically from sensory perceptions and what he calls the "sense-data" or mental images that we perceive and guides the reader through the famous distinction between "knowledge by acquaintance and knowledge by description".



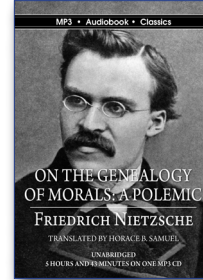
The Antichrist

Author: Friedrich Nietzsche (1844 - 1900)
 Translated by H. L. Mencken
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 3 hours and 56 minutes
 Genre: Philosophy

"The Anti-Christian" may be a better translation of the title of Nietzsche's scathing criticism of Christian dogma, in which he lays bare its defects for the few who had the stomach for such harsh truth. Pity for the weak, central to Christian morality, Nietzsche sees as nihilistic and opposed to life. Reverence for pure spirit above the tangible world is a reversal of common sense that stands the truth upside down. Abiding by any idea

that cannot be proven but also cannot be refuted is absurd. He saw Christ as "the only Christian" in whom there was no separation of God and man. He argued that Christian dogma had evolved counter to its original principles through a privileged class that catered to the resentment of the disempowered by promising future bliss and punishment for the oppressors in exchange for following the faith in the here and now. *The Antichrist* was written in 1888 but held for publication until 1895 due to its uncompromising criticism of religion. Shortly after its completion Nietzsche suffered a nervous breakdown that marked the beginning of his long decline.

Catalog: DB-1153
 UPC: 0683422134685
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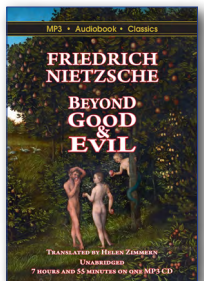


On the Genealogy of Morals

Author: Friedrich Nietzsche (1844 - 1900)
 Translated by Horace B. Samuel (1883-1950)
 Read by: Jeffrey Church
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 5 hours and 43 minutes
 Genre: Philosophy

Nietzsche set out to dig into "the origin of our moral prejudices" in *On the Genealogy of Morals*. It is the most systematic of his works and considered as his masterpiece by many scholars. The first treatise outlines two very different concepts of good that eventually oppose one another. The first exists paired with "good and bad", a dualism of pure power characterized by the Roman worldview, while the second exists in the "good and evil" dualism characterized by the "resentment" of the meek and powerless in the Judeo-Christian tradition. The second treatise delves into the roots of guilt and punishment in anger and the need for compensation, and poses the notion of "bad conscience" as will to power unnaturally turned inward. The third treatise deals with ascetic ideals from the perspectives of artists, philosophers, women, priests, saints, scientists and historians. He fears that the "will to truth" fostered by an ascetic ideal may well foster a truth that then imperils its objective. By applying the technique of genealogy to the birth, scope and decline of ideologies over time, Nietzsche brings a Darwinian perspective to the evolution of ethics and a deeper understanding of "the value of our values".

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 UPC: 0683422134678
 MSLP: \$11.99



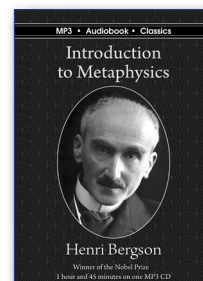
Beyond Good and Evil

Author: Friedrich Nietzsche (1844 - 1900)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 7 hours 55 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Non-Fiction, Philosophy

Beyond Good and Evil: Prelude to a Philosophy of the Future (1886) is philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche's clearest call for a radical rethinking of philosophy. He exposes a lack of critical thinking and a blind acceptance of moral dogma in which good and evil are strict opposites. He urges us instead to see good and evil as impulses towards a "will to power" and calls for "investigators to the point of cruelty" to undertake the daunting task of seeing the world as it is and accepting its harsh

realities. He challenges the key precepts of the philosophic tradition by dissecting the shortcomings of its major thinkers. He subjects religion to similar scrutiny and discusses the philosophical particularities of the major western cultures. Written in an aphoristic style consisting of 296 numbered sections and an "epode", *Beyond Good and Evil* has been a significant influence in the work of many leading figures in the life of the culture, from artists to academics to statesmen and revolutionaries.

Catalog: DB-1084
 UPC: 0684758936615
 MSLP: \$11.99

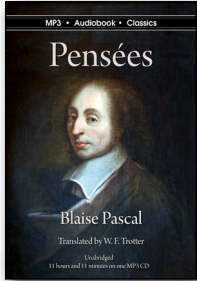


Introduction to Metaphysics

Author: Henri Bergson (1859 - 1941) Translated by T. E. Hulme
 Read by: Mark Cawley and Tricia G
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 1 hour and 45 minutes
 Genre: Philosophy

Introduction to Metaphysics (1903) is an essay that challenges classical notions of reality, asserting that it is mistaken to think of it as a series of discrete states, but instead it is an ongoing fluid process that resists reductive analysis. Reality can only be grasped through intuition, which author Henri Bergson described as a process of "entering into" an object. The classical philosophy of Plato and Aristotle posited true reality as consisting of timeless substances, with process and change subordinated as accidental. Bergson's concept draws instead from the ontology of constant change as the essence of the universe, best summarized in Heraclitus' famous dictum that "no man ever steps in the same river twice". *Introduction to Metaphysics* stands as an important document in the emergence of process philosophy and serves as foundation to Bergson's three major works, *Time and Free Will* (1889), *Matter and Memory* (1896), and *Creative Evolution* (1907).

Catalog: DB-1185
 UPC: 0683422135040
 MSLP: \$9.99



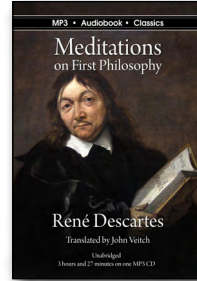
Pensées

Author: Blaise Pascal (1623 - 1662)
Translated by W.F. Trotter
Read by: Dexter
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 11 hours and 11 minutes
Genre: Philosophy, Religion

In 1654 Blaise Pascal had a religious experience that motivated him to turn his prodigious intelligence to the subjects of philosophy and theology. He envisioned a comprehensive work in defense of Christianity often referred to as the Apology for the Christian Religion. Among the groundbreaking ideas put forth is that of "Pascal's Wager", which argues that people should live as if God exists, because if

God does exist, one will experience only the small loss of some pleasure while achieving the bliss of heaven and avoiding the damnation of Hell. The work was incomplete at the time of his death, and the fragments of ideas and notes were gathered together in a collection and published in 1670 under the title *Pensées*, or "thoughts". The work has become a classic work of theology and philosophy that many regard as the finest work of prose in the French language.

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UPC: 0683422135088
MSLP: \$12.99

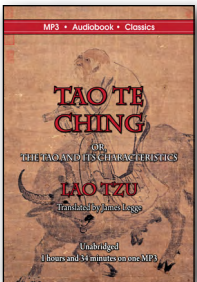


Meditations on First Philosophy

Author: René Descartes (1596 - 1650)
Translated by John Veitch (1829 - 1894)
Read by: D.E. Wittkower
Length: 3 hours and 27 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Philosophy, Religion

The Meditations on First Philosophy is a detailed presentation of the metaphysical and philosophical systems of Descartes that became a fundamental document in the development of western thought and one of the most influential ever written. The book consists of six meditations in a narrative voice that suggests they had taken place in six days. In the course of the narrative he attempts to discard belief in things which are not for certain and establish what can, in fact, be known for sure. The product of two years of effort, it first appeared in Latin in 1641 and was translated into French as *Méditations Métaphysiques* in 1647. The first two meditations, which used the skeptical method of doubt to conclude that only the ego and its thoughts are unquestionably true, exerted a huge impact in the history of philosophy and are considered an indispensable first lesson in modern philosophical thinking. *The Meditations* continues to be a standard text in most university philosophy departments.

Catalog: DB-1187
UPC: 0683422135071
MSLP: \$10.99



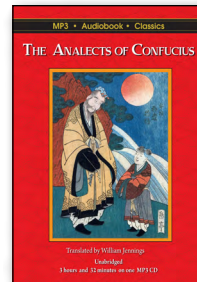
The Tao Te Ching

Author: Lao Tzu (6th Century BCE)
Translated by James Legge (1815 - 1897)
Read by: Eric S. Piotrowski
Length: 1 hour and 34 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Philosophy

The Tao Te Ching is an ancient Chinese classic text written by sage Lao Tzu in the sixth century BC. The book is a sequence of 81 short poems structured in two parts – the Tao Ching (chapters 1-37) and the Te Ching (chapters 38-81). The style combines two elements: short, memorable declarative statements and intentional contradictions that force the listener to reconcile the resulting ambiguities. The absence of grammatical connectors increases the ambiguity and gives rise to

varying interpretations. *The Tao Te Ching* is a fundamental text in both religious and philosophical Taoism and has greatly influenced Confucianism, Legalism, and Chinese Buddhism, which was originally introduced to China through Taoist concepts and terminology. The oldest version dated prior to 300 BC was discovered in 1993 and consists of 800 slips of bamboo. It is a continuing source of inspiration to Chinese artists and is one of the most translated works in all of world literature.

Catalog: DB-1131
UPC: 0683422134333
MSLP: \$9.99

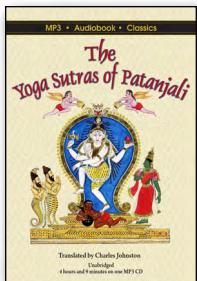


The Analects of Confucius

Author: Confucius (551 BC – 479 BC)
Translated by William Jennings (1847 - 1927)
Read by: Jing Li
Length: 3 hours and 32 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Classics, Philosophy

The Analects of Confucius is a collection of anecdotes, sayings and ideas attributed to the Chinese philosopher and teacher Confucius. *The Analects* are believed to have been written down by his followers shortly after his death and to have been further revised into its present form by the mid-Han dynasty. The core idea of Confucianism is that the general welfare of a country depends on the moral virtue of its people, beginning with leadership. Cultivation of virtue is done via the practice of ren, which teaches the importance of devotion to parents and the wisdom of reconciling individual desires with rules and rituals of propriety, which engender respect for others and responsibility. The importance of *The Analects* as an essential philosophical work was seen in the inclusion in the "Four Books" during the Song Dynasty (960 – 1279). It has been one of the most widely read books in China for 2,000 years and maintains a strong influence on Chinese thought and values.

Catalog: DB-1007
UPC: 0684758936493
MSLP: \$10.99



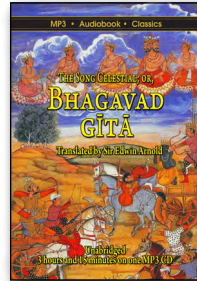
The Yoga Sūtras of Patañjali

Author: Patañjali (c. 400 CE)
Translated by Charles Johnston (1867 - 1931)
Read by: Jothi Tharavant
Length: 4 hours 9 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Religion, Reference, Education

The Yoga Sūtras of Patañjali is a collection of 196 Indian sūtras or aphorisms composed in approximately. He compiled the book from older materials from two different traditions – the "eight limb yoga" known as ashtanga yoga, and action yoga, known as karma yoga. The aphorisms and accompanying commentary constitute "The Treatise on Yoga according to Patañjali". Yoga Sūtras is divided in to four books or padas: Samadhi Pada Sadhana Pada; Vibhuti and Kaivalya Pada. He outlines the

system of ashtanga yoga consisting of eight limbs, five of which are external aids and three of which are internal aids. The Yoga Sūtras synthesized the teachings of many philosophical systems and were highly influential for over a thousand years before falling out of favor by the 16th century. Interest was reawakened the early 19th century and led to the consideration of the work as a primary key to the "science of yoga."

