



WHAT CAN I READ ONLINE?

This is a guide to finding interesting stories to read, listen to and watch online



[Part 1: Reading](#)

[Part 2: Listening](#)

[Part 3: Watching](#)

PART 1: FINDING THINGS TO READ ONLINE

CLASSIC LITERATURE











Most books, plays and poems can be shared online 70 years after the author dies - which means that you can find a lot of whole books from Victorian times and the early 1900s online for free! Here's a list of books you might find interesting:

- Louisa May Alcott - [Little Women](#)
- Jane Austen - [Pride and Prejudice](#)
- Emily Brontë - [Wuthering Heights](#)
- Robert Browning - [Victorian Poems](#)
- Arthur Conan Doyle - [A Study in Scarlet](#)
- Joseph Conrad - [Heart of Darkness](#)
- Charles Dickens - [A Tale of Two Cities](#)
- Charles Dickens - [Great Expectations](#)
- Charles Dickens - [Oliver Twist](#)
- Khalil Gibran - [The Prophet](#)
- The Brothers Grimm - [Grimms' Fairy Tales](#)
- Frank Kafka - [Metamorphosis](#)
- James Joyce - [Dubliners](#)
- Christina Rossetti - [Victorian Poems](#)
- William Shakespeare - [Every single play!](#)
- Mary Shelley - [Frankenstein](#)
- Bram Stoker - [Dracula](#)
- Alfred, Lord Tennyson - [Victorian Poems](#)
- H. G. Wells - [The War of the Worlds](#)

MODERN STORIES

The website [MyON](#) is a brilliant resource, containing over 7,000 books in a range of categories. A lot of them are illustrated. Have a look through these categories:

Browse Books By Category

7,102 books				
 About Me 1,865 books	 Animals 1,216 books	 Genres 3,759 books	 Hobbies & How To 330 books	 Literacy Skills 325 books
 Maths Fun 316 books	 Science 2,106 books	 Social Studies 1,896 books	 Sports & Vehicles 828 books	 Weird & Weirder 453 books

We particularly like the famous stories that are retold in the 'Social Studies' section. Here are some of the biographies you can race through:



SHORT STORIES AND POEMS

You can find collections of short stories by classic authors online for free!

Russian writer Anton Chekhov wrote many, many short stories: some are funny illustrations of Russian peasant life over 100 years ago; others are sad examples of the struggles other people face. You can find read through his stories [here](#).

Even further back in history, you can find some illustrated books that are possibly even more beautiful. English poet William Blake wrote two collections of poetry called [Songs of Innocence](#) and [Songs of Experience](#) - you can read them (they are very simple) and see the illustrations by clicking those links. [Find out a little bit about them](#).

The classic poem 'The Raven' by Edgar Allan Poe is a terrifying gothic masterpiece. You can read a virtual library book [here](#). In this version, the pages turn themselves, and it's an old book too, which makes reading it seem ghostly!

There are 2,000 more poems (often read by the writers themselves!) at [the Poetry Archive](#).

GRAPHIC NOVELS, COMICS AND MANGA

Here are some apps you can download to read on your phone:

- ComicRack (Android, iOS, Windows)
- Perfect Viewer (Android)
- Simple Comic (Mac)
- Manga Rock (iOS, Android)
- Comixology (iOS, Android, Windows)
- WebToon (Android)

A lot of the comics on these apps are uploaded by the artists themselves, so some will be better than others! If you are unsure if a comic is going to be suitable for you, please ask someone at home to have a look at it first.

NON-FICTION

If you type in a topic you're interested in on [Researchify](#), you will get links from a mix of educational websites. Try searching for 'vampires' or 'victorian women' - the search tool works really well!

