

Audiobook Narration – My Process

I hope you'll take the time to read through this document as it may answer some of your questions. Please bear in mind that questions about the processes of uploading your book to ACX or Findaway Voices are really outside the scope of my expertise and any arrangement we may make, but I'll do my best to help you.

STEP ONE: I need to read the book. **You will end up getting a pretty comprehensive proofread here too as a FREE bonus**, as it's very noticeable when a word has been skipped or doubled or you've accidentally missed a negative qualifier or used the wrong name, when you're narrating. I prefer to read in Google Docs and add comments and queries as well as notes on pronunciation, and I will ask you to go back over the Doc and check and reply to all my comments. I cannot start the narration until this is done so it's in your interest to work with me as quickly as possible. Whatever format you supply me the book in, I will convert it to Google Docs and share the link back with you so we can work in this method.

STEP TWO: Contract time! I will estimate the length of the finished audiobook based on word count and *if we haven't worked together before*, I will ask for a 25% deposit of the estimated final total at this point. Bear in mind you've already received a free proofread at this point and I'd like to have some protection before I undertake any more hours of work. If this isn't your first audiobook project with me, this deposit will be waived and all payment due on completion.

STEP THREE: I will ask you to confirm pronunciations by checking links I've attached in the Google Doc. I may request to schedule a conversation via some method where you can hear my voice – Skype etc – so that I can check pronunciations with you. Generally this is me going down a list of names of people and places and checking I'm pronouncing them the way you want. We can discuss accents and tones used for different characters at this point.

STEP FOUR: I start recording. I will create a folder on box.net and start uploading MP3 files as soon as I have them complete. I will record the first 1-2 chapters (approx. 15 minutes), put them up and wait for your feedback before proceeding further, in case things aren't going as you hoped. **This step is**

CRITICAL to a successful working relationship. This is your opportunity to verify that you're happy with my interpretation of the work.

STEP FIVE: Chapters will be uploaded to the box.net folder as they are completed. It is very much in your interest to listen to them as soon as possible and get back to me with changes you want made as that way I can record pickups and fix problems quickly. The contract will include a specified timeframe for when files should be uploaded AND your approval for them given. This is, at the moment, my part-time job, but you can usually expect to see a chapter or so uploaded every day. Bear in mind it takes around 1 hour to create 10 minutes of completed, fully edited and mastered audiobook narration!

STEP SIX: Following upload of the final files, I will send you the final costing and an invoice via PayPal. You'll get a link to a table which looks something like the following to breakdown the exact charge you're getting: this table is updated as I go so you can keep track of progress and I will ask you to add dates to approve files when you're happy with them.

File	Runtime	Minutes	Seconds	Cost @ \$150 PFH	File Approved
Intro	0:00:09	0	9	\$0.38	1 Jan 2020
Chapter 1	0:14:13	14	13	\$35.54	1 Jan 2020
Chapter 2	0:09:42	9	42	\$24.25	1 Jan 2020
Chapter 3	0:09:56	9	56	\$24.83	1 Jan 2020
Chapter 4	0:15:25	15	25	\$38.54	1 Jan 2020
Chapter 5	0:13:10	13	10	\$32.92	1 Jan 2020
Chapter 6	0:02:50	2	50	\$7.08	1 Jan 2020
Closing credits	0:00:34	0	34	\$1.42	1 Jan 2020
Commercial sample (FREE)	0:04:03	4	3	\$0.00	1 Jan 2020
TOTAL (not including sample)	1:05:59			\$164.96	1 Jan 2020
Less \$45 deposit paid				\$119.96	

STEP SEVEN: You upload the files to your retailer of choice. Should they be kicked back to you for quality control issues, please forward me any documentation you received so that I have all information necessary to fix the problem. All files I supply to you are subjected to a program called ACX Quality Check before being sent to you so you SHOULDN'T have any trouble, but it's not unknown.

STEP EIGHT: Start selling your audiobook and giving away those codes – see the next page for some promotion suggestions!

Audiobook Promotion

Every audiobook you do through ACX (exclusively) you will be given 25 promo codes (US) and 25 (UK) that you can use to market your audio and get reviews. These are basically free money, you get paid every time someone uses a code for our audiobook. Rates vary depending on book price but you can expect to get in the range of \$2-4 per code redeemed. You can also ask for 25 UK codes and they will give you those as well. The following are ways in which you can use them!

NEW UPDATE: You can get up to 200 codes. TWO HUNDRED. 100 for US and 100 for UK. You just have to ask for them! You get them in batches of 25. Once 10 have been redeemed from your 'current' batch, you ask for the next batch. If you can give away all these and get them redeemed you're looking at \$400-800 FREE MONEY – quite likely enough to pay for my narration fees, or a big chunk of them!

If you are uploading through Findaway Voices, you will get 100 codes, but you don't get paid for them. It's best to use them as ARCs to get reviews if you can.

While there are some Audiobook specific sites where you can market, promoting the book in different ways (like Bookbub, Facebook, Twitter, newsletters etc) will also have a great impact on the audio! And don't forget to list the audiobook on Goodreads too!

Make sure that Whispersync is set up for the Audiobook. If it has not been set up, please contact support@acx.com to get the book synced. Most readers will grab the audio if whispersynced because it is offered at a discount that way.

1. Audiobook Boom- www.audiobookboom.com is a great way to get reviewers! Cost is \$12 per book, but you make that back and more. Enter the title, and in the next week, you will receive a link to people who want to review your book. You simply email people on the list with the code and link.

2. Love & Lace Inkorporated- (ROMANCE GENRE ONLY)
<https://www.dragonflyinkpublishing.com> This is an online and physical quarterly publication designed for Romance readers! It is extremely affordable to put an ad in for a spotlight, Audiobook Feature/new release, Character Interview, Author Interview, etc.

3. AudiobookObsessionReviewTeam- These ladies offer a team of over 200 audiobook reviewers. You simply give them your codes and they get you reviews. They also do Release tours, blitz, IG tour, etc.
4. AudiobookObsession- <https://www.facebook.com/AudiobookObsession/> They also do Release tours, Release Blitz and IG tours. The Review tour is probably the best at getting the word out!
5. Audio Bookcrave- <https://audiobookcrave.com/> My personal favourite for giving away codes. You pay \$15 and usually they manage to give away ALL your US codes (as long as you have a reasonably enticing cover and blurb) – you just request and top up codes as you run out each batch of 25. UK codes can be harder to get rid of, but there are a couple FB groups below you can try.

FACEBOOK GROUPS FOR GIVEAWAYS AND PROMOTION

Audio Bookfly- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/AudioBookfly/>

Audio Loves- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/AudioLoves/>

Aural Fixation- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/auralfixationaudio/>

UK Free AudioBooks for Review:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1858692994428812/>

UK Audiobook Promos:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/440275279989650/>