Catalog: DB-1114
UPC: 0683422134210
MSLP: \$10.99

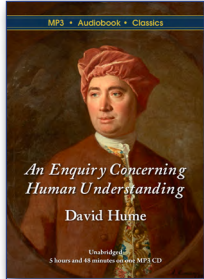


The Bhagavad-Gita

Author: Vyasa (2nd - 5th century BC)
Translated by Sir Edwin Arnold
Read by: Jothi Tharavant
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 3 hours 15 minutes
Genre: Poetry, Epics, Classics

The Bhagavad-Gita is a core book in Hindu scripture that recounts a dialog between warrior prince Arjuna and his charioteer Lord Krishna in 700 verses framed by a conversation between a blind ruler and his minister, a clairvoyant who eavesdrops on Krishna and Arjuna. The central conflict is warfare that threatens to destroy the kingdom. Arjuna is torn between his duty to serve the family on one side of the conflict and the sense that the conflict itself violates the laws of Dharma, which he is also sworn to uphold. Frozen, he refuses to fight. Krishna realizes that he must impart the mysteries of Dharmic action to Arjuna and so reveals himself as a many-sided divine being. He instructs Arjuna in the structure of the universe, primordial nature, and the importance of self-control, faith, equanimity, unselfishness, and devotion. Only by attending to his duty will Arjuna transcend the bonds of matter and human behavior and achieve immortality. The battle is generally seen as an allegory for the struggles of human life and has prompted many interpretations over time.

Catalog: DB-1155
UPC: 0683422134708
MSLP: \$10.99



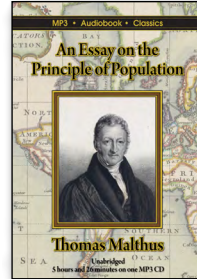
An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding

Author: David Hume
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 5 hours and 54 minutes
 Genre: Philosophy

An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding (1748) by David Hume is a shortened revision of his *A Treatise of Human Nature*. In revising he eliminated material from the *Treatise* and focused on clarifying and emphasizing its most important elements. The resulting book articulates Hume's theory of knowledge in a logical sequence of incremental steps. The first sections outline the epistemology, and the latter sections discuss its application to specific topics. Hume holds that mental

Catalog: DB-1213
 UPC: 0701236969313
 MSLP: \$11.99

activity falls into two groups: direct impressions of experience and ideas, which are memories and. He goes on to treat the association of ideas, the nature of understanding and doubt, and the roles of habit and probability. His arguments take the reader to the edge of what he acknowledges are the limits of knowledge, and in doing so he delves into the difficult subjects of liberty and miracles. The book was highly influential upon release and is rightly regarded as a classic in modern philosophy.



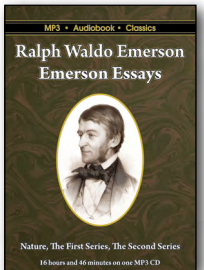
An Essay on the Principle of Population

Author: Thomas Malthus (1741 - 1803)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 5 hours 26 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Nature, Philosophy

An Essay on the Principle of Population (1798) was the most influential work on the subject of population of its time. In it Malthus formulated the Iron Law of Population, which holds that an increase in the supply of labor leads inevitably to lower wages and thus to poverty, famine and disease. He held that population generally increased in times and places of plenty until demand for resources exceeded supply, and that epidemics, famines and wars that stymied growth also masked the fundamental problem. He proposed that the only solution was to limit the birth rate through moral restraint on a wide scale. The book fueled debate on the size of the British population and helped speed the passage of the Census Act of 1800, which mandated a national census to be conducted every ten years. Malthus revised the work over the course of six editions, incorporating new material and changes in his thinking. The book has been cited as an important influence in the development of the theory of natural selection by Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace.

Catalog: DB-1098
 UPC: 0683422134227
 MSLP: \$11.99

He proposed that the only solution was to limit the birth rate through moral restraint on a wide scale. The book fueled debate on the size of the British population and helped speed the passage of the Census Act of 1800, which mandated a national census to be conducted every ten years. Malthus revised the work over the course of six editions, incorporating new material and changes in his thinking. The book has been cited as an important influence in the development of the theory of natural selection by Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace.



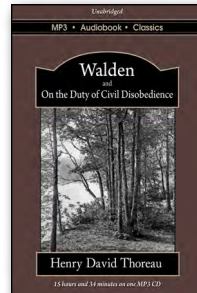
Essays: Nature, The First Series, The Second Series

Author: Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 - 1883)
 Read by: Nature - Multiple readers
 First Series and Second Series - Bob Neufeld
 Length: 17 hours 32 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Essays, Philosophy

This volume aggregates the essays by Ralph Waldo Emerson first collected in *Nature* (1837), *Essays: The First Series* (1841) and *Essays: The Second Series* (1844). His essays derived from his many lectures on the subject topics and articulated the ideas and values that came to be known at the time as the Transcendentalist movement and have since become woven into the fabric of the American temperament. He was a champion of the

Catalog: DB-1079
 UPC: 0684758936585
 MSLP: \$13.99

emerging idea of individualism and a critic of the constraints imposed by conformity to prevailing social and religious beliefs. The first and formative expression of the Transcendentalist philosophy appeared in 1836 in his essay "Nature." With Margaret Fuller, he founded the Transcendentalist journal *The Dial* in 1840 and published his seminal *Essays: First Series* in 1841 and *Essays: Second Series* in 1844. His essays and lectures set the course of much of the intellectual life of the country.



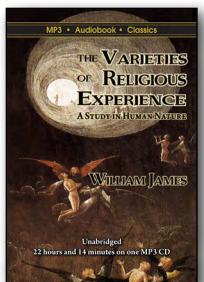
Walden and On the Duty of Civil Disobedience

Author: Henry David Thoreau (1817 - 1862)
 Read by: Gord Mackenzie
 Length: 14 hours 7 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Nature, Philosophy,

When Henry David Thoreau, transcendentalist and friend of Emerson, retreated to Walden Pond in Concord, Massachusetts, he stripped himself of every unnecessary object and distraction and chose to live deliberately. He sought to examine the nature of Life itself, something so dear, precious, imminent and yet so often elusive to so many. There may be no time more in need of the teachings of Thoreau's *Walden* than today. In the age of instant information and big data we are bombarded with enormous amounts of facts,

Catalog: DB-1017
 UPC: 0684758936110
 MSLP: \$12.99

figures and stories, both pertinent and superfluous, and left to our own devices to "process" the information. We become so tied to our "screens" and enmeshed in the flow that we risk mistaking the virtual for the real. And our lives remain stubbornly, undeniably real. Thoreau would counsel a pause and a closer examination, never blinking in the face of Life itself, and never confusing the atoms of data or the molecules of information for the elements of knowledge and wisdom.



The Varieties of Religious Experience

Author: William James (1842 - 1910)
 Read by: Joe D
 Length: 22 hours 14 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Non-Fiction, Religion

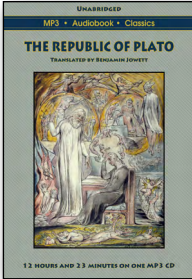
The Varieties of Religious Experience is a collection of the Gifford Lectures on natural theology William James delivered at the University of Edinburgh in 1901 and 1902. James examined religion from the perspectives of his training in medicine, chemistry, psychology, and philosophy to give scientific grounding to the abstractions that underpin much spiritual experience. In reviewing many case histories of religious inspiration he concluded that the existence of

Catalog: DB-1078
 UPC: 0684758936578
 MSLP: \$14.99

an unseen reality was highly likely, that human consciousness contained "great energies" that could be called forth in times of need as "the religious experience", and that the need for spiritual nourishment is natural and healthy for both individuals and society. The book was well received when published and soon became a core work in the disciplines of both psychology and philosophy. It is still considered one of the best books on religion ever written. The Modern Library ranks it as the second best book of non-fiction of the twentieth century.

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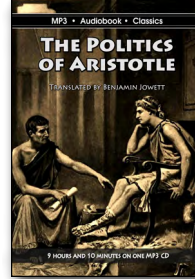
The Republic of Plato

Author: Plato (c. 428 BC - c. 347 BC)
Translated by Benjamin Jowett (1817 - 1893)
Read by: Bob Neufeld
Length: 12 hours 23 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Philosophy

The Republic is the greatest and best known of Plato's works and probably the most influential work of philosophy in history. Its ten books of dialogs between Socrates and various Athenians and foreigners address the question of whether a just man or unjust man achieves the greatest happiness by considering the governance and culture of a series of hypothetical cities. Jowett writes in his introduction that "The principles of definition, the law of contradiction, the fallacy of arguing in a circle,

the distinction between the essence and accidents of a thing or notion, between means and ends, between causes and conditions; also the division of the mind into the rational, concupiscent, and irascible elements, or of pleasures and desires into necessary and unnecessary—these and other great forms of thought are all of them to be found in the Republic, and were probably first invented by Plato." It is no wonder that *The Republic* has been a centerpiece of a classical education for centuries.

Catalog: DB-1111
UPC: 0684758936653
MSLP: \$12.99

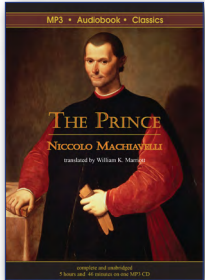


The Politics of Aristotle

Author: Aristotle (384 BC - 322 BC)
Translated by Benjamin Jowett (1817-1893)
Read by: Geoffrey Edwards
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 9 hours and 10 minutes
Genre: Political Philosophy

The Ethics of Aristotle describes the means to the happy life of virtue intended by nature. In *The Politics of Aristotle* he describes the vital role the political community plays in fostering the well-being of its citizens. In doing so he surveys the types of communities and governments that existed and how many fall short of the ideal, which is a constitutional form. While many of his precepts and goals may seem unusual and outdated today, there is much that stands the test of time, in particular his belief in the need for active participation in politics, in the relationship of the well-being of the people to that of the community, and his analysis of factors that bring about stability and revolution. Many of the issues raised, notably the importance of the middle class and the role of wealth in a democracy, are as relevant today as they were then.

Catalog: DB-1162
UPC: 0683422134777
MSLP: \$11.99



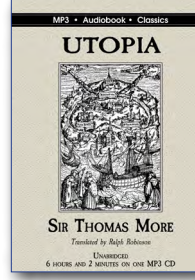
The Prince

Author: Niccolò Machiavelli (1469 - 1527)
Translated by William K. Marriott
Read by: Paul Adams
Length: 5 hours 47 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Political Science

Niccolò Machiavelli broke the mold when he wrote *The Prince*, an ostensibly traditional work in the style of books written for princes. Written in the Italian vernacular for all to read, it speaks truth to power about power: the truth about how "things really work" in the sphere of power, politics, leadership and governance. Most advances in man's progress occur when the thinkers of their time look at the world as it is and not as they might want it to be. It's the difference between the declarative and the subjunctive modes – the difference between "this

is this" and "the would, could, shoulds" of a fantasy land. Princes obtain and retain power over their subjects using tactics with little or no consideration for ethics or the strictures of the then dominant faith. And those who argue to the contrary will be the ones without power. In saying so *The Prince* was and remains groundbreaking and subversive. And required reading for anyone active or interested in public life.