PART 2: LISTEN

Lots of storytellers have put recordings online, for free! Here are some suggestions:

[Audible](#). On the Audible Stories website, you can listen to lots of books and stories for free right now. Here are some suggestions:

[Books in French](#)

À écouter en français



Les trois mousquetaires
by Alexandre Dumas



La Vieillesse du sommeil. La série...
by Suaëna Airault



Peter Pan [French Version]
by Marlène Jobert

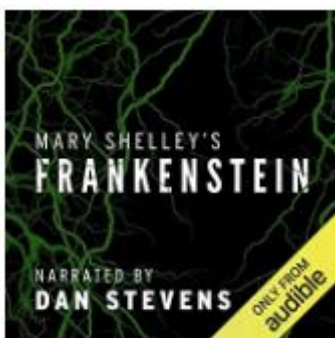


[Books in German](#)

[Books in Spanish](#)

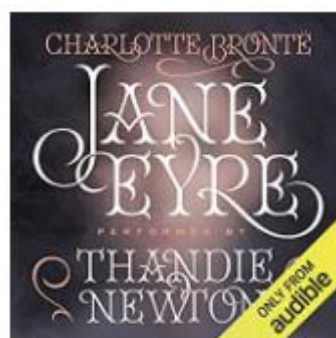
[Literary Classics](#)

Recommendations from this category



Frankenstein

by Mary Shelley



Jane Eyre

by Charlotte Bronte

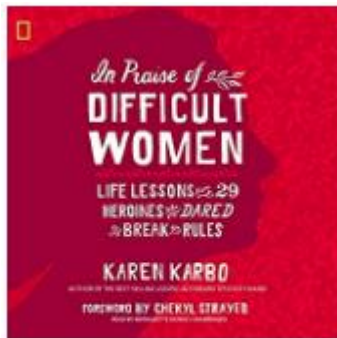


The Metamorphosis

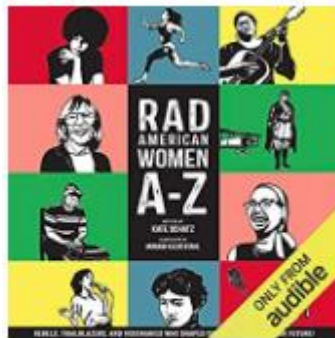
by Franz Kafka

[Books for Teenagers](#)

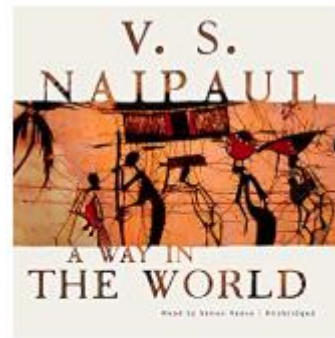
There are 67 books in this category, but recommendations include:



In Praise of Difficult Women
by Karen Karbo



Rad American Women A-Z
by Kate Schatz



A Way in the World
by V. S. Naipaul

On YouTube, every week, professional actors and volunteers are getting together to read through all of Shakespeare's plays. This is called [The Show Must Go Online](#). It started with a play called [The Two Gentlemen of Verona](#). See how they make it dramatic even without a stage or props!

If you'd prefer something a bit sillier, storyteller and author David Walliams is posting a new story every day on [his website](#).

Something darker? You can listen to Neil Gaiman reading [The Graveyard Book](#), in full, also on YouTube.

RJ Palacio's novel Wonder is modern and marvellous. The writer herself is reading a bit of the book every day at 4pm. You can listen along for free. [Find out how here](#).

PART 3: WATCH

There are a lot of Shakespeare plays you can watch for free on YouTube - but not all of them are good!

A website called [Marquee.tv](#) currently has 18 different professional versions of Shakespeare plays. You can ask an adult to sign up for a 30 day trial to watch them for free. Once you have signed up, look for plays by the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC), Shakespeare's Globe, and Donmar Warehouse. Hamlet, The Tempest and Julius Caesar are particularly good! The BBC are also releasing some of RSC's productions online- you should be able to find them on iPlayer over the next few weeks.

If you'd like to watch Shakespeare being read, but don't want to watch a whole play, you're in luck. Patrick Stewart, one of the most famous British actors of the last century, is uploading a reading of a different Shakespeare sonnet to his Twitter account every day. Here is [number one](#), [number two](#), and [number three](#).

The National Theatre are streaming their plays every Thursday for free. Have a look at their [website](#) for more information.

You can find 7 videos of Benjamin Zephaniah reading poems on [his website](#), and another one (along with some writing ideas), on [the Poetry Society's website](#).

Questions/Suggestions? Email Mrs Burton at caroline.burton@biddenham.beds.sch.uk