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Art History, Artists, and Photographers

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Ansel Adams an Autobiography By Ansel Adams

Read by Lynn Smith

Reading time 16 hours, 12 minutes

The master photographer, who was awarded the Medal of Freedom, died in 1984. This life story describes his boyhood discovery of California's Yosemite and High Sierra, a land he loved and photographed. There are lively accounts of his conservation work and relationships he had with such colleagues as Steiglitz, Steichen, and Georgia O'Keeffe.

[Download from BARD: Ansel Adams an Autobiography](#)

It's What I Do a Photographer's Life of Love and War By Lynsey Addario

Read by Teresa Willis

Reading time 9 hours, 32 minutes

Memoir by winner of the Pulitzer Prize and MacArthur Foundation "Genius Grant" for her work in photojournalism. Addario (born 1973) details her early life and how an off-hand present from her father led to her career. Describes ways she found recognition by capturing conflicts across the world. Violence. Bestseller. 2015.

[Download from BARD: It's What I Do a Photographer's Life of Love and...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB081088

Art History a Very Short Introduction By Dana Arnold

Read by Jill Ferris

Reading time 5 hours, 14 minutes

Challenges traditional histories that emphasize styles and periods. Explores writings over a broad time span, from Pliny to Pollock. Discusses iconography and symbolism, media and techniques of production, the importance of museum collections, and how key thinkers in philosophy and psychoanalysis have interacted with art history. Includes glossary. 2004.

[Download from BARD: Art History a Very Short Introduction](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB085688

Art Attack a Short Cultural History of the Avant-Garde By Marc Aronson

Read by Bill Wallace

Reading time 6 hours, 36 minutes

An account of various twentieth-century art movements including dance, music, and painting that shocked the mainstream establishment at the time with their newness and innovation. Includes pop art, surrealism, cubism, jazz, rock and roll, and ballet as well as individual portraits of various artists. For senior high and older readers.

[Download from BARD: Art Attack a Short Cultural History of the Avant...](#)

Vivian Maier a Photographer's Life and Afterlife By Pamela Bannos

Read by Kerry Dukin

Reading time 13 hours, 21 minutes

Examination of the life of a photographer who supported herself as a nanny and whose work only came to broad recognition after her death. Chronicles Maier's years growing up in France, return to America, and eventual life in Chicago. Discusses the disposition of the storage lockers which housed her photography. 2017.

[Download from BARD: Vivian Maier a Photographer's Life and Afterlife](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB090167

The Great Nadar the Man Behind the Camera By Adam Begley

Read by Steven Carpenter

Reading time 7 hours, 17 minutes

Author of Updike (DB 79288) profiles portrait photographer and caricaturist Nadar, born Gaspard-Félix Tournachon (1820-1910). Discusses his early life in Paris and Lyon, interest in the developing field of photography, and his business pursuits which led to him becoming a celebrated artist. 2017.

[Download from BARD: The Great Nadar the Man Behind the Camera](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB088879

The Art of Forgery the Minds, Motives and Methods of Master Forgers By

Noah Charney

Read by Ken Kliban

Reading time 8 hours 11 minutes

History of art forgery, from the first known art-specific intellectual property suit in 1506 to notorious cases from the twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. Discusses methods of creating forgeries, detection of forgeries, and the thin difference between copies, fakes, and forgeries. 2015.

[Download from BARD: The Art of Forgery the Minds, Motives ...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB088732

The Hare with Amber Eyes a Hidden Inheritance By Edmund De Waal

Read by Mark Ashby

Reading time 10 hours, 34 minutes

British ceramic artist relates tracing his family's history through the ownership of a collection of netsuke, ornamental Japanese carvings, which he inherited in 1994. Describes the wealthy Ephrussi clan's lives in Vienna and Paris and their origins as Jewish merchants from Odessa, Russia. 2010.