Catalog: DB-1035
UPC: 0684758936189
MSLP: \$9.99

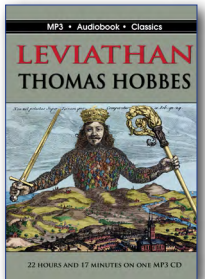


Utopia

Author: Sir Thomas More (1478 - 1535)
Translated by: Ralph Robinson (1520 - 1577)
Read by: Ruth Golding
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 6 hours 2 minutes
Genre: Political Philosophy, Satire

Sir Thomas More invented the word "utopia" by blending the Greek words meaning "no place" as a title for his fictional work of political philosophy. Raphael, a voyager, describes the customs he observed during a five year journey to Utopia, a mythical island in the New World with representative government and no private property. Dwellings are rotated. Meals are communal. Everyone wears the same clothes. Men and women are equals. Everyone works six hours a day. Each household has two slaves. There are no lawyers. Health care is free. Multiple religions are tolerated. Priests can marry, couples may divorce, but premarital sex is punished by lifelong celibacy and adulterers are enslaved. Written in Latin and published in 1516 in Belgium, the book was not published in England until 1551, sixteen years after More's death. Many of the concepts stand in direct opposition to More's beliefs as a devout Catholic. Most see it as a satirical commentary on the evils of European society and influence on later works such as Francis Bacon's *New Atlantis* and *Candide* by Voltaire.

Catalog: DB-1158
UPC: 0683422134739
MSLP: \$9.99

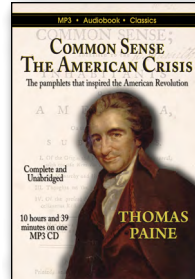


Leviathan

Author: Thomas Hobbes (1588 - 1679)
Read by: Multiple readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 22 hours and 27 minutes
Genre: Political Philosophy

Thomas Hobbes' *Leviathan* is a classic work of statecraft and political philosophy on the order of *The Prince*. The book is divided into four parts. Part 1, Of Man, is a description of human nature, material and psychological, in which the state of nature is a war of all against all. Part 2, Of Common-wealth, articulates the social contract that gives rise to an effective government and social order. Part 3, Of a Christian Common-wealth, delves into the problem of the relationship of church and state. Part 4, Of the Kingdom of Darkness, describes four causes of the "darkness of ignorance" that suppress the light of true knowledge. While Hobbes advocates for an absolute monarchy on rational grounds, he also introduces aspects of the social contract now fundamental to liberal political philosophy: the artificial nature of any political form, the right of the individual, the natural equality of all, the notion of political power as "representative" of the people and the corresponding need for the consent of those governed.

Catalog: DB-1202
UPC: 0701236969207
MSLP: \$9.99

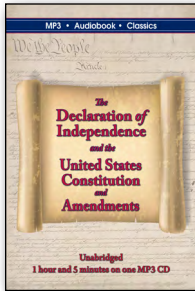


Common Sense and the American Crisis

Author: Thomas Paine
Read by: Multiple readers
Length: 10 hours and 35 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: History, Political Philosophy

This volume contains the pamphlets by Thomas Paine that inspired the American Revolution. *Common Sense* argued for seeking independence from Britain when the matter was the issue of the day. Reasoned and written in a clear, simple style, Paine structured *Common Sense* as a sermon to make his case, drawing together the drive for independence with prevailing dissenting Protestant tenets to forge a uniquely American political identity. Published January 10, 1776, it became an instant sensation. The first of sixteen *The American Crisis* pamphlets published during the American Revolution begins with "These are the times that try men's souls..." Signed "Common Sense", Paine's writings clarified the issues, improved morale, appealed to the good sense of the English and argued against a negotiated peace. George Washington had it read aloud to the Continental Army before the Battle of Trenton to bolster morale.

Catalog: DB-1037
UPC: 852679827439
MSLP: \$12.99



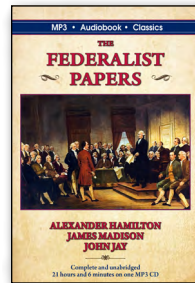
The Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution and Amendments

Author: Thomas Jefferson, The Constitutional Convention
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 1 hour and 40 minutes
 Genre: Political Philosophy, History

The Declaration of Independence is a list of grievances against King George II and the assertion of natural and legal rights designed to explain why the Congress had voted to declare independence. Thomas Jefferson composed the declaration under the editorial supervision of John Adams and Benjamin Franklin. *The United States Constitution* articulates the structure and powers of the federal government and serves as the supreme law of the land. It originally consisted of seven

Catalog: DB-1191
 UPC: 0683422135118
 MSLP: \$9.99

articles. The document was created by the Philadelphia Convention of 1787, ratified in 1788 and put into force in 1789. The original language of the articles and all amendments remain intact and can only be modified by a succeeding amendment. This practice was put into force with the first series of ten amendments ratified in 1791 that are known as the *Bill of Rights*, an articulation of rights not defined in the seven articles of the constitution. There are twenty-seven amendments in all.

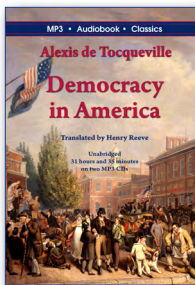


The Federalist Papers

Author: Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, & John Jay
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 21 hours and 6 minutes
 Genre: Political Philosophy, Essays, History

The Federalist Papers is a series of 85 articles arguing in favor of ratification of the United States Constitution by the thirteen original colonies. During the Constitutional Convention that met in 1787 to revise the Articles of Confederation, James Madison and Alexander Hamilton advocated instead for the creation of a new government. The delegates agreed on the principles contained in Madison's Virginia Plan and produced the Constitution, which was submitted to the states in September 1787. The Federalist papers were written in response to criticism of the Constitution. The articles were first published between October 1787 and August 1788 in newspapers and then published in 1788. Hamilton is the author of 51 articles, Madison the author of 26, and John Jay, who fell ill, authored 5. In the words of historian Richard B. Morris, they are an "incomparable exposition of the Constitution, a classic in political science unsurpassed in both breadth and depth by the product of any later American writer."

Catalog: DB-1190
 UPC: 0683422134937
 MSLP: \$14.99

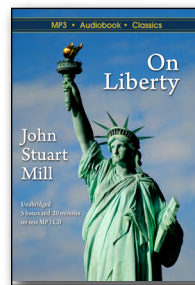


Democracy in America

Author: Alexis de Tocqueville Trans. by Henry Reeve
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: 2 MP3 CDs in DVD case
 Length: 31 hours and 4 minutes
 Genre: Political Philosophy, Sociology, History

In 1831 Alexis de Tocqueville traveled the United States making a broad survey of the character of the young nation. In 1835 he published the first of two volumes of *Democracy in America*. He begins by noting the equality brought about by an egalitarian clergy, the abolition of primogeniture, and the growth of commerce. The first volume dwells on political analysis of why a democratic republic has succeeded in America, citing separation of church and state, respect for women, and economic mobility as critical factors. The second volume (1840) treats civil laws and society in a similar manner. The book is often cited for its insights, such as a concern for the tyranny of the majority, the acrimony over the abolition of slavery, the emergence of the United States and Russia as the dominant world powers, and the rise of the industrial elite. Harvard professor Harvey C. Mansfield described it as "at once the best book ever written on democracy and the best book ever written on America."

Catalog: DB-2006
 UPC: 0683422134784
 MSLP: \$19.99

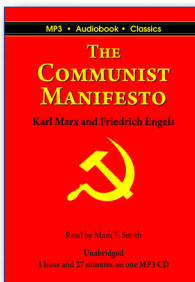


On Liberty

Author: John Stuart Mill (1806 - 1873)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 5 hours and 20 minutes
 Genre: Non-Fiction, Political Philosophy

On Liberty (1859) remains one of the most articulate and influential works on the relationship of authority and liberty. The central idea is that an individual should be free to pursue his own interests so long as the resulting action does not harm others. He defines three basic liberties: freedom of thought, emotion and expression; freedom to pursue one's taste; and freedom to associate with others. He proposes three reasons to justify resistance to government actions: if private agents can perform an action better than government; if the action benefits the agents even when the government is qualified; and, if the action adds to the power of government so that it becomes over-reaching or creates dependency in its subjects. The last chapter deals with the issue of individual accountability to society. The book was hugely popular when published and continues to appeal due to its lucid analysis, accessible prose and compelling model of society.

Catalog: DB-1173
 UPC: 0683422134920
 MSLP: \$11.99

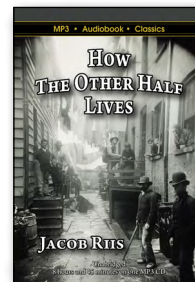


The Communist Manifesto

Author: Friedrich Engels (1820-1895) & Karl Marx (1838-1911)
 Read by: Mark F. Smith
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 1 hour and 27 minutes
 Genre: Non-Fiction, Economics, Political Philosophy

The Communist Manifesto is a short pamphlet that articulated Marx and Engels' theories about class struggle in society and politics, the problems of capitalism, and how capitalism would eventually evolve into socialism. There are four sections. The first elucidates the materialist concept of history, in which an oppressed proletariat majority lives under the dominion of an oppressive bourgeois minority. The second positions communists as advocates for the general will of the working class and proposes the abolition of private property and the adoption of state-owned production, universal employment, free public education, centralized banking and credit, and nationalized communication and transportation. The third distinguishes communism from other socialist doctrines of the time. The fourth briefly discusses the struggles in specific countries, predicts a world revolution, and calls for unified international proletarian action. The Manifesto arose at the time of revolutions across Europe in 1848 and fell into obscurity until the Paris Commune of 1871, after which it grew in popularity along with the growth of social-democratic parties across Europe, culminating in the Russian Revolution in 1917.

Catalog: DB-1165
 UPC: 0683422134845
 MSLP: \$9.99

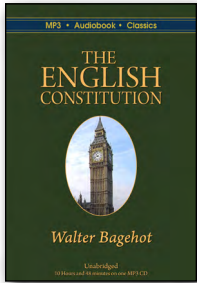


How the Other Half Lives

Author: Jacob Riis (1849 - 1914)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 8 hours and 45 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Non-Fiction, History, Political Science

How the Other Half Lives: Studies among the Tenements of New York by Jacob Riis documented the squalid living conditions in the New York City tenements in the 1880's. The book evolved from a magazine article in Scribner's magazine in 1889 and is one of the first examples of photojournalism. Riis used the newly invented technique of flash photography to capture images of the dark, unlit corners of the slums and portrayed a world unknown or overlooked by the middle- and upper-classes of society where poor migrants and immigrants lived in unsanitary housing and often worked in sweatshops for pennies a day. He assumed that raising the consciousness of the public about the poor conditions and the crime rate, drunkenness and recklessness that were the consequence would motivate efforts to make improvements. The direct result was a decade of what we would now call "urban renewal" in the Lower East Side, where tenements were torn down, schools reformed, child labor eliminated and sweatshops closed.

