

Frequently Asked Questions

PUBLISHING

Publication Process

How long does it typically take from manuscript submission to release day?

Here at JCP, our turnaround time is approximately six months from the time we receive the signed contract to getting the books in the author's hands. We have 15-20 manuscripts in process at all times and at different levels of production. Children's books can be completed usually in three to six months.

How long is the JCP contract term?

JCP's contract is for three years with the opportunity to renew it.

What happens when my contractual time ends?

Most of the books remain active until the contract is renewed or canceled. However, the book can be removed from all distribution without the renewal. We do require a cancellation in writing after the contract expires.

Ordering Books

Where are JCP books printed?

Most JCP books are printed in the USA or Canada.

How long does shipping usually take?

Printing of paperback books usually takes 14 business days, and hardback printing usually takes 21 – 28 business days. This time can be extended during the holiday season. Timing also depends on the printer and the printer's schedule.

When should I order books for the holiday season?

JCP recommends ordering books for the holiday season in July. Here at JCP, we offer 'Christmas in July' book ordering specials, because the kick-off for the holiday is the month of August.

What is my wholesale cost?

JCP determines your wholesale price when a retail price is established, and it usually is 50% of the established retail price.

Sales

When can authors expect to receive royalty reports from JCP?

Royalty reports are emailed quarterly. For example, January – March is the first quarter. We receive our reports for the first quarter in April. So, the first quarter royalty report is emailed to the author by April 30. The second quarter is April – June. Those reports reach JCP in July, and the second quarter report is emailed to the authors by July 31. The third quarter is July – September, we receive the report in October, and the third quarter report is emailed to the authors by November 30. The fourth quarter is October – December, and we receive that final report in January. The final royalty report is emailed to authors by February 28. We then do an internal review/audit of that final year-end report in preparation to disperse royalty payments by April 30.

Do I receive a 1099 to report my earned royalties?

The year the author receives the money is the year that it is to be reported to the IRS through their tax return. For example, if you received \$10.00 or more in 2024, then a 1099 will be generated in January 2025 for your reporting on your 2024 taxes.

Where will my book be available to purchase?

JCP's books are available online with venues such as Amazon, Barnes & Noble, JCP website, Walmart, and many more online websites. Books are available for ordering by the bricks & mortar stores, but may not be carried in the stores.

What does it mean when my book shows out of stock on Amazon?

Amazon may show a book 'out of stock' but this doesn't mean that the book is unavailable for printing. Amazon does not know the printer's schedule and if it appears that the printer is behind in fulfilling print orders, Amazon will show the book to be out of stock. If the last book is sold from the Amazon warehouse and the printer's inventory, then the book may be shown to be out of stock but will be back online when there is another sale. If Amazon has complaints from previous sales regarding paper quality, then Amazon may show the book to be out of stock until that issue is corrected. Around the holidays, it is common to see a book listed as 'out of stock,' which is unfortunate, because with print-on-demand, the book is always available to be printed. The printer may get behind during the holidays, and Amazon will start posting that the books are out of stock because the print order cannot be filled during the time promised.

How much does Amazon get paid to sell books?

Amazon strongly suggests that all publishers provide at least 53% – 55% off the retail price to establish their wholesale price. If you have a book that retails for \$20.00, at 55% off the retail price, Amazon would buy the book for \$8.00. If the printing is \$5.00, that will be subtracted from the \$8.00, leaving \$3.00 which is split between JCP and the author.

EDITING

What types of editing does JCP do?

JCP handles any proofreading your manuscript may need, meaning our in-house editor will read your manuscript and check for technical errors, such as incorrect spelling, grammatical errors, and punctuation errors. JCP does not rewrite your manuscript or change key story elements!

Will I be able to see the edits that are made to my manuscript?

If you'd like to request a copy of your manuscript showing edits/changes made, feel free to do so! If not requested, we will send you a "clean" version of your manuscript once it's been through editing, meaning changes will not be highlighted or shown.

What if I disagree with an edit?

That's perfectly fine! If you disagree with an editor change made to your manuscript, simply email our in-house editor, Allison Chudina, at office@jancarolpublishing.com, and she will be glad to take your preference into consideration or explain why she made a specific edit.

What should I do if I have changes while my book is being edited?

If you have changes to your manuscript at any point during the editing process, email Allison at office@jancarolpublishing.com, and she will be happy to work with you.

