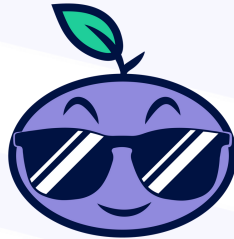


FEEL GOOD ABOUT YOUR NON-FICTION AUDIOBOOK NARRATION GAME



1. Master the Author's Voice: Embody Their Expertise and Passion

Non-fiction authors are often experts in their field, and their passion for the subject matter is what drives the narrative. When auditioning, focus on capturing the author's tone—whether it's authoritative, inspirational, conversational, or maybe a blend of all three! Do your research!

Dive into the author's background and credentials to align your delivery with their voice.

Authors and publishers look for narrators who can not just convey the information, but the underlying passion and expertise that makes the content compelling.

Remember...

In nonfiction, you're not just a narrator—you're the voice of authority. Whether the subject is history, self-help, or science, your tone should reflect the author's level of expertise and comfortability with the subject matter.



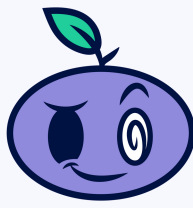
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2. Showcase Your Ability to Engage: Make Complex Topic Accessible

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3. Character Relationships: Narrating the Dynamics

This might seem more like a fictional book 'thing', but non-fiction works often tell stories and follow events or experiences in people's lives. Whether the book is intended to educate, persuade, or inspire, your audition should reflect an understanding of the character dynamics.

Authors often detail intricate relationships, so take the time to get to know them. In your audition, highlight how characters interact, reflect each other's energy, or shift in power dynamics. Publishers appreciate narrators who can subtly reflect these relational nuances, as it adds depth to the story and keeps the listener engaged in otherwise dense material.

Remember...

Non-fiction is as much about purpose as it is about content. Publishers look for narrators who can convey the overall arc of the story, not just individual scenes. Your delivery is the listener's guide through the emotional and educational journey of the book.



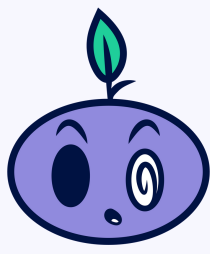
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4. Audition with the End in Mind: Narrative Foreshadowing

Foreshadowing is a literary device that authors use to hint at future events, and it's something publishers pay close attention to. As audiobook auditions tend to span a minute or more, during this time, look for places to subtly introduce tonal shifts or pacing adjustments that hint at what's to come later in the story. This technique demonstrates a sophisticated understanding of narrative structure and shows that you're thinking about the novel as a whole, not just the excerpt you're reading.

Remember...

Non-fiction books can be information heavy, and listeners like to follow a narrative. Understanding the book as a whole, and the author's intent in this way, reinforces their message without overshadowing the content's factual nature.

5. Present a Bespoke Read: Tailoring to the Publisher's Brand

Every publisher has a signature style, whether it's a preference for a certain narrative tone, pacing, or even vocal energy. Research the publisher's catalog and tailor your audition to reflect their brand. For example, if a publisher is known for gritty, hard-hitting true-crime dramas, incorporate that intensity into your audition. This tailored approach shows that you've done your homework, and that you're ready to deliver a performance that fits seamlessly into their lineup.

Remember...

Tailoring your audition to fit within a publisher's established style doesn't mean forgoing originality. Maintain your unique voice, but remember, this extra step shows that you're not just auditioning for a job: you've done your homework and are intentionally aligned with their vision.



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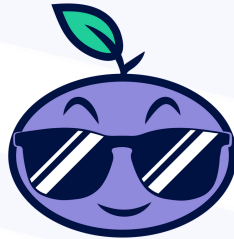
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3 THINGS THAT GO WITHOUT SAYING

(BUT WE'RE GONNA SAY 'EM ANYWAY)...



...THINK OF THIS AS YOUR BONUS-BONUS!

Maintain Listener Attention

Pacing is key! Use a rhythm that guides the listener through the material. Pacing variation keeps listeners engaged over long and information-heavy sections.

Precision in Pronunciation

Non-fiction goes hand in hand with industry-specific jargon, technical terms and unique names. Show meticulous attention to detail by researching, practicing, and mastering difficult pronunciations, then deliver them with ease. And when in doubt – ask!

Just Go With It

Non-fiction is a pretty wide ballpark. From memoirs to mythology. Take a minute to sit within the genre, absorb the tone and overall feel before delving deeper into the specific book.

Versatility is a valuable asset!