[Download from BARD: The Hare with Amber Eyes a Hidden Inheritance](#)

Also available on digital book DB074286

Rebels in Paradise: the Los Angeles Art Scene and the 1960s By Hunter

Drohojowska-Philp

Read by Kristin Allison

Reading time 8 hours, 31 minutes

Art critic credits museum director Walter Hopps, who staged Andy Warhol's show of soup can paintings in 1963, for establishing Los Angeles as the center of modern art. Links the 1960s art movement with news events and cultural milestones and provides profiles of various artists. Bestseller. 2011.

[Download from BARD: Rebels in Paradise: the Los Angeles Art Scene...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB073770

The Monuments Men: Allied Heroes, Nazi Thieves, and the Greatest Treasure Hunt in History By Robert M. Edsel

Read by Jon Huffman

Reading time 17 hours, 50 minutes

Portrays the WWII special army unit--composed of architects, museum directors, curators, and archivists--formed in 1943 to recover cultural treasures that had been plundered by the Nazis. Describes the bombed historical buildings the group preserved and works of art it salvaged. 2009.

[Download from BARD: The Monuments Men: Allied Heroes, Nazi...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB074650

Photography a Very Short Introduction By Steve Edwards

Read by Barry Bernson

Reading time 5 hours, 17 minutes

Lecturer in art history thematically surveys the role of photography in society.

Posits a major distinction between documentary and art photography.

References important photographers such as Alfred Stieglitz, Walker Evans, and Diane Arbus. Discusses key critics and theorists such as Walter Benjamin, Roland Barthes, and Guy Debord. 2006.

[Download from BARD: Photography a Very Short Introduction](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB086506

Short Nights of the Shadow Catcher: the Epic Life and Immortal

Photographs of Edward Curtis By Timothy Egan

Read by Mark Ashby

Reading time 11 hours, 57

minutes

Biography of Seattle photographer Edward Curtis (1868-1952), who in 1900 became enamored of Native American culture. Sponsored by J.P. Morgan, Theodore Roosevelt, and others, Curtis spent three decades living with different tribes, creating films, and producing the twenty-volume publication The North American Indian. Discusses Curtis's legacy. National Book Award. 2012.

[Download from BARD: Short Nights of the Shadow Catcher...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB076136

Banksy the Man Behind the Wall By Will Ellsworth-Jones

Read by Bill Burton

Reading time 10 hour, 20 minutes

Biography of the graffiti artist known as Banksy details his early work in Bristol, England; the success of his Oscar-nominated film Exit through the Gift Shop; and his efforts to maintain his anonymity. Explores the culture of outsider art and Banksy's place in it. Young adult appeal. 2012.

[Download from BARD: Banksy the Man Behind the Wall](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB076264

Chuck Close: Life By Christopher Finch

Read by J.P. Linton

Reading time 14 hours, 22 minutes

Biography of American artist Chuck Close (born 1940), famous for his larger-than-life photo-imitative portraits. Close discusses his learning disabilities, his marriage to his former student Leslie Rose, the bohemian 1960s New York, the challenges of balancing career and family, his paralysis at age forty-eight, and his return to painting. 2010.

[Download from BARD: Chuck Close: Life](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB073629

Gardner's Art Through the Ages By Helen Gardner

Read by Johnathan Farwell

Reading time 35 hours, 24 minutes

A survey that traces the history of western art from the Stone Age to the present. The art forms explored include painting, sculpture, and architecture.

[Download from BARD: Gardner's Art Through the Ages](#)

Noa Noa the Tahitian Journal By Paul Gauguin

Read by Peter Holdway

Reading time 2 hours, 15 minutes

Journal of French postimpressionist painter recounting his experiences on the Pacific Island of Tahiti in the early 1890s. Discusses his art, the people he meets, and his experiences in the seemingly tropical paradise. Translated from the original French. 1919.

[Download from BARD: Noa Noa the Tahitian Journal](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB090375

What Are You Looking At? The Surprising, Shocking, and Sometimes Strange Story of 150 Years of Modern Art By Will Gompertz

Read by Michael Kramer

Reading time 15 hours, 49 minutes

BBC arts editor and former director at London's Tate gallery explores modern art from Vincent van Gogh to Damien Hirst, with a focus on making it more understandable to the general public. Includes discussion of works such as Duchamp's Fountain--an upside-down urinal--and Warhol's Campbell's Soup Cans. 2012.