Catalog: DB-1135
 UPC: 0683422134548
 MSLP: \$11.99

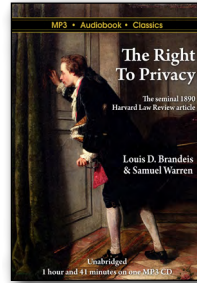


The English Constitution

Author: Walter Bagehot (1826-1877)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 10 hours and 48 minutes
 Genre: Political Science, Law

Catalog: DB-1234
 UPC: 0701236969535
 MSLP: \$11.99

The United Kingdom has no single document that sets forth the structure and governance of the body politic. The term "constitution" instead refers to a collection of laws and principles drawn from statutes, common law, parliamentary convention and works of authority that define the relationship between the individual and the state and the functioning of the legislature, the executive and the judicial branches of government. **The English Constitution** is considered by many to be the most definitive work on the subject. The focus is on the functioning of Parliament and the Monarchy, defining the rights of the monarch, and dividing the principles into two groups, the dignified and the efficient. Bagehot gives considerable attention to the contrasts between the British and American systems, finding considerable flaws and absurdities in the American methods, particularly the lack of flexibility and accountability and the fact that Congress cannot effect a change of government. The book was an inspiration for Woodrow Wilson's *Congressional Government: A Study in American Politics* and is a standard guidebook for British monarchs past, present and future.

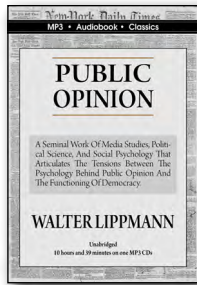


The Right to Privacy

Author: Louis D. Brandeis and Samuel Warren
 Read by: D. S. Harvey
 Length: 52 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Political Philosophy, Law

Catalog: DB-1136
 UPC: 0683422134517
 MSLP: \$9.99

Inspired by the coverage of intimate details of private lives made possible by instantaneous photography and mass circulation of newspapers, **The Right to Privacy** (1890) is the first essay that argued for an inherent right to privacy, the "right to be left alone." The core argument is an extension of the fundamental right of the individual to full protection in person and property, principles continually reconfigured in light of political, social and economic change, in much the same way that definitions of protection against bodily harm and protection of property were expanded. Libel, slander, and intellectual property law are considered as possible protections and found inadequate. The argument examines case law and attempts to define privacy itself, and finally imposes limitations on the protection. *The Right to Privacy* is especially relevant today as new technologies and business models seek ever more personal data and threats of terror invoke escalating surveillance tactics.

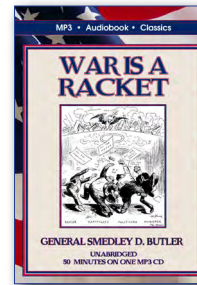


Public Opinion

Author: Walter Lippmann
 Read by: progressingamerica
 Length: 10 hours and 39 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Political Science, Media Studies, Journalism

Catalog: DB-1200
 UPC: 0701236969184
 MSLP: \$11.99

The 21st century has produced an exponential growth in the volume and complexity of communications. The growth of social media and decline of mainstream media has given rise to concerns about information "echo chambers", entrenched partisanship, and disagreement on and even dismissal of fundamental facts. Given this, there is no better time to revisit Walter Lippmann's **Public Opinion** (1922). Considered "the founding book of modern journalism" and "the founding book in American media studies", it is an astute analysis of the irrational and self-serving perceptions that drive individual behavior and impede social progress. Lippmann argues that the power of propaganda and the expertise needed to understand public affairs renders traditional ideas of democracy untenable. To combat that, he challenged journalism to engage in the "manufacture of consent", to parse issues and events as accurately and objectively as possible to help society cope and make more effective political decisions. The message resonates today as much as ever, perhaps even more so.

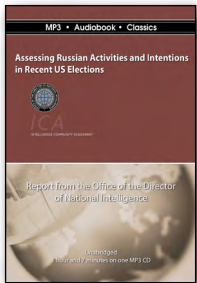


War Is A Racket

Author: General Smedley D. Butler (1881 - 1940)
 Read by: D. S. Harvey
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 50 minutes
 Genre: Economics, History, Essays, War & Military

Catalog: DB-1189
 UPC: 0683422135101
 MSLP: \$9.99

After his retirement from the Marine Corps in early 1930's, General Smedley D. Butler embarked on a national lecture tour, where he gave his speech about how commercial interests benefit from war. The speech was well received and he wrote an expanded version of it, which was published as **War Is A Racket**. The work was published by *Reader's Digest* as a condensed book supplement, which added to its popularity. The book consists of five chapters. The first chapter cites telling statistics. The second chapter compares the profits made by U.S. corporations before and after World War I. The third chapter explains how the costs are borne by the public. Chapter four sets forth three simple methods to limit wars. The final chapter shows the futility of arms limitations negotiations and makes it plain that only total disarmament will break the back of the beast. It can easily be seen as a precursor to Eisenhower's warning of the power of the military-industrial complex.

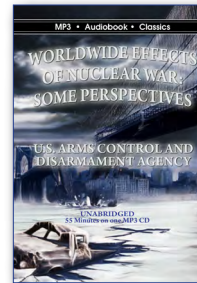


Assessing Russian Activities and Intentions in Recent U. S. Elections

Author: Office of the Director of National Intelligence
 Read by: D. S. Harvey
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 1 hour and 7 minutes
 Genre: History

Catalog: DB-1221
 UPC: 0701236969405
 MSLP: \$9.99

The 2016 United States Presidential Election was one of the closest, nastiest, and most contentious in the history of the country. The narrow victory of Donald J. Trump was an unprecedented upset. When Wikileaks released thousands of emails from the Democratic National Committee and the Republican platform became surprisingly friendly to Russia, it became evident that extraordinary forces were at play and influencing the public conversation. After the election President Obama ordered the three major intelligence agencies to coordinate their findings and report them to key persons in the US Government. The classified report was shared with the Executive branch, the Congress and the President-elect in early January. A shortened, declassified version with the same assessments was released at the same time. That report, entitled *Assessing Russian Activities and Intentions in Recent US Elections*, is read here verbatim. It reveals that the Russian activities were deliberate, extensive, and originated at the very top of the Russian government.

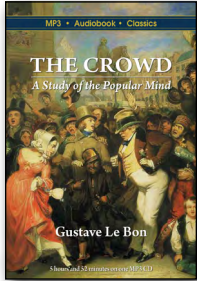


Worldwide Effects of Nuclear War: Some Perspectives

Author: U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency
 Read by: Alyson Hester
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 55 minutes
 Genre: Political Philosophy, Science

Catalog: DB-1223
 UPC: 0701236969429
 MSLP: \$9.99

In 1974 the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency commissioned the National Academy of Sciences to produce a study that became *Long-Term Worldwide Effects of Multiple Nuclear Weapons Detonations*. The report ran to over 200 pages, so the Agency produced an abbreviated version of the study which conveyed its essential findings along with information from other studies and basic background facts. The Academy found that a massive attack with multiple detonations was likely to create such widespread and long-lasting environmental damage that an aggressor nation would itself suffer serious environmental effects even without a response. Perhaps the most compelling conclusion is that existing knowledge is largely based on hypothesis and so uncertainty as to the consequences is the central truth. We just don't really know what would happen, and that alone should serve as a deterrent. The report presents the findings in language that common people can understand; scientific background is not necessary.

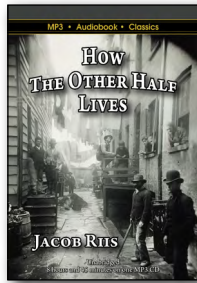


The Crowd: A Study of the Popular Mind

Author: Gustave Le Bon
 Read by: Oxenhandler
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 5 hours and 52 minutes
 Genre: Non-Fiction, Psychology, Sociology

Published in 1895, *The Crowd: A Study of the Popular Mind* is considered a seminal work in the field of crowd psychology, the first to propose that a crowd is itself a distinct entity that possesses a "collective unconsciousness" and a "magnetic influence" that changes the behavior of its constituents until it becomes governed by a "group mind." This influence robs each of its individual members of their opinions, values and beliefs in the process. He posits three key processes at play - anonymity, contagion, and suggestibility - and described the susceptibility to strong voices, "usually men of action rather than of words ... not gifted with keen foresight... recruited from the ranks of those morbidly nervous excitable half-deranged persons who are bordering on madness." The book became an instant bestseller and was translated in nineteen languages within a year. Its message is especially intriguing today in light of the phenomena observed in virtual groups that emerge on social media.

Catalog: DB-1229
 UPC: 0701236969481
 MSLP: \$9.99

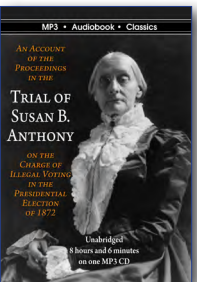


How the Other Half Lives

Author: Jacob Riis (1849 - 1914)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 8 hours and 45 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Non-Fiction, History, Political Science

How the Other Half Lives: Studies among the Tenements of New York by Jacob Riis documented the squalid living conditions in the New York City tenements in the 1880's. The book evolved from a magazine article in Scribner's magazine in 1889 and is one of the first examples of photojournalism. Riis used the newly invented technique of flash photography to capture images of the dark, unlit corners of the slums and portrayed a world unknown or overlooked by the middle- and upper-classes of society where poor migrants and immigrants lived in unsanitary housing and often worked in sweatshops for pennies a day. He assumed that raising the consciousness of the public about the poor conditions and the crime rate, drunkenness and recklessness that were the consequence would motivate efforts to make improvements. The direct result was a decade of what we would now call "urban renewal" in the Lower East Side, where tenements were torn down, schools reformed, child labor eliminated and sweatshops closed.

Catalog: DB-1135
 UPC: 0683422134548
 MSLP: \$11.99



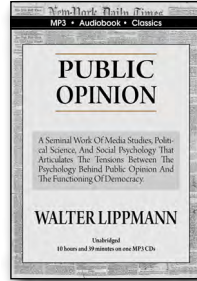
The Trial of Susan B. Anthony

Author: Anonymous
 Read by: Maria Kaspar
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 8 hours and 6 minutes
 Genre: History

When the Fourteenth Amendment was ratified in 1868, women's suffragists interpreted the equal protection clause as an implicit guarantee of a woman's right to vote. Four years later, fifty women led by Susan B. Anthony attempted to vote in the 1872 Presidential election in Rochester, New York. Fourteen were arrested for casting illegal ballots. Expecting a sympathetic jury in Rochester, the prosecution moved the venue. The case was assigned to a judge with no trial experience.

Catalog: DB-1195
 UPC: 0701236969139
 MSLP: \$9.99

Miss Anthony was not allowed to speak until after the verdict. After two days Judge Hunt directed the jury to deliver a guilty verdict. Miss Anthony, asked if she had anything to say, responded with "the most famous speech ever given in the history of the agitation for women's suffrage". When the sentence of a \$100 fine was delivered, she said "I shall never pay a dollar of your unjust penalty", and she never did. The proceedings of that trial, including her famous speech, are read here by Maria Kaspar.