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6. Narrative Alignment: Syncing with the Author's Voice

Yay! You've won the book! Your audition prep goes a long way here too. In-session, it's crucial to continually align your narration with the author's voice—not just the literal one, but the figurative one. Engage in discussions with the author or production team before, and during, recording to understand the intent behind specific passages or character arcs. Publishers value narrators who can align their performance with the author's vision, so that the audiobook feels like a natural extension of the written work.

Remember...

Publishers expect a level of precision in non-fiction narration that ensures the material is accessible and accurate. Keeping your narration in line with the author's voice and vision throughout, is paramount to a successful story.

7. Navigate Shifts in Tone: Balancing Facts with Anecdotes

Non-fiction often blends factual content with personal anecdotes or case studies. In-session, be mindful of these shifts in tone and adjust your delivery accordingly. This is where narrative foreshadowing comes into play. The ability to go between a straightforward, confident tone for a factual session, and a more relaxed, conversational style for an anecdote, will keep the material flowing smoothly!

Remember...

Publishers are particularly keen on narrators who can keep an audience engaged from start to finish. Sustaining listeners is crucial and you have many tools at your disposal. Altering pacing, pitch, tone, and incorporating strategic pauses (let the narrative breathe!), all help prevent listener fatigue over time.



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8. Cohesion Over Perfection: The Art of Imperfection

What's that saying, perfection is the enemy of progress? Keep in mind that not every line needs to be ultra-perfect! Sometimes, a slightly imperfect delivery—a breath that catches, a pause that lingers — adds authenticity to the narration. Publishers and authors often appreciate a performance that feels organic instead of over-polished. During your session, focus on creating a cohesive narrative experience, even if it means allowing for those human imperfections that make the story more relatable and engaging.

Remember...

Don't stress! Listeners engage with audiobooks that are real and authentic. Being the human that you are brings a level of emotional connection that will stand the test of time.

9. Minimize Post-Production Needs: Think Like an Engineer

Think beyond the booth and anticipate the needs of the post-production team. Consider how your delivery will affect the editing process. Modulate your performance to make the engineer's job easier—whether that's through consistent pacing, or clear marking of a mistake. Publishers and production teams value narrators who understand the technical side of audiobook production and can deliver performances that require minimal post-session fixes. And reducing the need for post-production preserves the natural quality of your performance.

Remember...

A clean recording is vital, and that starts in the booth. Pay close attention to ambient noise, mic positioning, and mouth sounds. Publishers appreciate narrators who deliver files that require minimal editing, as it speeds up the production process and maintains audio integrity.



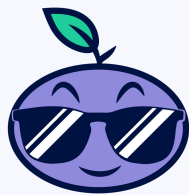
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10. Anticipate Listener Questions: Addressing Potential Confusion

One of the unique challenges in non-fiction is anticipating where the listener might have questions or misunderstandings. As the narrator, you are well positioned that you are both telling the story, but you already know the outcome. In-session, consider how your delivery might pre-emptively address these areas. For example, a slight pause before a critical point or a change in intonation can signal to the listener that they should pay close attention.

Remember...

Taking a proactive approach can help mitigate confusion and enhance comprehension, making the audiobook a more effective learning tool and making you a more desirable narrator!

YOU'VE MADE IT!

**YOU'RE 10 TIMES WISER TO GO WIN NON-FICTION TITLES
AND CRUSH YOUR NARRATIONS!**

BUT YOU KNOW WE LOVE A GOOD TLDR, SOOO...



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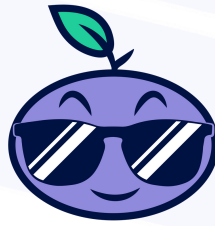


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3 MORE THINGS THAT GO WITHOUT SAYING



(BUT YEAH, YOU KNOW...)

Employ a Structured Approach to Long-Form Content

Break down your non-fiction book into manageable sections, and approach each one with a clear structure in mind. This also ensures vocal consistency across sessions! Keep in mind that nonfiction doesn't have the narrative peaks and valleys of fiction, so it's crucial to maintain a consistent level of energy throughout – and plan your most challenging recording sessions when you're most alert!

Pacing, Pacing, Pacing.

Pacing. There, we said it again! The clarity of your delivery is paramount in non-fiction.

Remind yourself to stay on top of varied pacing so the listener can absorb complex information and ideas without feeling rushed.

The Power of the Pause

You know when you ask someone to repeat something several times and then you just give up? Yeah that's not what we're going for here. Articulate your points, but give enough pause to allow the information to sink in.



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