[Download from BARD: What are you Looking At...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB075666

Caravaggio a Life Sacred and Profane By Andrew Graham-Dixon
Read by Barry Bernson Reading time 19 hours, 10 minutes
Biography of painter Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio (1571-1610).
Chronicles his formative years in Milan, time in Rome, exile to the island of
Malta, and his death at the age of thirty-eight. Examines his preferred subjects
of religious scenes using everyday models, including prostitutes and the poor.
Some violence. 2010.

[Download from BARD: Caravaggio a Life Sacred and Profane](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB076534

Rodin a Biography by Frederic V. Grunfeld
Read by Robert Blumenfeld Reading time 26 hours, 33 minutes
An exhaustive account--the first in fifty years--of the life of the famous
nineteenth-century sculptor. Based on original sources, the account traces
Rodin's life from his modest beginnings to his controversial later career,
stresses the tactile aspects of his work, and delves into his relationships with
associates and models in the Parisian art world.

[Download from BARD: Rodin a Biography](#)

Listening to Stone the Art and Life of Isamu Noguchi By Hayden Herrera
Read by Kerry Dukin Reading time 20 hours, 7 minutes
Author of *Frida* (DB 55556) profiles Japanese-American sculptor and landscape
architect Isamu Noguchi (1904-1988). Describes the influence of his dual
heritage and childhood in Japan on the development of his art, his family and
personal relationships, and his major works of art and architecture. 2015

[Download from BARD: Listening to Stone the Art and Life of Isamu...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB083037

Dada and Surrealism a Very Short Introduction By David Hopkins
Read by J. P. Linton Reading time 7 hours, 48 minutes
History of the two early-twentieth-century art movements and their lasting
cultural impact. Explores the work of artists such as Marcel Duchamp and
Salvador Dali, the publications and public events through which they promoted
their ideas, and the aesthetic differences between Dada and Surrealism. 2004.

[Download from BARD: Dada and Surrealism a Very Short Introduction](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB086482

Marvel Comics the Untold Story By Sean Howe

Read by Julian Thompson Reading time 18 hours, 58 minutes

Former Entertainment Weekly editor details the history of Marvel Comics--home to Spider-Man, the X-Men, the Avengers, and other superheroes--from the early 1960s to the twenty-first century. Describes the personalities behind the brand's success, including writer Stan Lee and artist Jack Kirby. Young adult appeal. Some strong language. 2012.

[Download from BARD: Marvel Comics the Untold Story](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB075699

History of Art for Young People By H. W. Janson

Read by Frank Coffee Reading time 37 hours, 57 minutes

Provides basic coverage of art in Europe and North America--from prehistoric to modern times--covering painting, sculpture, and architecture. Discusses concepts, events, movements, symbols, techniques, and major figures. For junior and senior high readers. 2003.

[Download from BARD: History of Art for Young People](#)

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR14413](#)

Also available in braille BR014413

Renaissance Art a Very Short Introduction By Geraldine A. Johnson

Read by Mary Kane Reading time 4 hour, 21 minutes

Lecturer in art history provides an overview of the art, artists, patrons, and viewers during this period of extraordinary cultural ferment and transformation. Examines representative works by Leonardo, Holbein, Dürer, and many lesser-known artists. Discusses the transitional function of altarpieces, and explains the special importance of Michelangelo and Vasari. 2005.

[Download from BARD: Renaissance Art a Very Short Introduction](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB086633

Leonardo and the Last Supper By Ross King

Read by Mark Ashby

Reading time 11 hours, 51 minutes

Author of Brunelleschi's Dome (DB 53639) chronicles the life of Leonardo da Vinci and the events that led to his commission to paint a mural, The Last Supper, at Santa Maria delle Grazie in Milan, which he began in 1495 and completed in 1498. Young adult appeal. 2012.

