# Welcome to:

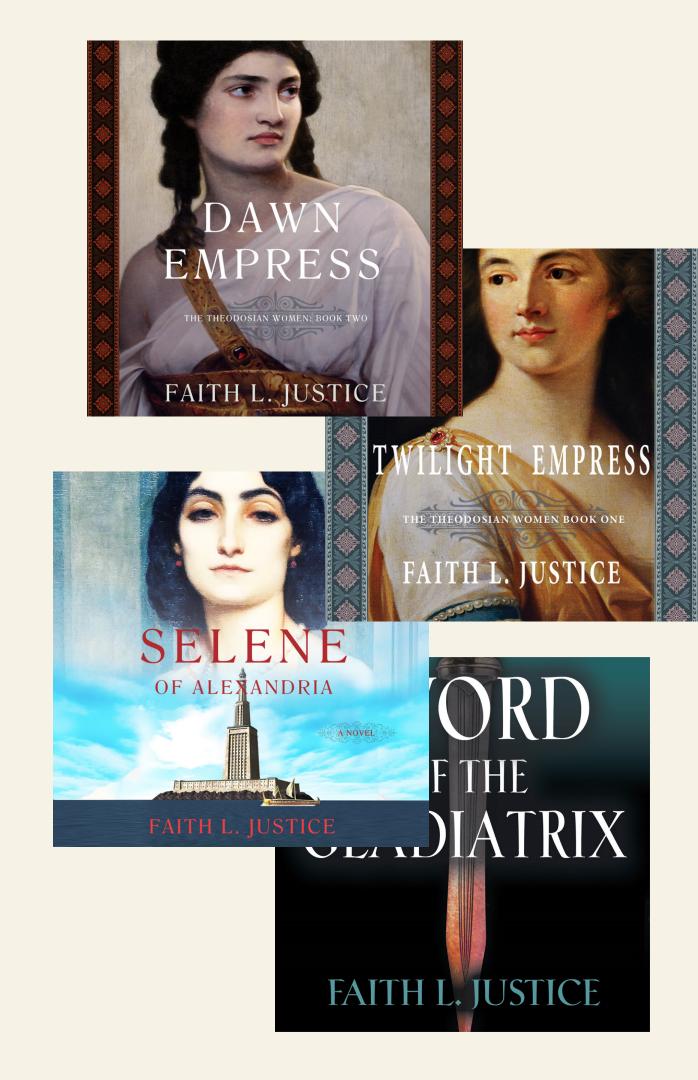
"Navigating the Wild West of Audiobook Production"

With

Faith L. Justice

## A little about me:

- Published in audio:
  - 3 collections of short stories
  - 1 illustrated children's book
  - 4 novels
- Background in audio production





# Purpose:

• To give you enough information to decide IF and HOW to get your books into audio.

• Like most things, it's your time or your money.

## We'll cover:

- Why be in the market?
- Process of creating an audiobook.
- Different routes to the market and author responsibilities in each.
- Factors to consider when deciding which route to take.
- Distribution channels.
- Market trends/strategies.
- Q & A at the end.

Why should you get in the audio-book market?

Why now rather than later?



### For the readers:

They can find you in their preferred medium.



### For the money:

This is the fastest-growing segment of the publishing business.



### To beat the competition:

The big guys smell the money and they're ramping up.

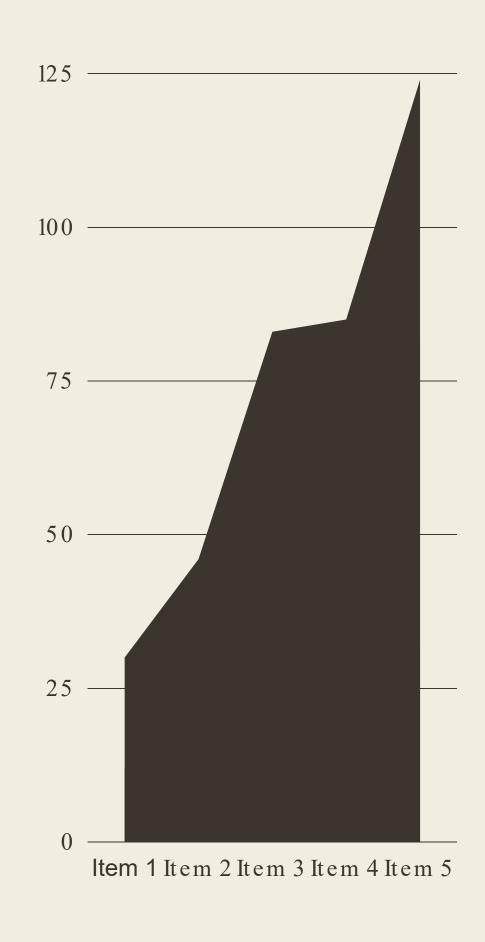


# Audiobook Readers:

- Are new readers prefer audio to print/ eBooks and consume 8.1 books per year.
- Make new time to listen beyond their sight reading.
- Are young, educated & employed 57%
   of frequent listeners are aged 18 44.

