



## How to Write a Radio Drama Script

For a 10–15 Minute Audio Story

Writing for audio is writing for the ear. Your audience can't see what's happening, so the story must come alive through dialogue, sound effects, and silence.

### 1. Basic Script Format

Use this format to write your audio drama script:

TITLE: Voices in the Dark

AUTHOR: Your Name

CHARACTERS:

- LENA – Curious, nervous, mid-20s
- MR. BARKER – Retired security guard, calm but secretive
- JO – Outspoken, doesn't trust anyone
- EMIL – Teenager, tech-savvy but jumpy
- THE VOICE – A distorted signal from the radio

INT. APARTMENT LOBBY – NIGHT

[SFX: HEAVY RAIN, WIND HOWLING, DISTANT THUNDER]

LENA

(speaking quietly)

I don't like this. The power's been out for hours.

EMIL

(stammering)

It's fine. We just wait. That's what they said.

[SFX: SHORTWAVE RADIO STATIC, THEN A FAINT VOICE]

THE VOICE

(distorted, slow)

One of you... brought the storm.

### 2. Script Elements to Include

Element	Description	Example
Scene Heading	Where the scene happens	INT. BASEMENT – NIGHT

Sound Effects (SFX)	For mood or actions	[SFX: FOOTSTEPS ON METAL STAIRS]
Music Cues	To build atmosphere	[MUSIC: EERIE SYNTH TONE UNDER DIALOGUE]
Dialogue	What characters say	LENA: What was that noise?
Tone Notes	How the line should be said	(whispers), (angrily)

### 3. 🕒 How Long Should It Be?

- 1 page ≈ 1 to 1.5 minutes of audio
- 10 pages = 10–13 minutes
- 12 pages = 12–16 minutes
- 15 pages = 15–20 minutes
- Keep paragraphs short and avoid long monologues

### 4. 🧠 Tips for Writing Good Audio Drama

- Show through sound: use thunder, knocking, footsteps
- Use character voices to distinguish speakers
- Avoid too many characters or location jumps
- Use silence and music to build tension
- Let the listener imagine: hint, don't over-explain

### 5. 📁 Tools You Can Use

You can write your script in any basic text editor (Google Docs, Word, etc.).

Use CAPS or brackets for sound and music cues.

No need for special software — just format it clearly.