[Download from BARD: Leonardo and the Last supper](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB075707

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR19693](#)

Also available on braille BR019693

Lives of the Great 20th-Century Artists By Edward Lucie-Smith

Read by Jill Fox

Reading time 17 hours, 59 minutes

Biographical sketches of 100 deceased artists, presented roughly in chronological order, grouped by movement or nationality. Begins with Edvard Munch and major European trends--cubism, dada, and the Bauhaus. Proceeds to North Americans such as Diego Rivera and Edward Hopper, abstract expressionists, pop artists, and Jean-Michel Basquiat. 1999.

[Download from BARD: Lives of the Great 20th-Century Artists](#)

Hanging Man the Arrest of Ai Weiwei By Barnaby Martin

Read by Scott Reynolds

Reading time 6 hours, 57 minutes

Profile of artist Ai Weiwei (born 1957), who consulted on the Beijing National Stadium--a.k.a. the Bird's Nest--for the 2008 Summer Olympics. Details his April 2011 arrest by Chinese officials and subsequent eighty-one-day incarceration, during which he was held without charges. Discusses his artistic and political influences. Some strong language. 2013.

[Download from BARD: Hanging Man the Arrest of Ai Weiwei](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB077586

Portrait the Life of Thomas Eakins By William S. McFeely

Read by Peter Johnson

Reading time 6 hours, 14 minutes

Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer of Grant (DB0 17117) examines the life and times of Philadelphia painter Thomas Eakins (1844-1916). Discusses the complex artist's coming of age during the Civil War, studies in Europe, and conflicted feelings in his later years about the overarching question of his sexuality. 2007.

[Download from BARD: Portrait the Life of Thomas Eakins](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB072113

Schulz and Peanuts a Biography By David Michaelis

Read by John Polk

Reading time 27 hours, 47 minutes

Biography of Charles Schulz, the creator of the comic strip Peanuts, which he drew from 1950 until his death in 2000. Describes his childhood, the realization of his long-held desire to be a cartoonist, his family life, his two marriages, and the autobiographical aspects of his characters. 2007.

[Download from BARD: Schulz and Peanuts a Biography](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB067443

Turner the Extraordinary Life and Momentous Times of J. M. W. Turner By

Franny Moyle

Read by John Sackville

Reading time 17 hours, 47 minutes

An account of the life of J. M. W. Turner, one of Britain's most famous landscape painters. Discusses the committal of his mother to an insane asylum, the personal sacrifices he made for his career, and the odd double life he led in the last years of his life. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2016.

[Download from BARD: Turner the Extraordinary Life and Momentous...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB086025

Cartoon County my Father and his Friends in the Golden Age of Make-Believe By Cullen Murphy

Read by Gary Telles

Reading time 9 hours, 12 minutes

Son of cartoonist John Cullen Murphy, the artist behind Prince Valiant and Big Ben Bolt, chronicles his father's life and the cadre of fellow cartoonists, illustrators, and artists who lived in Fairfield County, Connecticut, during the 1950s and 1960s. Discusses growing up in an artistically vibrant community. 2017.

[Download from BARD: Cartoon County my Father and his Friends in ...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB087962

Jackson Pollock an American Saga By Steven W. Naifeh

Read by Gary Tipton

Reading time 41 hours, 38 minutes

The artist's turbulent life began in Cody, Wyoming, and followed a tormented path to his early death in the East. Along the way he redefined art and changed the direction of painting. With access to primary sources and more than 2,000 interviews with Pollock's family and associates, the authors portray the dramatic life of this American cultural phenomenon. Some strong language. Pulitzer Prize. 1989.

[Download from BARD: Jackson Pollock an American Saga](#)

Van Gogh The Life By Steven W. Naifeh

Read by Barry Bernson

Reading time 45 hours, 38 minutes

Biography of Dutch artist van Gogh (1853-1890) by the Pulitzer Prize-winning authors of Jackson Pollock (DB 33540). They use primary documents from the van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam to analyze his family life, work, and death at age thirty-seven--and raise doubts that van Gogh killed himself. 2011.