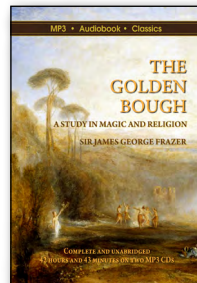


Public Opinion

Author: Walter Lippmann
 Read by: progressingamerica
 Length: 10 hours and 39 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Political Science, Media Studies, Journalism

The 21st century has produced an exponential growth in the volume and complexity of communications. The growth of social media and decline of mainstream media has given rise to concerns about information "echo chambers", entrenched partisanship, and disagreement on and even dismissal of fundamental facts. Given this, there is no better time to revisit Walter Lippmann's *Public Opinion* (1922). Considered "the founding book of modern journalism" and "the founding book in American media studies", it is an astute analysis of the irrational and self-serving perceptions that drive individual behavior and impede social progress. Lippmann argues that the power of propaganda and the expertise needed to understand public affairs renders traditional ideas of democracy untenable. To combat that, he challenged journalism to engage in the "manufacture of consent", to parse issues and events as accurately and objectively as possible to help society cope and make more effective political decisions. The message resonates today as much as ever, perhaps even more so.

Catalog: DB-1200
 UPC: 0701236969184
 MSLP: \$11.99



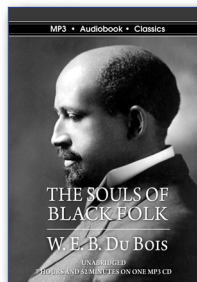
The Golden Bough: A Study in Magic and Religion

Author: Sir James G. Frazer (1854 - 1941)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: 2 MP3 CDs in DVD case
 Length: 42 hours 44 minutes
 Genre: Myths, Legends & Fairy Tales; Anthropology

The Golden Bough: A Study in Magic and Religion is a wide-ranging study of mythology and religion spanning most of recorded history and the known world. The focus is on the similarities and shared elements that exist in different cultures in fertility rites, human and animal sacrifices, rituals of dying and reviving gods and kings, and the significance of trees, plants and animals. The book had its origin in an examination of The Golden Bough, a painting by J. M. W. Turner illustrating an incident in *The Aeneid* and grew into an encyclopedic study first published in two volumes in 1890. The scope of the material combined with rigorous scholarship and keen insight made the book an important influence on the emerging discipline of anthropology. It is now seen as a foundational work in the history of ideas and is often cited as an inspiration to much of Modernist literature, influencing major writers from T. S. Eliot, James Joyce, and Sigmund Freud to Joseph Campbell and Camille Paglia, to name just a few.

Catalog: DB-2005
 UPC: 0683422134982
 MSLP: \$16.99

The Souls of Black Folk is a fundamental work in three distinct areas: it is a classic in the annals of American Literature, a seminal work in the discipline of sociology, and a cornerstone of Afro-American literature. Published in 1903, the book is a collection of essays that cover the various aspects of the black experience. In it he introduces the metaphor of the veil as a visual symbol of the color line and the corresponding idea of "double-consciousness" that describes the reality of constantly perceiving one's self both subjectively and through the eyes of others. In addition to sections on history, education, the sociology of the black community, and the role of the black church, there are narratives of the lives of individuals, a short story, and a closing chapter on black music. The importance and the impact of the book cannot be overstated. In *Living Black History*, Du Bois's biographer, Manning Marable, observes: "The Souls of Black Folk... helped to create the intellectual argument for the black freedom struggle in the twentieth century... justified the pursuit of higher education for Negroes and thus contributed to the rise of the black middle class."

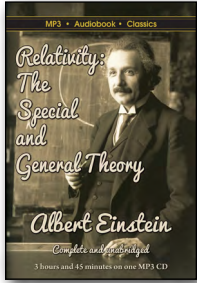


The Souls of Black Folk

Author: W.E.B. Du Bois (1868 - 1963)
 Read by: Toria's Uncle
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 7 hours and 22 minutes
 Genre: Non-Fiction, History, Sociology

Catalog: DB-1150
 UPC: 0683422134654
 MSLP: \$11.99

The Souls of Black Folk is a fundamental work in three distinct areas: it is a classic in the annals of American Literature, a seminal work in the discipline of sociology, and a cornerstone of Afro-American literature. Published in 1903, the book is a collection of essays that cover the various aspects of the black experience. In it he introduces the metaphor of the veil as a visual symbol of the color line and the corresponding idea of "double-consciousness" that describes the reality of constantly perceiving one's self both subjectively and through the eyes of others. In addition to sections on history, education, the sociology of the black community, and the role of the black church, there are narratives of the lives of individuals, a short story, and a closing chapter on black music. The importance and the impact of the book cannot be overstated. In *Living Black History*, Du Bois's biographer, Manning Marable, observes: "The Souls of Black Folk... helped to create the intellectual argument for the black freedom struggle in the twentieth century... justified the pursuit of higher education for Negroes and thus contributed to the rise of the black middle class."



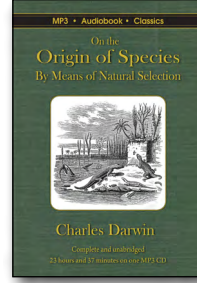
Relativity: The Special and General Theory

Author: Albert Einstein
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 3 hours 40 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Non-Fiction, Science, Physics

Isaac Newton's eureka moment of being struck by a falling apple led to the laws known as Newtonian physics. Albert Einstein, sitting on a hillside, received his own epiphany, from which he deduced the Theory of Relativity, a theory that superseded Newton's theories of mechanics and ushered in the Modern Era. The Theory of Relativity is actually two theories: special relativity and general relativity. The concepts introduced in these two theories are three-fold: (1) The measurement of certain quantities is dependent upon the speed

of the observer; (2) Space and time should be considered in relation to one another; and (3) The speed of light is an absolute constant. In any construct that allows for the relative nature of relationships, the observer must seek out the sole constant on which all relationships depend for their accurate expression. Einstein found it in the speed of light, and from that constant looked anew at the behavior of the smallest elements of matter (Special Relativity, 1905), as well as the projected behavior of an infinite cosmos (General Relativity, 1916).

Catalog: DB-1072
 UPC: 0684758936523
 MSLP: \$9.99

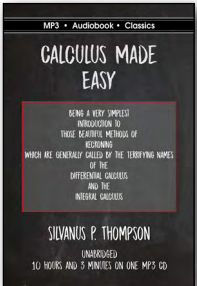


The Origin of Species

Author: Charles Darwin (1809 - 1882)
 Read by: Michael Armenta
 Length: 23 hours and 44 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Science, Nature

The Origin of Species (1859) laid the foundation for the science of evolutionary biology that revolutionized our understanding of nature and mankind's place within it. Published in 1859, the original title was *On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection, or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life* and was abbreviated for the sixth edition in 1872. The central premise is that the diversity of life results from a branching pattern of evolution from a common source and that populations change over the generations to adapt to changing circumstances through natural selection. Darwin was an established scientist, and the work, which was written for the general reader, included exhaustive documentation from decades of research and analyzed the theory from philosophical and religious perspectives as well as scientific. As such, it was taken seriously and gained widespread interest. During the late 19th century the notion of evolution became generally accepted, but it wasn't until the mid 20th century that the significance of natural selection was fully understood as scientists combined Darwin's work with Mendel's genetic theories to arrive at the modern evolutionary synthesis. This central notion is now the unifying concept of the life sciences.

Catalog: DB-1086
 UPC: 0683422134814
 MSLP: \$13.99



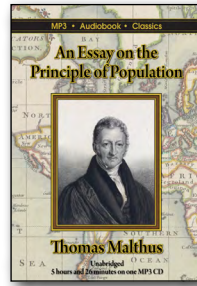
Calculus Made Easy

Author: Silvanus P. Thompson
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 10 hours and 3 minutes
 Genre: How To and Self-Help, Mathematics

If you are one of the many people who are intimidated and baffled by mathematics, this book is for you. *Calculus Made Easy: Being a Very-Simplest Introduction to Those Beautiful Methods of Reckoning which Are Generally Called by the Terrifying Names of the Differential Calculus and the Integral Calculus* by Silvanus P. Thompson has been considered "a classic and elegant introduction to the subject" of infinitesimal calculus ever since its initial publication in 1910. Written for British

students, the concepts are presented in simple, clear terms in an accessible, conversational style with a dash of wry humor thrown in for good measure. Each chapter is accompanied by problem sets that further illuminate the concepts and that students seem to enjoy working through. Many report that they are awakened to the genius of calculus and thoroughly delighted by their ability to finally understand an often intimidating discipline.

Catalog: DB-1198
 UPC: 0701236969160
 MSLP: \$11.99

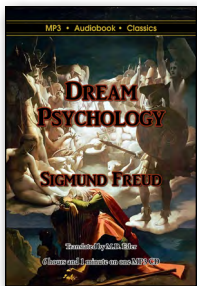


An Essay on the Principle of Population

Author: Thomas Malthus (1741 - 1803)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 5 hours 26 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Science, Economics

An Essay on the Principle of Population (1798) was the most influential work on the subject of population of its time. In it Malthus formulated the Iron Law of Population, which holds that an increase in the supply of labor leads inevitably to lower wages and thus to poverty, famine and disease. He held that population generally increased in times and places of plenty until demand for resources exceeded supply, and that epidemics, famines and wars that stymied growth also masked the fundamental problem. He proposed that the only solution was to limit the birth rate through moral restraint on a wide scale. The book fueled debate on the size of the British population and helped speed the passage of the Census Act of 1800, which mandated a national census to be conducted every ten years. Malthus revised the work over the course of six editions, incorporating new material and changes in his thinking. The book has been cited as an important influence in the development of the theory of natural selection by Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace.

Catalog: DB-1098
 UPC: 0683422134227
 MSLP: \$10.99



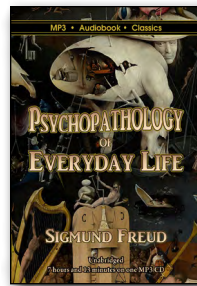
Dream Psychology

Author: Sigmund Freud (1856 - 1939)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 6 hours and 1 minute
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Non-Fiction, Science, Psychology

Freud realized the magnitude of the task which the reading of his magnum opus (*The Interpretation of Dreams*) imposed upon those who have not been prepared for it by long psychological and scientific training and he abstracted from that gigantic work the parts which constitute the essential of his discoveries. The publishers of the present book deserve credit for presenting to the reading public the gist of Freud's psychology in the master's own words, and in a form which shall neither discourage beginners,

nor appear too elementary to those who are more advanced in psychoanalytic study. Dream psychology is the key to Freud's works and to all modern psychoanalytic study. With a simple, compact manual such as *Dream Psychology* there shall be no longer any excuse for ignorance of the most revolutionary psychological system of modern times. (Excerpted from the book introduction, by Andre Tridon)

Catalog: DB-1063
 UPC: 0684758936431
 MSLP: \$9.99



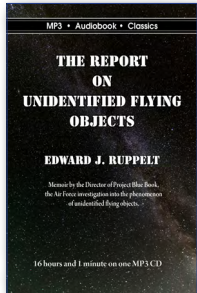
The Psychopathology of Everyday Life

Author: Sigmund Freud (1856 - 1939)
 Read by: Mary Schneider
 Length: 7 hours and 13 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Non-Fiction, Science, Psychology

Professor Freud developed his system of psychoanalysis while studying the so-called borderline cases of mental diseases, such as hysteria and compulsion neurosis. Psychoanalysis always showed that they referred to some definite problem or conflict of the person concerned. Freud found how faint the line of demarcation was between the normal and neurotic person, and that the psychopathologic mechanisms so glaringly observed in the psychoneuroses and psychoses could usually be demonstrated in a lesser degree in normal persons. This led to a study of the faulty actions of everyday life and later to the publication of the *Psychopathology of Everyday Life*, the author's most popular work. With great ingenuity and penetration the author throws much light on the complex problems of human behavior, and clearly demonstrates that the gap between normal and abnormal mental states is more apparent than real. (Excerpted from the introduction to the translation by A. A. Brill)

Catalog: DB-1064
 UPC: 0684758936448
 MSLP: \$9.99

Science - The Space Age



The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects

Author: By Edward J. Ruppelt (1923-1960)
 Read by: Roger Melin
 Length: 16 hours 1 minute
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Science

The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects is a memoir written by Edward Ruppelt, a former United States Air Force officer who directed the governmental investigation of unidentified flying objects. Ruppelt, who coined the term, felt that the Air Force handling of the UFO question was "organized confusion". Realizing he was probably the best qualified person to set the record straight, he wrote the book to help lay out the facts. Ruppelt lays out the difficulty of writing about something "that doesn't officially exist" and of dealing with the ambiguity of evidence and the problem of proof, ultimately letting the reader decide whether UFOs exist or not. The book has been described as "required reading for anyone seriously interested in the history of this subject".