# Audiobook Market

- Fastest-growing segment in publishing with double -digit growth the past 8 years and the same projected through 2027.
- Revenues of \$1.2 billion for audiobooks surpassed revenues for eBooks in 2019.
- 13.7% of book sales in the US market.
- Fiction is 67% of the audio market vs. 40% in print.

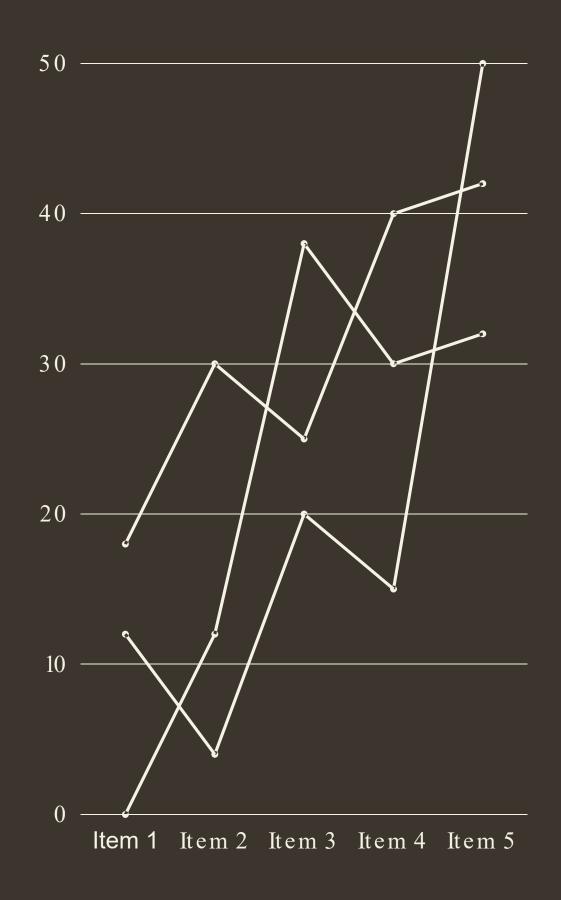


# Why now?

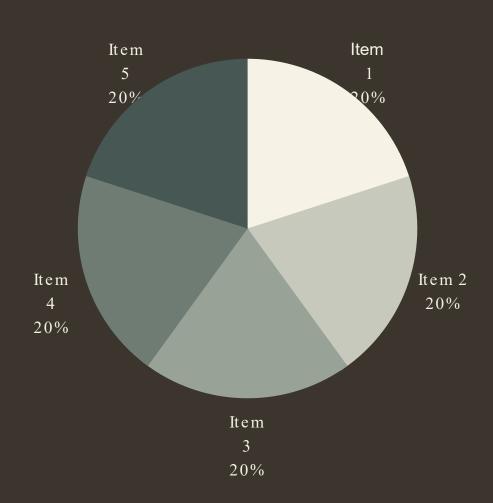
Competition low / Discoverability high

- 1.7 million books in print and eBook
  - 600K books published in 2020
  - 71K audiobooks published in 2020
  - 50K HF titles listed in the Kindle Store
    - 10K HF titles listed in Audible

But it won't stay that way!



