BOOK REVIEWS

Possibilities for review for author submission include the following (we prefer free reviews; small-fee reviews have often proved to be cost-effective; high-cost reviews do get the word out more widely but we have not, in general, found them to be cost-effective; asl always, it depends on what your budget allows; one should not mortgage a house to market a book!).

**Free Reviews**

Amazon reviews. We strongly recommend that you suggest to acquaintances and others who are reading your book that they post an Amazon review. These are important to sales. Many potential readers check out the reviews on Amazon first before buying.

Barnes & Noble. As with Amazon, suggest that those reading your book leave a review at B&N. It can be the same review they leave at Amazon. B&N retail stores check the online reviews in making a decision whether to carry a book. Usually they want to see at least 25 reviews that are 4 stars or 5 stars. Some B&N stores require this before they will schedule a book-signing opportunity.

Bloggers and influencers. See out those bloggers who write about the same topics you do and include reviews among their posts. Many of them will review your book if you offer a free copy and provide a cogent reason for doing so.

Book Reviews by Debra. Debra will post it on multiple sites. [Review Policy – Book Reviews by Debra (book-reviews-by-debra.com)](https://book-reviews-by-debra.com/review-policy/).

Goodreads. All authors should post their books as soon as they have a jpeg of the cover. This is an important source of reviews, if you can get them. You cannot get them if your book is not listed. You can sometimes interest potential readers by offering giveaways—and the non-winners will often become intrigued, purchase the book, and write reviews. Note that as with Amazon and B&N, you should ask those you know are reading your book to post a review on Goodreads as well.

Library Thing. LT is fairly good at getting the word out. In its early days, it was a good source of reviews. Now, we find it to be problematic. The way it works is that the publisher posts a certain number of books, LT does a lottery for who gets the copies, and then the reviewers are supposed to post reviews on LT, Amazon, and elsewhere. In recent history, where we have sent 15-20 books, only 1-2 reviews have been posted, and that is not worth the cost of the book plus mailing. LT does not seem to enforce its policy that reviewers are supposed to actually write a review and post it. Moreover, we have had some bad experiences such as someone in leadership of a heathen group (the term chosen by the group) being selected for a spiritual book and then trashing it. So, while we provide books to LT on a shared cost with the author, we advise caution.

**Inexpensive Paid Reviews**

AuthorsReading.com has a number of services. The book review services are at three prices: $65, $95 and $159. [Book Review Pricing - AuthorsReading.com](https://www.authorsreading.com/authors-support/pricing/)The two higher ranges (I would choose the middle range as quite cost effective and fair) offer more media exposure. All book reviews result in the book being entered into the PenCraft book award competition; unlike many other competitions, finalists in the categories, according to the literature on its site (we have had no authors to date use this service and would love to have feedback if anyone does): [PenCraft Award Submission form for fiction, non-fiction, audio books, e-books.](https://www.pencraftaward.com/authors-support/contest-entry-form/)

Indies Today Reviews. $99. Combine with a book awards competition for a few extra dollars. [Get an Editorial Review for your Book. | Indies Today](https://indiestoday.com/get-a-review/)

Literary Titan. Another book reviewer that is a good deal is Literary Titan. Cost is $65. Literary Titan will also enter your book into its monthly book award competition. They will also do a book trailer for $119 or $99 if you provide the trailer script), which, in my opinion, is worth it (see earlier comments). The trailer is well done, and I can make a range of uses for it and so can you. If you submit to LT, please let me know the result.

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**Higher-Priced Paid Review (respected, but rarely cost-effective, in our experience)**

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