Catalog #: DB-1109
 UPC: 0684758936639
 MSLP: \$13.99

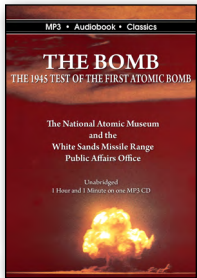


The Flying Saucers Are Real

Author: Donald E. Keyhoe
 Read by: Roger Melin
 Length: 7 hours 24 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Science

The Flying Saucers Are Real was the first serious attempt to investigate encounters between the human race and "unidentified flying objects." The book is relatively short, but pulls together evidence gathered from newspapers, magazines, personal interviews, and Air Force records. The central contention is that the Air Force had been actively investigating encounters and maintaining a policy of secrecy until 1949, when a policy of gradual and cautious public disclosure was adopted. He further argued that the earth had been visited by extraterrestrials for two hundred years and that the explosion of the atomic bomb had prompted a sharp increase in visits. Keyhoe wrote the book in the dramatic narrative 1950's television dramas. The book was published in 1950. The paperback edition by Fawcett was a huge hit, selling over 500,000 copies.

Catalog: DB-1110
 UPC: 0684758936646
 MSLP: \$11.99

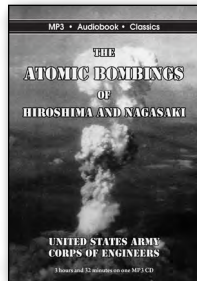


The Bomb: The 1945 Test of the First Atomic Bomb

Author: The National Atomic Museum and The White Sands Missile Range Public Relations Office
 Read by: David Wales
 Length: 1 hour and 1 minute
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: History, Science, War & Military

On July 16, 1945 at 5:29 am the United States Army detonated the first atomic bomb in the Jornada del Muerto desert 35 miles southeast of Socorro, New Mexico. It was a key event in the Manhattan Project, a top secret effort to develop fissile material that grew to employ over 130,000 people and cost about \$27 billion in today's dollars. The weapons were developed at the Los Alamos Laboratory. The test was code-named "Trinity" and involved the detonation of a plutonium device nicknamed "The Gadget" similar to the "Fat Man" bomb later detonated over Nagasaki, Japan on August 9, 1945. The complexity of the design led to concerns about whether the device would work, and that led to the decision to conduct a test. The test was planned and directed by Kenneth Nichols. The two readings in this volume are of government publications, the first released by the National Atomic Museum in 1984 and the second by the White Sands Missile Range Public Affairs Office in 1995.

Catalog: DB-1222
 UPC: 0701236969412
 MSLP: \$9.99

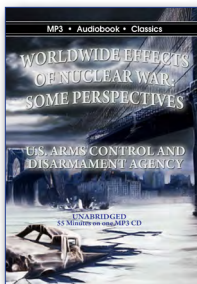


The Atomic Bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki

Author: U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Manhattan District
 Read by: Denny Sayers
 Length: 3 hours and 32 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: History, Science, War & Military

Catalog: DB-1083
 UPC: 0684758936622
 MSLP: \$10.99

This is the official report, published nearly 11 months after the first and only atomic bombings in history (to date), of a group of military physicians and engineers who accompanied the initial contingent of U.S. soldiers into the destroyed cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The report presents a clinical description of the devastation, loss of life and continued suffering of the survivors that resulted from the world's first and only atomic bombings, to date. The appendix is an eyewitness account, contrasting vividly with the dispassionate sang-froid of the report itself, written by a German Jesuit priest who survived the blast at Hiroshima, and whose order assisted in rescue efforts following the catastrophic attack. This recording was completed on the 63rd anniversary of the events. (Summary by Dennis Sayers).



Worldwide Effects of Nuclear War: Some Perspectives

Author: U. S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency
 Read by: Alyson Hester
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 55 minutes
 Genre: Political Philosophy, Science

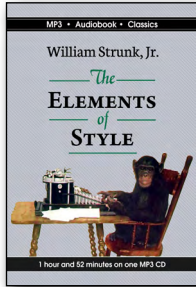
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 UPC: 0701236969429
 MSLP: \$9.99

widespread and long-lasting environmental damage that an aggressor nation would itself suffer serious environmental effects even without a response. Perhaps the most compelling conclusion is that existing knowledge is largely based on hypothesis and so uncertainty as to the consequences is the central truth. We just don't really know what would happen, and that alone should serve as a deterrent. The report presents the findings in language that common people can understand; scientific background is not necessary.

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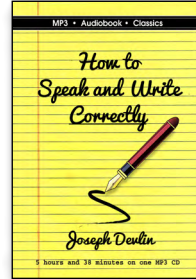
Catalog: DB-1115
 UPC: 0683422134326
 MSLP: \$9.99

it was eventually revised by New Yorker writer E. B. White and sold over ten million copies in three editions. This audiobook is a reading of the original 1920 edition. Perhaps the highest praise came from American poet Dorothy Parker once proclaimed, "If you have any young friends who aspire to become writers the second-greatest favor you can do them is to present them with copies of *The Elements of Style*. The first-greatest, of course, is to shoot them now, while they're happy."

The Elements of Style

Author: William Strunk, Jr. (1869 – 1946)
 Read by: Nicholas James Bridgewater
 Length: 1 hour and 50 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Education, Reference, Self-Help

The Elements of Style is a guide to writing American English written in 1918 by Cornell University English professor William Strunk, Jr. for use in the university. It was published in 1920 and became an indispensable tool for writers of all stripes. It consists of "eight elementary rules of usage, ten elementary principles of composition," a few matters of form, a list of 49 "words and expressions commonly misused," and a list of 57 "words often misspelled." Originally a short 52-page manual,

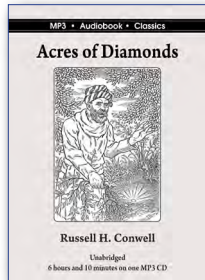


Catalog: DB-1097
 UPC: 0683422134258
 MSLP: \$9.99

How to Speak and Write Correctly (1910) is one of the most enduring and useful guide books to effective communication ever written, an unpretentious handbook for those who have neither the time nor the inclination for in-depth study of the intricacies of grammar and composition. Devlin covers the essentials in plain language with a focus on practical application. Topics include the three essentials of speech – purity, propriety and precision; the elements of grammar; analysis of sentence structure and rules for coherent sentence construction; proper punctuation and common punctuation errors; and the use of figurative language. The author gives significant space to the many idiomatic terms and expressions peculiar to the language and to common errors made by even the finest writers and speakers. The book includes background material on the history of the language and tips on letter writing and sample letters. Whatever your involvement with speaking and writing, the time spent with this volume will yield insights that can't help but improve your ability to communicate.

How to Speak and Write Correctly

Author: Joseph Devlin
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 5 hours 38 minutes
 Genre: Education, Reference, Self-Help



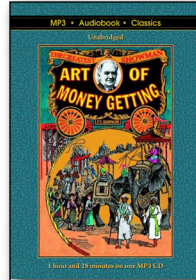
Catalog: DB-1171
 UPC: 0683422134906
 MSLP: \$9.99

in one's own community. The lecture was first given in 1869 became the most popular lecture of its time. He continued to deliver the lecture on the Chautauqua circuit until his death in 1925. This edition includes two readings of the *Acres of Diamonds* followed by a reading of *His Life and Achievements* by Robert Shackleton.

Acres of Diamonds

Author: Russell H. Conwell (1843 - 1925)
 Read by: Phil Chenevert and Scott Dahlem
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 6 hours and 10 minutes
 Genre: Non-Fiction, Education, Self-Help

Acres of Diamonds by Russell H. Conwell was published in 1890 as a document of a lecture by the same name that he gave over 6,000 times to audiences all over world. The title derives from a story Conwell heard from an Arab guide in the Middle East concerning a farmer so eager to find diamonds that he sold his land and went off to search for them in vain. In the meantime, the buyer of his property was fortunate to discover a diamond mine on the property. The central idea is that all that is necessary to achieve good things is present



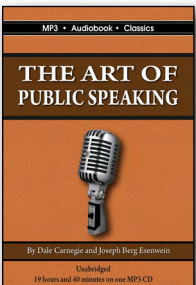
Catalog: DB-1120
 UPC: 0683422134289
 MSLP: \$9.99

Barnum and published in 1880 as a 96-page paperback at the height of his worldwide popularity. The book consists of an introduction on the general subject followed by twenty concise chapters on Barnum's rules of success, and is considered by many as the first and possibly the manual for effectively using advertising, promotion and public relations as essential tools of getting the message to the public as a critical factor in business development.

The Art of Money Getting

Author: Phineas Taylor "P.T." Barnum (1810 - 1891)
 Read by: D. S. Harvey
 Length: 1 hour and 28 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Economics, Education, Self-Help,

Learn The 20 Time Tested Business Rules To Attract More Money, More Prospects and More Customers To You From "The Father Of Marketing" - PT Barnum



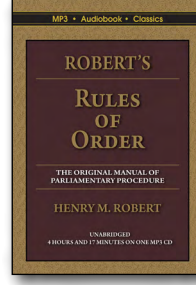
Catalog: DB-1130
 UPC: 0683422134319
 MSLP: \$11.99

in 1915, the book has been used by millions to improve their communication skills and remains relevant and effective today. It covers every side of the issue: confidence, emphasis, pitch, pace, pause, power, inflection, force, feeling, fluency, articulation, gesture, and the many ways of influencing an audience. Numerous examples are provided for study and practice. So, if you are stuck, scared, or just want to do better, listen up and learn how to get your audiences to do the same!

The Art of Public Speaking

Author: Dale Carnegie (1888- 1955) & Joseph Berg Esenwein (1867 - 1946)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 19 hours and 40 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Education, Self-Help

Many people dread the prospect of having to speak in front of an audience. Dale Carnegie realized this a little over a hundred years ago and approached the YMCA in New York with an offer to give lessons in public speaking for a share of the gross. Within a few years he was making the equivalent of over a half million dollars a year at it. He joined forces with Joseph Berg Esenwein, a writer and editor, to formulate his principles in *The Art of Public Speaking*. First published



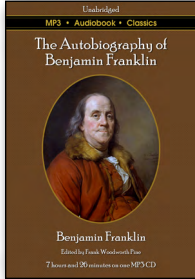
Catalog: DB3-1116
 UPC: 0683422134265
 MSLP: \$9.99

which had erupted into open conflict on the issue of abolition. Robert felt his inadequate knowledge of proper procedure was to blame, and so he assembled the book of rules loosely modeled after those in use in the United States House of Representatives, with adaptations in design for use in more ordinary societies outside of legislative bodies. While the book has no basis in either statutory law, common law, or court precedent, numerous organizations adopt it as their formal reference owing to its clarity and thoroughness. This reading is of the First Edition.