# Market Trends



Commute vs.
Home

Phone vs. Smart speaker

1-buy download vs.
Monthly
subscription

# What's keeping you from jumping in?

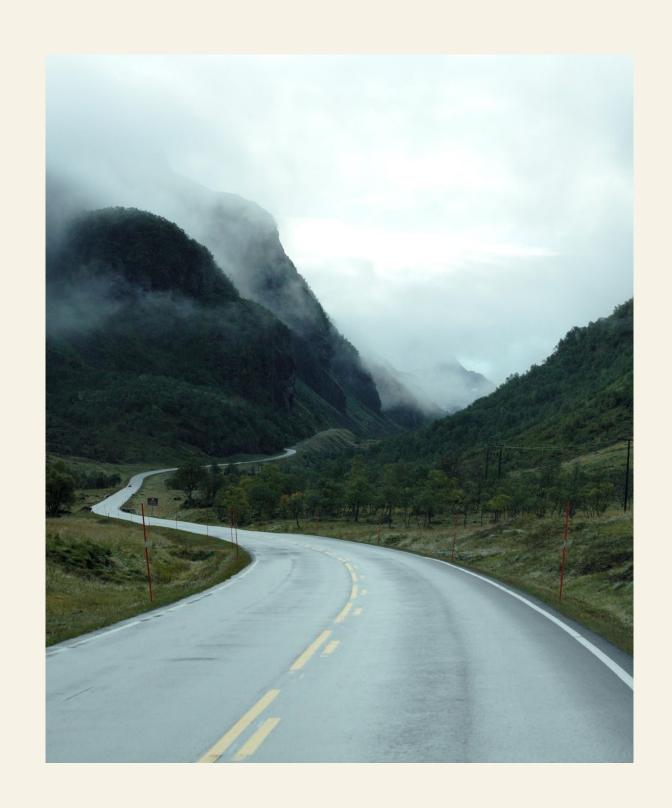
Money?

Technical know-how?



# The Journey from Print to Audio

- Who owns rights to audio production
- Who will produce
- Prep manuscript
- Record
- Edit
- Quality Control
- Retakes
- Remastering
- Submit files to distributors (with audio cover)



## 4 Routes to Market



Assign rights to an audiobook publisher



Hire full-service audio production company



Author DIY



Author produces, outsources all/som e tasks

# Assign rights

# Hire full service

## Pros:

- Least in volvement
- No upfront \$
- Professional
- Prestige

## • Low roya

### Pros:

- Less work
- More control
- Professional

## Cons:

- Hardest to get w/wo agent
- Least control
- Low royalties

### Cons:

Most expensive

## Author DIY:

# Author outsources:

#### Pros:

- Cheapest option
- Free DIY resources
- Complete control

### Pros:

- Cheaper than full service
- Others do tech stuff
- Professional voice
- Considerable control

#### Cons:

- Readers prefer professional narrator
- Learning curve tech
- Tim e

#### Cons:

- More expensive than DIY
- Learning curve platform
- Time

# Author Outsource Options:

### Author

- Prep manuscript
- Audition/select narrator

• Quality Control\*

- Choose channels/Distribute files
- Set price/Marketing

## Indie Narrator Producer

- Record
- Edit
- Retakes
- Remastering

## Audio services/ distribution

- Propose narrators
- Record
- Edit
- Retakes
- Remastering
- Distribute files

# Distribution: Exclusive?

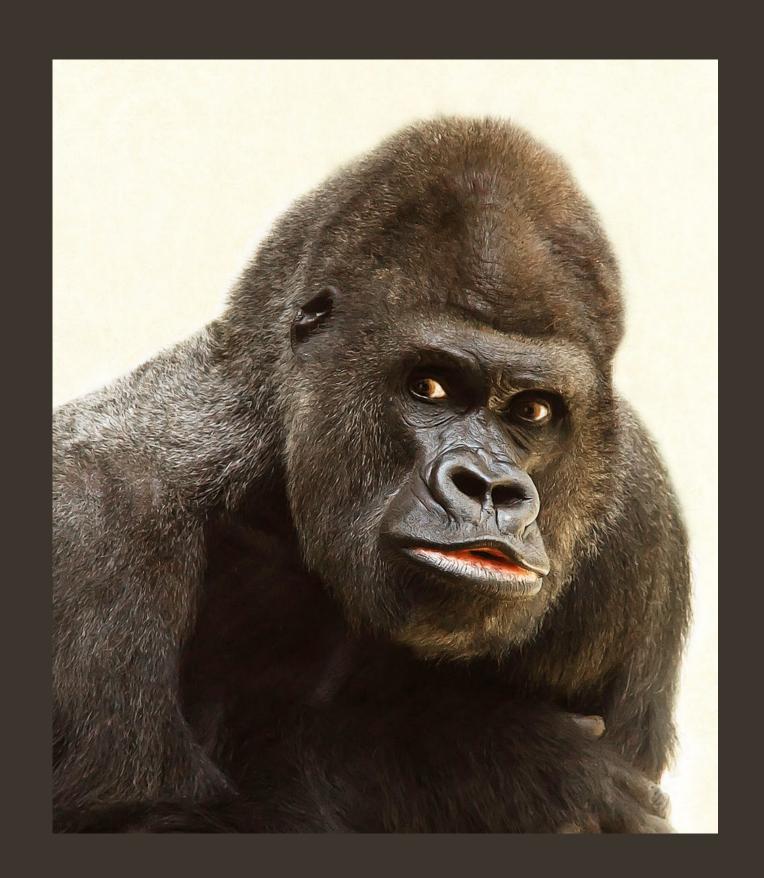
## Audible only:

