# Progress Report: Week 4

Audiobook Companion Journal          9/15/25 - 9/21/25          Emily Armbruster

## What I Built

This week, I built the main hub page of my Notion template, which serves as the central space where users will interact with the product. I added categories to the library, a section for yearly listening goals, and a section that links out to other commonly used audiobook platforms and accounts.At this stage, I would estimate that the template is about 75–80% complete.
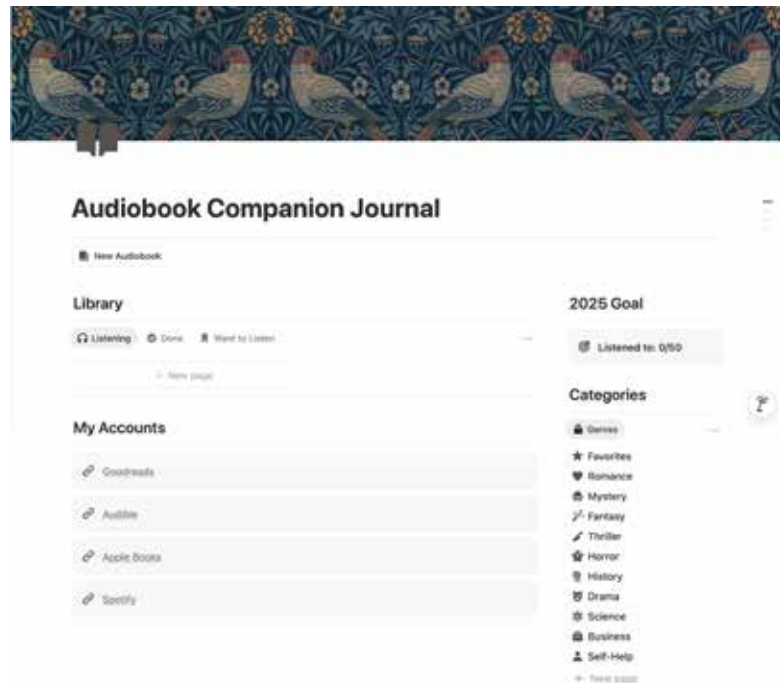
## Tools and Platforms Used

I primarily worked in Notion, with occasional support from ChatGPT and YouTube to help me work through technical challenges.

## What Worked / What Didn't

I faced some difficulties getting certain formulas and relational databases to work correctly. Once I figured them out, the rest of the process went relatively smoothly. The biggest setback came when I accidentally edited and deleted part of a template I had built last week, which required me to go back and rebuild it.

## New Tools or Techniques

I didn't use any new tools or techniques this week but continued building on what I've learned so far. My biggest goal this week was to make a lot of headway on the look and layout of the template, so I felt like there was no need to learn any new techniques to get me to where I wanted to be. If I had to say that I learned anything new, it was that I realized there are many different ways that different parts of the template can talk to each other to make it feel more organized and interconnected.

# Challenges Faced

One area that proved harder than expected was getting formulas to properly connect different pieces of the template. I've noticed, even more this week than last, that Notion is very complicated and technical. I, again, felt very overwhelmed by all of the capabilities I can do.

# Pivots or Changes

For now, I made the small change of setting the listening goal counter as a static number rather than dynamically updating it, though I plan to revisit this later to get it functioning as I want it to.

# Testing and Feedback

I didn't run any test sessions this week since I was still focused on adding more content. I didn't feel like my product was in a place where I wanted to show it to anyone else. I plan on conducting a few users tests next week when the product is almost near completion.

# Reflection

What I'm most proud of this week is again is my patience and persistence. I'm really challenging myself by creating this Notion template. I've stuck with Notion even though it's been very frustrating to me because I wanted to learn a new skill that I could potentially use in my personal life or continue making different templates to sell online. I know that Notion is very popular and the one experience I've had in the past with it showed me that it's a powerful tool, so I felt like this was the opportunity for me to learn more about the software and gain an insight on how it functions. Looking ahead to next week, I have a few goals that I want to accomplish in order to get my Notion template to be almost entirely ready to go to market. The first is that I want to figure out how to get the goal counter to dynamically update when a new book is marked as completed. Right now, I have it as a piece of static text that will have to manually be updated. While this does work, it kind of defeats the purpose of logging everything. With the sophistication of Notion, I believe I can figure this out. I also want to add some example books marked with the different statuses to show users visually how the tracker works when they download it. After that, I plan to conduct a 2-3 quick user testing sessions with some friends who listen to audiobooks to see how the flow works for them. Once I get their feedback and implement any changes, I will then shift my focus to writing user instructions to include in my product listing.