GRAPHICS

Cover & Illustrations

Does JCP have an illustrator?

No, but we have different illustrators that we can recommend or you could hire an illustrator or artist independently.

Can I provide my own cover?

There are several different options regarding the cover. You can hire a cover designer independently or even design the cover yourself. You could also submit an original photograph or drawing/painting for the cover, and we would design the layout using your original art and add typography of the book title and author name. However, most authors will have an idea of an image that they would like for the cover. Several different ideas are helpful for our designer. We have an extensive photo stock/illustration library where we have the rights to use a professional image.

Will JCP design my cover for me? Can I make requests?

Yes, we usually design two covers for authors to choose from. Usually, we will have different cover images and font selections to give an author a choice.

Will I receive multiple cover options? If I don't like it, can I make changes?

Yes, absolutely. We will send the author a digital cover proof and will ask if they have any changes or suggestions regarding fonts, colors, etc.

JCP requires illustrations and author photos to be at least 300 DPI. What does that mean? How can I make sure my cover is high enough resolution?

DPI stands for dots-per-inch, which literally refers to the number of dots that a printer is printing for every inch of an image. At 300 DPI, an image will appear sharp and crisp and will be considered high resolution. 300 DPI is standard across the board for print, anything less will begin to get visual distortion. You will lose clarity and color, and it will look too pixelated, blurry, and low quality. Most images downloaded off of the internet will be lower resolution since the web doesn't need to display in high resolution, like print. Thankfully, today's smartphone cameras are a good alternative for taking high-quality images, if a professional photographer is not used. If illustrations are not digital, they would need to be scanned at least 300 DPI. Photographs and artwork can be emailed to us or sent via Google Drive, Dropbox, etc.

Text

Should I format my manuscript before I send it in?

If you are a children's author, you are more than welcome to send a mock-up book on how you would like it to look and flow, but that is not necessary. Some illustrations in books will have text directly on the illustration and in some books it is necessary to have in your manuscript "Insert illustration 1 here" or "Insert photograph of xyz here."

Can I choose the fonts I like for the title or interior?

Yes, we welcome authors to send in specific font choices that they like or examples of front covers that they like the look of. Font websites such as Adobe Fonts and Font Squirrel are two good options to look for specific font suggestions.

MARKETING

Getting Started

What do I do once JCP has my manuscript? Should I start marketing before my book is released?

Yes! We recommend authors start marketing early—even before your book is available. We have lots of resources on how to get started building your brand. [Click here for a list.](#)

Does JCP do any free marketing?

We sure do! [Click here](#) to check out our complimentary marketing for JCP authors.

Where can I find more marketing help?

JCP provides marketing tips and tricks weekly in our JCP Author Newsletter! You can also email Draco Bailey at communications@jancarolpublishing.com to schedule a free

marketing consultation. Marketing consultations are available for JCP-published authors and authors published through other means.

Social Media

Do I have to have a social media page for my book?

Having social media as an author isn't required, but it can be a big help! We recommend keeping your author page separate from your personal social media accounts.

Will JCP share my social media post?

JCP tries to interact with and share authors' posts on social media as we see them. If there is a specific post you want us to share feel free to DM us. While we can't guarantee every post will be shared, we are happy to share posts as we see fit.

Voice Magazine for Women & Bookmarked

Will JCP share my upcoming events?

Yes! We share upcoming author events in the Authors on the Road section of *Voice Magazine for Women* and on our website. Authors should watch our weekly newsletter for event information requests and deadlines.

How is the Book of the Week chosen?

JCP chooses our Book of the Week based on featured books in our monthly *Voice Magazine for Women* issues. Featured books are selected thematically for seasons or holidays.

What does it mean if my book is the Book of the Week?

Our Book of the Week selections are shared in a feature newsletter every Monday and on our social media pages. Featured books are available at a special discount exclusively through our online bookstore.

How do I sign up to be interviewed on JCP's blog and podcast, Bookmarked?

Reach out to Allison Chudina at office@jancarolpublishing.com or Draco Bailey at communications@jancarolpublishing.com. Bookmarked interviews are available to both JCP-published authors and authors published through other means.

Where is Bookmarked available?

Readers can [click here](#) to access our blog. Our podcast is available through Spotify, Pandora, Amazon Music, Podcast Index, iHeart Radio, Podcast Addict, Deezer, Listen Notes, and Buzzsprout.