### Pros:

- higher royalties (40 %vs. 25%)
- sin gle dash board
- preferred giveaway codes

### Cons:

- lose out on wider market
- no distribution to libraries
- no price control



# Distribution: or Not?

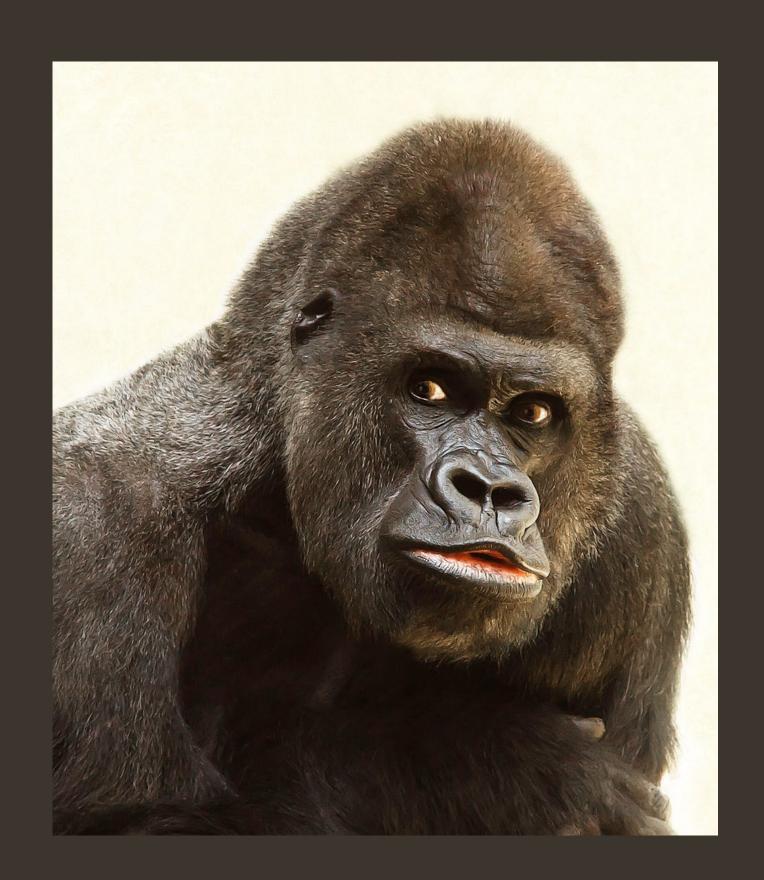
## Non-exclusive:

### Pros:

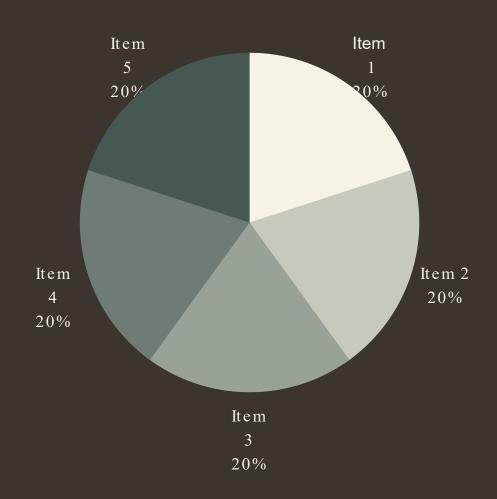
- wider market including libraries
- price control
- giveaway codes

### Cons:

- lose preferred market Audible codes
- multiple dashboards



# Marketing Strategies



- Hire a celebrity narrator
- Launch audio version with print/eBook
- Giveaway codes to reviewers
- Promote your paper book
- Use price drop/Chirp
- Podcast tour/Podcast ads

# THANK YOU!

Em ail: Faith@FaithLJustice.com

Website: Faith L Justice.com

Twitter: @faithljustice

Facebook: faithljusticeauthor

Instagram: fljusticeauthor