

Progress Report: Week 5

Audiobook Companion Journal

9/22/25 - 9/28/25

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What I Built

This week, I fully completed my Notion template. I added final touches to make the template feel complete and show how it can be used. I added example books in all of the library categories so users can see how they function. I also created an audiobook themed cover image to match the aesthetic of the template. The last thing I worked on starting the selling and marketing materials I need.



Tools and Platforms Used

I worked exclusively in Notion this week. I did start doing some digging into different selling platforms like Gumroad and Notion Marketplace.

Audiobook Companion Journal

A screenshot of the Audiobook Companion Journal Notion template. The interface includes a header with a 'New Audiobook' button and a '2025 Goal' section showing 'Listened to: 3/50'. Below this is a 'Library' section with three cards: 'The Let Them Fly' (100%完結, 1本-1部), 'The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo' (95%完結, 9 Hours, 1 Romance), and 'The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo' (95%完結, 9 Hours, 1 Romance). To the right is a 'Categories' sidebar with a list of genres: Classics, Favorites, Romance, Mystery, Fantasy, Thriller, Horror, History, Drama, Science, Business, and Self-help. At the bottom is a note from the creator: 'Hi there! I'm Emily, the creator of this template. If you enjoyed this template, please leave me a review here. If you have a question, feel free to reach out via email. Thank you!'.

New Tools or Techniques

I didn't use any new tools or learn any new techniques this week. After three weeks of building in Notion, I feel that I have a good handle on the tools in the platform. This week was all about final touches and polishing, so I didn't see it necessary to learn or try anything new.

Challenges Faced

The biggest challenge I faced this week was nothing relating to the technicality of the template, but rather knowing when was a good spot to stop building and finessing. Since this is a template, I didn't want to add too much detail so that it was confusing to use, but I also didn't want users to look at it and not know what to do. I believe that I ended in a spot where it's easy to see how the product can be used, but the user can also add any new customizations that they want.



Pivots or Changes

I didn't feel the need to make any pivots or changes this week. I am pretty happy with where I ended with the product and think it's pretty easy to use.

Testing and Feedback

At the beginning of the week, I conducted two user testing sessions with a couple of friends who listen to audiobooks often. I gave them three tasks to complete. They had to; add an audiobook they are currently listening to and add some notes on it, check how many books they have read in the Romance genre, and add an audiobook that they want to listen to. Overall, they both had positive feedback. They both liked how easy and intuitive it was to use. One of my friends also noted that she liked the addition of external listening related links. She said it made it feel more like an all inclusive platform rather than a stand alone product. The biggest piece of constructive feedback I got was that one my friends said she wished that on the pages of completed books, the overall summary was at the top so it was easier to reference. I considered moving it, but I feel like the flow makes more sense when it's at the bottom. The user takes their notes during their listening and then writes a summary when they're done.

Reflection

I am most proud of getting to the end my build. For a while, it felt like I would never finish. I'm very proud of seeing this product to the end and not changing my idea even though it was challenging at times. I'm happy that I learned a new skill by learning Notion. I know that it's a software that it often used in my line of work and I'm glad that I know a decent amount about it now. I'm excited to get into the marketing and selling phase now. I'm very interesting in seeing how it is to set up a sales funnel and market a product of my own. I have a lot of experience building websites and marketing materials for other people's businesses, but I have never done anything like that for something I've built myself. I feel like going through this process will help me gain insights that will help me in my career. Overall, I feel very proud and excited that I built something myself and that people might want to buy it.

