

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:

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 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're very simple) and see the illustrations by clicking those links. [Find out a little bit about them by clicking here.](#)

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:

1. ComicRack (Android, iOS, Windows)
2. Perfect Viewer (Android)
3. Simple Comic (Mac)
4. Manga Rock (iOS, Android)
5. Comixology (iOS, Android, Windows)
6. 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!

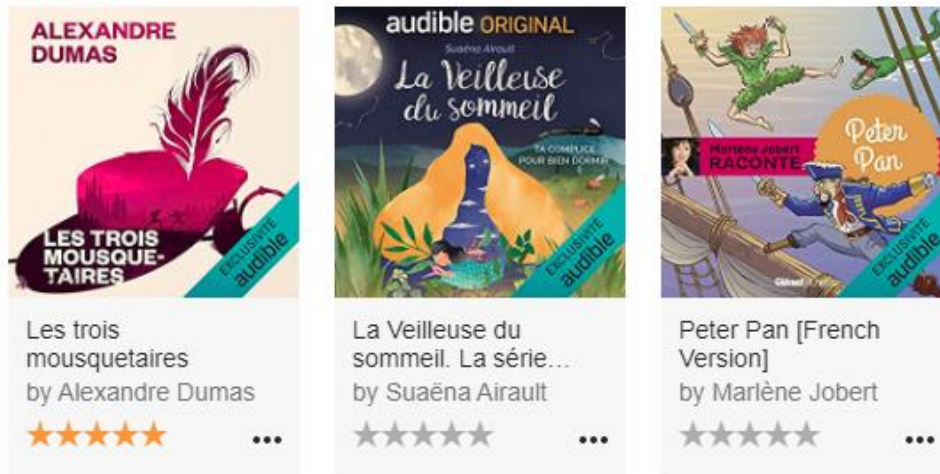
PART 2: LISTEN

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



[Books in German](#)

[Books in Spanish](#)

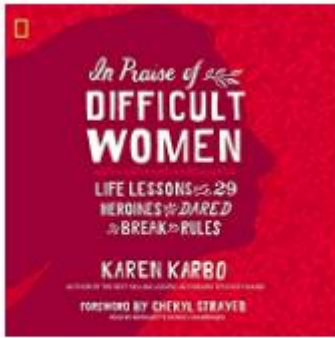
[Literary classics](#)

Recommendations from this category (there are 27 books at the moment):

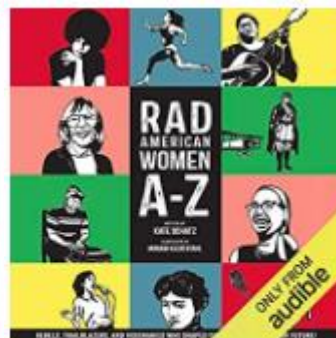


[Books for teenagers](#)

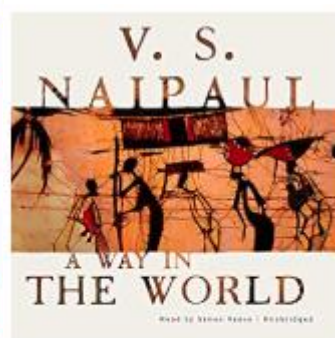
There are 67 books in this category, but recommendations include:



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!

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's [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](#).