

Takeaway - Winter 2021

Audiobook Narrator and VO Talent

WHAT I DID & WHAT I LEARNED

by Larry Nobles

I'm a full-time audiobook narrator. And I've been behind a microphone for more decades than I like to confess. That means thousands of experiences (people, places, jobs, laughs and tears) that have taught me a lot. As I endeavor to influence my grandkids with 'Papaw's wisdom,' they are starting to laugh at me (*behind my back and to my face*) about how I always have a story to tell and a lesson to teach. So, I figured I'd start cataloging these life-lessons in a frequent newsletter (*how frequent is still in question*) to have a record of "what I did" and "what I learned" along the way. But they likely won't read them until I'm gone. I do think my ruminations could be helpful to them and to others. Hey, they might even include some insights you can act on immediately in your life. But remember, I've learned more from my mistakes than my successes.

So that you won't be surprised, there is this one caveat. I'm a Christian, former pastor and seminary educated. That last thing doesn't really matter except that I tend to interpret most of my personal experiences through the lens of my faith. I naturally see the spiritual component to most events. I hope that won't scare you away, because the Christian faith is replete with good-ole common sense that'll help anyone.

What I Did

I was in high school theatre productions due to the insistence of the talented Eugene Crain at White Station in Memphis. He also directed Oscar Winner Kathy Bates a few years before me (*I'm still awaiting my Academy Award for my role in 'South Pacific' in 1971 ... but I'm sure it's just delayed in the mail*). Then I become a DJ (*a disc jockey back when you had disks to jock*) learning how to be a professional thanks to Les Acree and Dean Osmundson. At WMC, Dave Brown patiently guided me to be a competent TV weatherman. Aubrey Edwards shepherded me to become a surprisingly good TV talk show host. My 'communications/media' seminary professor, Bob Hughes, educated me in how to better communicate while in the pastorate (*and wow, was that helpful*). At Love Worth Finding Ministries, Pastor Adrian Rogers redefined what it meant to have 'integrity,' and oh so much more. And Pastor Jeff Schreve of From His Heart Ministries trusted my mind and heart enough to give me the freedom to lead ... just a few of my extraordinary mentors.

What I Learned

Without trusted mentors who God put in my path WHO'S ADVICE I HEDED, life could have been far different, and not for the good.

Having individuals who you can trust and who love you is critical to a successful life. We (*you and I*) not only need to listen, but aggressively seek out more experienced advisors to help educate, imitate, befriend, warn and love us in our chosen profession. We can also learn from wannabe-mentors who offer unhealthy examples. I witnessed that a time or two and refused to follow. You'll learn from them, as well.

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From the bottom of my heart, I want to thank all those who have helped me (Vicki, you know who you are) move from city to city, job to job and, in some cases, career to career to allow me to be the best me I can be and live a life that honors God, loves people, and impacts the world. I hope that is your experience as well ... and that you'll strive to become a trusted mentor yourself.

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MY LATEST MENTOR



When I began my audiobook career, I did not follow my own wisdom. I thought, "Humm. How hard can it be?" Well, as Johnny Carson once said, "Wrong Barracuda Breath." From a technique, technical and marketing perspective, I can't begin to explain the complexity of creating a quality audiobook. Lots involved!! Long story short, **I discovered Sean Pratt.** He is THE go-to non-fiction audiobook narrator in the US-of-A having recorded nearly 1200 audiobooks and received many awards. He knows his stuff and I have been blessed to be under his ZOOM tutelage since the Covid crisis. I want to thank Sean for his mentorship, friendship, insight, wisdom & **multiFACeT**ed training! www.seanprattpresents.com



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And we know that all things work together for good to them who love God and are called according to his purpose.

Romans 8:28