[Download from BARD: Van Gogh The Life](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB074364

Women Artists: The Linda Nochlin Reader By Linda Nochlin

Read by Mary Kane

Reading time 21 hours, 26 minutes

Collection of essays and writings from the 1970s to the 2010s about women artists, by professor of art and art history. Includes profiles of Miriam Schapiro, Florine Stettheimer, Mary Cassatt, Deborah Kass, Cecily Brown, and Natalie Frank, among others. Discusses feminism, a woman's place in public space, and more. 2015

[Download from BARD: Women Artists: The Linda Nochlin Reader](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB083262

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR21278](#)

Also available in braille BR021278

The Lady in Gold the Extraordinary Tale of Gustav Klimt's Masterpiece, Portrait of Adele By Anne Marie O'Connor

Read by Kerry Dukin

Reading time 14 hours, 42 minutes

Account of the creation of the Austrian artist's famous 1907 painting, its seizure by the Nazis, and the legal battle to return that work and others to Bloch-Bauer's heirs. Details Viennese culture before and during World War II and the lives of Klimt and his high-society model. Some violence. 2012.

[Download from BARD: The Lady in Gold the Extraordinary Tale of...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB075392

Peggy Guggenheim the Shock of the Modern By Francine Prose

Read by Barbara Rappaport

Reading time 8 hours, 27 minutes

Author of *Lovers at the Chameleon Club, Paris 1932* (DB 79323) profiles the life of modern art advocate Peggy Guggenheim (1898-1979). Discusses the influence of her Jewish heritage on her life; the artists she championed, including Jackson Pollock and Man Ray; and her at times chaotic personal life. 2015

[Download from BARD: Peggy Guggenheim the Shock of the Modern](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB084609

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR21516](#)

Also available in braille BR021516

In Montmartre Picasso, Matisse and the Birth of Modernist Art By Sue Roe

Read by Elea Oberon

Reading time 12 hours, 53 minutes

Examines the Montmartre district in Paris between 1900 and 1911--the year Pablo Picasso arrived and the year an aggressive reconstruction program began. Discusses the artists and gallery owners active in the area and the impact of the social history of the area on the development of the art scene. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2015.

[Download from BARD: In Montmartre Picasso, Matisse and the Birth...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB086170

Provenance: How a Con Man and a Forger Rewrote the History of Modern Art By Laney Salisbury

Read by Steven Carpenter

Reading time 9 hours, 21 minutes

Reporters recount an art scam begun in 1986 by self-described British nuclear physicist John Drewe, who paid unemployed artist John Myatt to create dozens of inauthentic masterpieces. Details Drewe's construction of forged records to document the works' provenance, the investigation by Scotland Yard's Art Squad, and the ensuing trial. 2009.

[Download from BARD: Provenance How a Con Man and a Forger...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB072577

Vanished Smile the Mysterious Theft of Mona Lisa By R. A. Scotti

Read by Gabriella Cavallero

Reading time 7 hours, 17 minutes

Chronicles the 1911 disappearance of Leonardo da Vinci's masterpiece from Paris's Louvre Museum. Describes the investigation and search for suspects, which included Pablo Picasso and other modernist painters, before the portrait was finally recovered in Florence in 1913. Explores the crime as well as the painting's iconic, universal appeal. 2009.

[Download from BARD: Vanished Smile the Mysterious Theft of Mona Lisa](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB071251

American Mirror the Life and Art of Norman Rockwell By Deborah Solomon
Read by Mary Kane Reading time 17 hours, 13 minutes

Author of Jackson Pollock: A Biography (DB 27937) examines the life and work of Norman Rockwell, preeminent illustrator for the Saturday Evening Post. Examines Rockwell's struggles with depression and the ways the disorder influenced his work. Chronicles the evolution of visual journalism from illustration to photography and television. 2013.