Robert's Rules of Order

Author: Henry M. Robert (1837 - 1923)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 4 hours and 17 minutes
 Genre: Education, Self-Help

Robert's Rules of Order it is a collection of rules regarding parliamentary procedure that was written by U.S. Army Colonel Henry Martyn Robert, a military engineer. It has been the most widely used manual of parliamentary procedure for well over one hundred years. Originally published in 1876, it is a collection of rules regarding parliamentary procedure that was inspired by the author Henry Robert's disastrous performance in leading a church meeting in 1863,

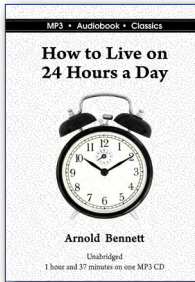


The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin

Author: Benjamin Franklin
 Read by: Gary Gilbert
 Length: 7 hours and 25 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Biography, Autobiography & Memoir

In the words of biographer Walter Isaacson, Franklin was "the most accomplished American of his age and the most influential in inventing the type of society America would become." *The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin* is Franklin's own record of his life, written between 1771 and 1790 and incomplete and unpublished at the time of his death. It languished until his grandson William Temple Franklin published the first three parts in London in 1818. Franklins legacy of "firsts" continues to our time: *The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin* was the first full-length recorded book in history, recorded by actor Micheal Rye and released in 1969.

Catalog: DB-1071
 UPC: 0684758936516
 MSLP: \$11.99

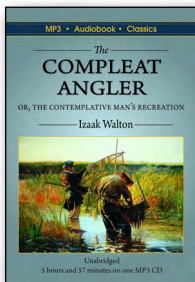


How to Live on 24 Hours a Day

Author: Arnold Bennett (1867 - 1931)
 Read by: Phil Chenevert
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 1 hour and 37 minutes
 Genre: Non-Fiction, Education, Self-Help

How to Live on 24 Hours a Day (1910) offers practical advice on how to effectively use one's spare time to alter a humdrum existence into an interesting and rewarding life. Author Arnold Bennett targeted an audience of the large and increasing number of white collar workers stuck in jobs with little in the way of incentive or reward beyond an income that trapped them in a numbing daily routine. The simple advice is to find 90 minutes three times a week, usually in the evening, and use that time for self-improvement through reading, meditating, practicing self-discipline, or studying the arts. Bennett advises against proselytizing to others, rushing or attempting too much at first. He favors a balance between flexibility and rigid discipline and a slow but steady pace at the outset. The book was one of the first self-improvement works and has gained resurgence in recent years due to its ongoing relevance.

Catalog: DB-1170
 UPC: 0683422134890
 MSLP: \$9.99



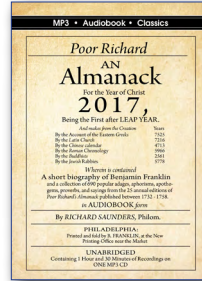
The Compleat Angler

Author: Izaak Walton (1593-1683)
 Read by: Nicole Lee
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 5 hours and 57 minutes
 Genre: Education, Essays

The Compleat Angler, or, the Contemplative Man's Recreation (1653) is a unique classic work, a treatise that celebrates the art and spirit of fishing. The subtitle conveys its essence well, as the material ranges from technical tips to quotations, anecdotes, poems, songs, turns of phrase and musings on the nature of creation. Walton revised the work through five editions in the twenty-five years following its initial publication, during which time it grew from thirteen

Catalog: DB-1164
 UPC: 0683422134838
 MSLP: \$11.99

to twenty-one chapters. Originally structured with two speakers, Piscator and Venator, later editions added new companions who each discoursed on the aspects of his favorite pastime. Walton was a reputed master in the use of worms, frogs, and grasshoppers for bait fishing, but turned to humorist and retired cook Thomas Barker for the fly fishing section, which was added to and completed by his friend Charles Cotton in later editions. The book was thus a living thing, and developed much the way a blog might evolve in the present day.

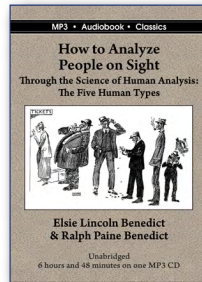


Poor Richard's Almanack

Author: Benjamin Franklin
 Read by: Michelle Fry
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 1 hour and 30 minutes
 Genre: Humor, Philosophy

Poor Richard's Almanack was a yearly almanac published by Benjamin Franklin using the pseudonym Richard Saunders, the "Poor Richard" of the title. Almanacs offered an amalgam of weather forecasts, sunrises, sunsets, phases of the moon, and tides along with household tips, puzzles and other amusements. Both useful and entertaining, they were immensely popular, and none more so than Franklin's, which sold quite well, as many as 10,000 copies per year, and made him a wealthy man. Published for 25 years between 1732 and 1758, the pamphlet was known for its wordplay and extensive sprinkling of witty and wise sayings throughout, many of which have found their way into the American vernacular. Some 690 of these aphorisms and sayings are collected here.

Catalog: DB-1211
 UPC: 0701236969290
 MSLP: \$9.99

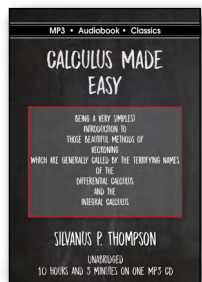


How to Analyze People on Sight

Author: Elsie Lincoln Benedict and Ralph Paine Benedict
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 6 hours and 48 minutes
 Genre: Non-Fiction, Education, Self-Help

During the intense growth and transformation of the early 20th analysis and science seemed to be the obvious road to economic progress, which was felt to be the key to overall well-being. *How to Analyze People on Sight*, published in 1921, was very much a product of that time. The well-educated Benedicts brought the language of science and discipline of categorization to bear on human appearance, developing a system where five basic body types were used to define corresponding emotional and behavior patterns. The underlying premise is that the biology drives destiny, and with knowledge in hand, one can make better informed decisions about oneself and others. While it takes the subject matter seriously, it is done so with a light touch that allows for humor. The book has remained popular over the years. While most contemporary readers acknowledge that it is not really scientific as we know it today, and some find it biased and lacking in evidence, many others find it useful and insightful.

Catalog: DB-1172
 UPC: 0683422134913
 MSLP: \$9.99



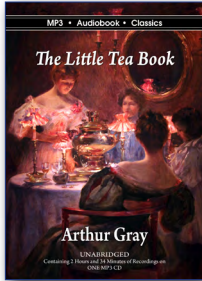
Calculus Made Easy

Author: Silvanus P. Thompson
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 10 hours and 3 minutes
 Genre: How To and Self-Help, Mathematics

If you are one of the many people who are intimidated and baffled by mathematics, this book is for you. *Calculus Made Easy: Being a Very-Simplest Introduction to Those Beautiful Methods of Reckoning which Are Generally Called by the Terrifying Names of the Differential Calculus and the Integral Calculus* by Silvanus P. Thompson has been considered "a classic and elegant introduction to the subject" of infinitesimal calculus ever since its initial publication

Catalog: DB-1198
 UPC: 0701236969160
 MSLP: \$11.99

in 1910. Written for British students, the concepts are presented in simple, clear terms in an accessible, conversational style with a dash of wry humor thrown in for good measure. Each chapter is accompanied by problem sets that further illuminate the concepts and that students seem to enjoy working through. Many report that they are awakened to the genius of calculus and thoroughly delighted by their ability to finally understand an often intimidating discipline.



The Little Tea Book

Author: Arthur Gray
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 1 hour and 41 minutes
 Genre: Education, Culture, Crafts & Hobbies

The Little Tea Book is a one-of-a-kind book that makes an informative and amusing look at tea in all its flavors and styles. It delves into the history of tea, both Eastern and Western, and gleans stories, aspects of culture, quotes, and even poetry from a range of sources.

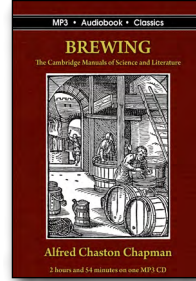
This book is a must for tea enthusiasts everywhere.

From the introduction... After all, tea is the drink!

Domestically and socially it is the beverage of the world...

what other product can compare with tea in the high regard in which it has always been held by writers whose standing in literature, and recognized good taste in other walks, cannot be questioned? A glance through this book will show that the spirit of the tea beverage is one of peace, comfort, and refinement. The side-lights of history, customs, manners, and modes of living which tea plays in the life of all nations will be found entertaining and instructive... a leaf which can combine so much deserves, at least, a little human hearing for its long list of virtues; for its peaceful walks, talks, tales, tattle, frills, and fancies which go to make up this tribute to "the cup that cheers but not inebriates."

Catalog: DB-1223
 UPC: 0701236969429
 MSLP: \$9.99



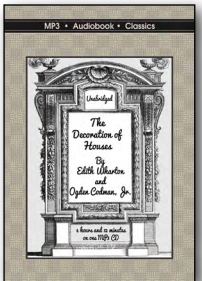
Brewing

Author: Alfred Chaston Chapman
 Read by: Elizabeth Klett
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 3 hours and 20 minutes
 Genre: Education, Crafts & Hobbies

From the Preface...

Great as is the debt of gratitude which the brewing industry owes to the labours of scientific men, it has been more than repaid by the immense services which that industry has indirectly rendered to the advancement of modern science. It may be said without exaggeration that in respect of the number of scientific investigations of the first order of importance to which it has given rise, the brewing industry stands easily preeminent among the industries of mankind, and that without the stimulus furnished by the desire to arrive at the meaning of some of the more important phenomena connected with the brewing of beer, both chemical and biological science would probably be the poorer today by some of their most valued intellectual achievements... The brewing of beer is regarded by many as an operation of a simple and more or less mechanical description, which is not of sufficient importance to merit study or of sufficient interest to claim a share of their attention. It is in the hope of doing something, even though it be but little, to correct this widely spread impression, that I have most willingly accepted the invitation to contribute this little work to *The Cambridge Manuals of Science and Literature*.

Catalog: DB-1226
 UPC: 0701236969443
 MSLP: \$9.99



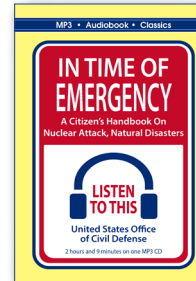
The Decoration of Houses

Authors: Edith Wharton (1862-1937)
 & Ogden Codman, Jr. (1863 - 1951)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 6 hours 19 minutes
 Genre: Education, Self-Help

Edith Wharton first achieved recognition for *The Decoration of Houses*, a manual on interior decoration produced in collaboration with architect Ogden Codman, Jr. Prior to its publication, interior decoration had been a discipline much like dressmaking, which was reflected in the use of heavy drapery, overstuffed furniture and prominence of Victorian lace and bric-a-brac. Codman and Wharton argued that interiors should instead be approached with a classical sense of

simple lines, proportion, symmetry, and balance. In doing so they helped guide us away from the Victorian penchant for elaborate details, busy designs, and clutter and stuffiness. Organized in sixteen chapters, the first chapters outline general principles and the following chapters detail the suggested arrangement of specific rooms for maximum comfort and usefulness. *The Decoration of Houses* is considered a seminal work in the creation of the discipline of interior design.

