

Children's Classics

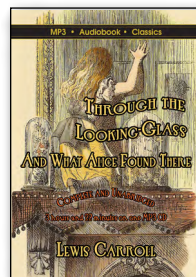


Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

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

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

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.

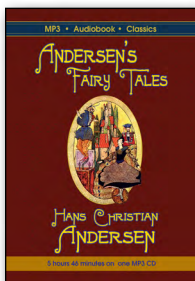


Through the Looking-Glass, and What Alice Found There

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

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

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.

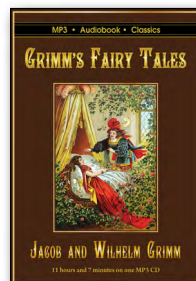


Andersen's Fairy Tales

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

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

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 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*.

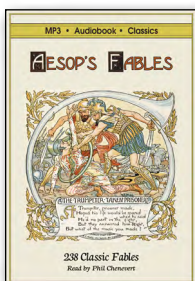


Grimm's Fairy Tales

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

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

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".

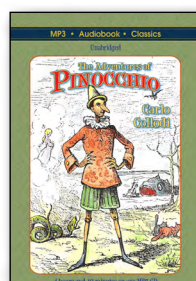


Aesop's Fables: A New Revised Edition

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

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

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 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.



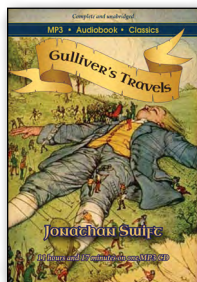
The Adventures of Pinocchio

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

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

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.

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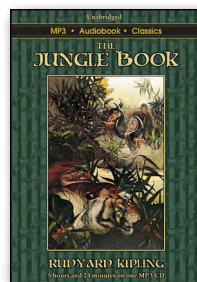


Gulliver's Travels

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.

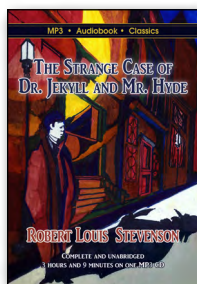


The Jungle Book

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.

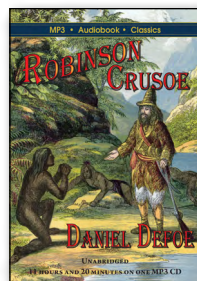


Treasure Island

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.

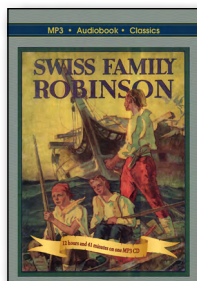


Robinson Crusoe

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.



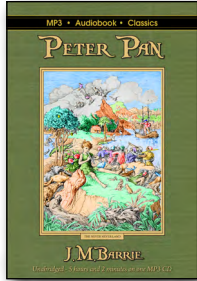
The Swiss Family Robinson

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.

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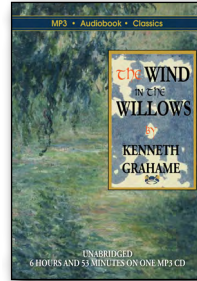
Peter Pan

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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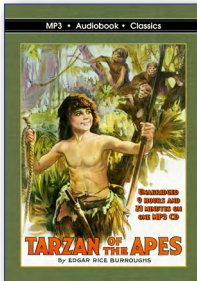
The Wind in the Willows

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.



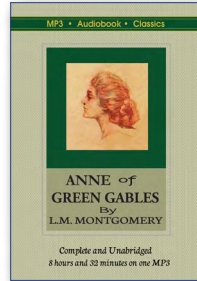
Tarzan of the Apes

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, 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

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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