[Download from BARD: American Mirror the Life and Art of Norman...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB078042

Carolina Clay: The Life and Legend of the Slave Potter Dave By Leonard Todd

Read by Chuck Young Reading time 10 hours, 1 minute
Author Todd portrays the life of an early-nineteenth-century South Carolina slave and acclaimed potter named Dave, who was owned by Todd's ancestors. Describes the ceramic vessels, many of which Dave inscribed with his name and original poetry--even though slave literacy was illegal. Uses primary sources to reconstruct the era. 2008.

[Download from BARD : Carolina Clay The Life and Legend of the Slave...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB068280

Loot: The Battle Over the Stolen Treasures of the Ancient World By Sharon Waxman

Read by Nicola Daval Reading time 15 hours, 41 minutes
American journalist examines the ongoing conflict between major museums where antiquities are displayed and the countries from which they were plundered. Includes discussion by prominent personalities from Egypt, Turkey, Greece, and Italy as well as the Louvre, Metropolitan Museum of Art, British Museum, and J. Paul Getty Museum. 2008.

[Download from BARD: Loot the Battle over the Stolen Treasures of the...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB068758

The Bauhaus Group Six Masters of Modernism By Nicholas Fox Weber

Read by Conrad Feininger Reading time 21 hours, 47 minutes

Traces the lives of six prominent figures in the German Bauhaus group, which flourished between 1919 and 1933: architects Walter Gropius and Mies van der Rohe; painters Paul Klee, Wassily Kandinsky, and Josef Albers; and textile designer Anni Albers. Discusses their artistic ideals and their tumultuous, intersecting private lives. 2009.

[Download from BARD: The Bauhaus Group Six Masters of Modernism](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB072806

Seeing is Forgetting the Name of the Thing One Sees Over Thirty Years of Conversations with Robert Irwin By Lawrence Weschler

Read by Mark Ashby Reading time 11 hours, 14 minutes

Author of Mr. Wilson's Cabinet of Wonder (DB 41918) recounts decades of conversations with artist Robert Irwin (born 1928), discussing Irwin's personal history, artistic process, and the business of art. Highlights Irwin's transformation from painter to installation artist specializing in light and light-distorting media. 2008

[Download from BARD: Seeing is Forgetting the Name of the Thing One...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB084088

Chagall a Biography By Jackie Wullschläger

Read by Annie Wauters Reading time 21 hours, 39 minutes

Biography of modern artist Marc Chagall (1887-1985), born Moyshe Shagal to an Orthodox Jewish family in Russia. Art critic for the Financial Times portrays the painter in the context of twentieth-century wars and social turmoil. Highlights his immigration to France, family life, and relationships with fellow artists. 2008.

[Download from BARD: Chagall, a Biography](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB070150

Talking Book Topics (TBT) lists the audio books and magazines recently added to the NLS collection and available through a network of cooperating libraries. It also carries news of developments in services to people who are blind, visually impaired, or cannot read regular print material because of an organic physical disability. When possible, annotations include links to the Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) pages from which the books can be downloaded to a digital cartridge. The free BARD Mobile app is also available from the App Store, Google Play, and Amazon's Appstore for reading talking books on your personal smartphone or tablet. The Library of Congress's National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, which provides braille and audio materials to the MBTBL has changed its name. As of October 1, 2019, it will be known as "National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled" but will still go by the abbreviation NLS. "We've been considering a change for some time, so we're happy to see this day arrive," NLS Director Karen Keninger said. "We are very pleased to share our new name and graphic identity with our NLS community and feel that the new name, as with all of NLS's Talking Book and Braille Library. New York State Library. NYSED / OCE / NYSL / Talking Book and Braille Library / BARD. BARD (Braille and Audio Reading Download). Digital books and magazines from the National Library Service (NLS) in Washington, D.C. are available for download from the NLS BARD main page . You can listen to your downloaded books on the digital player that TBBL provides, or, for even more flexibility, you can get the free BARD Mobile app, for either iOS/Apple or Android devices, and listen to your books via your smart phone or tablet. BARD Express, a program that makes download