Catalog: DB3-1129
 UPC: 0684758936738
 MSLP: \$9.99



In Time Of Emergency: A Citizen's Handbook On Nuclear Attack, Natural Disasters

Author: U. S. Office of Civil Defense
 Read by: Tricia G
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 2 hours and 9 minutes
 Genre: Education, Self-Help

A major emergency affecting a large number of people may occur anytime and anywhere. It may be a peacetime disaster such as a flood, tornado, fire, hurricane, blizzard or earthquake. It could be an enemy nuclear attack on the United States. In any type of general disaster, lives can be saved if people are prepared for the emergency, and know what actions to take when it occurs.

This handbook, "In Time of Emergency" (1968), contains basic general information on both nuclear attack and major natural disasters. This general guidance supplements the specific instructions issued by local governments. Since special conditions may exist in some communities, the local instructions may be slightly different from this general guidance. In those cases, the local instructions should be followed. (Summary from Introduction)

Catalog: DB-1215
 UPC: 0701236969337
 MSLP: \$9.99

APA STUDIES SHOW HEALTHY GROWTH FOR AUDIOBOOKS

The Audio Publishers Association released results from its 2016 annual sales survey conducted by Management Practice and its consumer study conducted by research firm Edison Research. Bottom line - it was a very good year!

- Audiobook sales in 2016 totaled over \$2.1 million, up 18.2% over 2015.
- Audiobook unit sales in 2016 grew by 33.9% over 2015.
- Audiobook sales have grown by nearly 20% or more for three consecutive years.
- The listening audience is growing. Over 67 million Americans completed listening to at least one audiobook in 2016, a 22% increase.

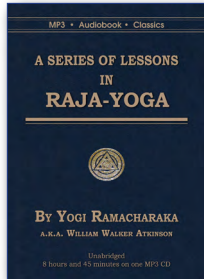
INDUSTRY EXECUTIVES REPORT BANNER YEAR

According to Tom Webster, Vice President of Strategy for Edison Research, "The audiobook market continues to grow, with more people than ever before indicating that they have listened to the medium in the past year. That growth, combined with the growth of the podcast market and the strong relationship between the two, are all part of a renaissance for spoken word programming."

"It's another banner year for audiobooks," says Anthony Goff, VP and Research Committee Chair for the APA, and SVP, Publisher at Hachette Audio. "It has been exhilarating for everyone involved in audio to see such healthy growth maintained, year in and year out.

Learning more about audiobook listeners by digging deeper into the metrics of consumer behavior is one of the key ways we can help that growth continue."

Yoga & Intimate Relations

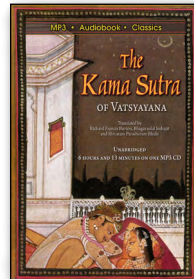


A Series Of Lessons in Raja Yoga

Author: William Walker Atkinson
a.k.a. Yogi Ramacharaka (1862 - 1932)
Read by: Multiple readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 8 hours and 45 minutes
Genre: Non-Fiction, Education, Self-Help

A Series of Lessons in Raja Yoga is an in-depth yet practical guide to the concepts and practices used in yoga to achieve significant improvements in mental functioning leading to an elevated comprehension of reality and a higher spiritual awareness. Written by Yogi Ramachara, a pen name of William Walker Atkinson, it was originally published in monthly installments between October 1905 and September 1906 and received an enthusiastic and popular reception. Each lesson contains a wealth of material for study. Many students of the book find value in re-reading the lessons at intervals to discover material overlooked during previous readings. The book is especially helpful in distinguishing the self from the ego and finding higher levels of spiritual consciousness.

Catalog: DB-1148
UPC: 0683422134623
MSLP: \$9.99

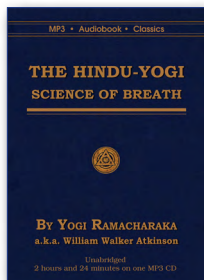


The Kama Sutra of Vatsyayana

Author: Vatsyayana (2nd century AD)
Translated by Richard Francis Burton, Bhagavanlal Indrajit and Shivaram Parashuram Bhide
Read by: Mark F Smith
Length: 6 hours 13 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Education, Self-Help,

Catalog: DB-1109
UPC: 0683422134203
MSLP: \$9.99

Often mistakenly thought to be a guide to tantric sex, the *Kama Sutra* is not exclusively a sex manual, but rather a guide to living a virtuous and fulfilling life that treats matters of love, family, pleasure and passion in a frank and insightful manner. "Kama" means "desire", and is one of the four goals of life, the others being Dharma (virtuous living), Artha (material prosperity), and Moksha (liberation). A "sutra" is a line or thread that connects things, and often refers to a collection of rules, formulas, or aphorisms that serve as a guide or manual. *The Kama Sutra* was written in Sanskrit in the Second Century AD, and represents an abridged assemblage of longer works. The book is written in prose with generous sprinklings of verse, and is structured in seven parts, 36 chapters and 1,250 verses. The best known English translation first appeared in 1883 and is attributed to Sir Richard Francis Burton, who supervised the translation and the assembly of a complete version from versions obtained from libraries in Calcutta, Benares, Bombay, and Jaipur.

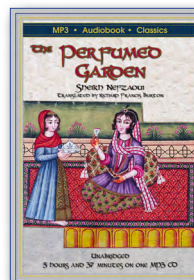


The Hindu-Yogi Science of Breath

Author: William Walker Atkinson
a.k.a. Yogi Ramacharaka (1862 - 1932)
Read by: Mike Justice
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 2 hours 24 minutes
Genre: Non-Fiction, Education, Self-Help

The Hindu-Yogi Science of Breath: A Complete Manual of the Oriental Breathing Philosophy of Physical, Mental, Psychic and Spiritual Development was published in 1903 by William Walker Atkinson under the pseudonym Yogi Ramacharaka. It is a practical introduction to the essential breathing techniques of yoga and the basic concept that good breathing leads to good health and long life. The early chapters provide a background in yogic practices, explain the anatomy and physiology of breath in simple terms, and raise the awareness of four types of breathing. The later chapters are a how-to manual and include numerous exercises for breathing, healing, and meditation. Countless people have used the book as a clear and concise guide to a vital and highly beneficial discipline.

Catalog: DB-1144
UPC: 0683422134562
MSLP: \$9.99

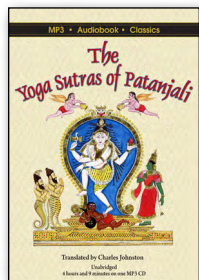


The Perfumed Garden

Author: Sheikh Nefzaoui (15th century AD)
Translated by Sir Richard Francis Burton (1820 - 1890)
Read by: Alia Makki
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 5 hours and 37 minutes
Genre: Non-Fiction, Erotica

Catalog: DB-1137
UPC: 0683422134531
MSLP: \$9.99

The Perfumed Garden by Sheikh Nafzaoui is a fifteenth-century Arabic sex manual and work of erotic literature. The book contains a discussion of qualities men and women should cultivate to be attractive, gives advice on sexual technique, and treats issues of sexual health, complete with remedies for sexual maladies. It lists the many names used for private parts and briefly describes the nature of sex among animals. Also included are a section on the interpretation of dreams and stories. The reputation of the book in the Arab world was similar to that of the *Arabian Nights*. It is unique in "the seriousness with which the most lascivious and obscene matters are presented." *The Perfumed Garden* was introduced to the English speaking world in a 1886 by Sir Richard Francis Burton, who compared the work to that of Rabelais and the French book *Conjugal Love* by Nicolas Venette.

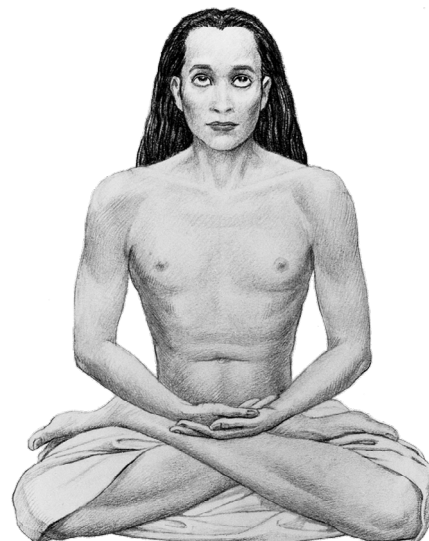


The Yoga Sutras of Patanjali

Author: Patanjali (c. 400 CE)
Translated by Charles Johnston (1867 - 1931)
Read by: Jothi Tharavant
Length: 4 hours 9 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Religion, Reference, Education

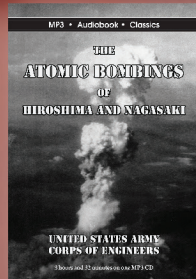
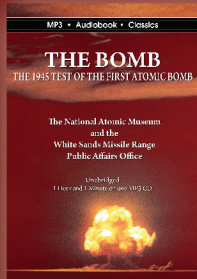
The Yoga Sūtras of Patañjali is a collection of 196 Indian sūtras or aphorisms composed in approximately. He compiled the book from older materials from two different traditions – the "eight limb yoga" known as ashtanga yoga, and action yoga, known as karma yoga. The aphorisms and accompanying commentary constitute "The Treatise on Yoga according to Patañjali". Yoga Sūtras is divided into four books or padas: Samadhi Pada Sadhana Pada; Vibhuti and Kaivalya Pada. He outlines the system of ashtanga yoga consisting of eight limbs, five of which are external aids to and three of which are internal aids. The Yoga Sūtras synthesized the teachings of many philosophical systems and were highly influential for over a thousand years before falling out of favor by the 16th century. Interest was reawakened the early 19th century and led to the consideration of the work as a primary key to the "science of yoga".

Catalog: DB-1114
UPC: 0683422134210
MSLP: \$9.99



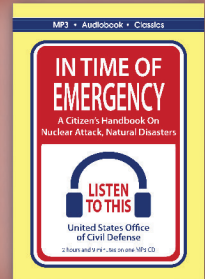
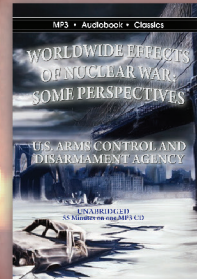
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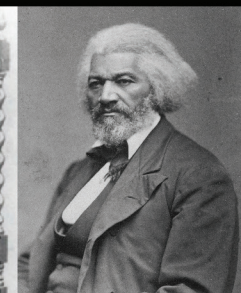
SOUJOURNER TRUTH



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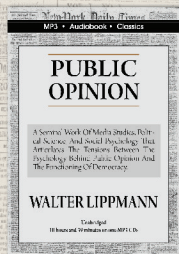
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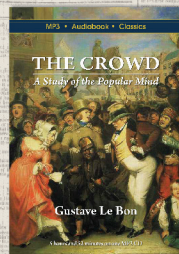
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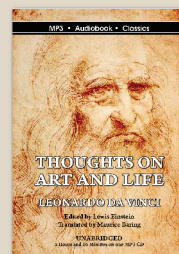
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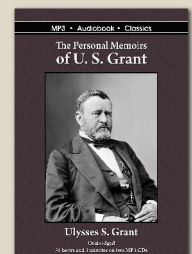
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