

GHOSTWRITING AGREEMENT

Author: _____

Ghostwriter: _____

Date: _____

1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION & DELIVERABLES

Project: [Working Title] - [Genre/Type]

Length: [X,XXX - X,XXX] words (approximately [XX-XX] pages)

Final Deliverable: Complete manuscript in Microsoft Word format, ready for publication under Author's name.

Project Goals: _____

2. SERVICES PROVIDED

Ghostwriter will provide the following services:

- Research (maximum [XX] hours)
- Author interviews ([XX] hours estimated)
- Writing and content development
- Fact-checking of verifiable claims
- Two rounds of editing and revisions
- Proofreading of final manuscript

Additional Services (if applicable): ☐ Publishing consultation

☐ Book outline development

☐ [Other: _____]

3. RESPONSIBILITIES

Author Responsibilities:

- Provide necessary information and materials
- Participate in scheduled interviews
- Review drafts and provide timely feedback
- Pay fees according to agreed schedule

Ghostwriter Responsibilities:

- Complete work according to specifications
- Meet agreed deadlines
- Maintain confidentiality
- Deliver professional-quality manuscript

4. TIMELINE & MILESTONES

Project Start Date: _____

Final Deadline: _____

Key Milestones:

- Outline completion: _____
- First draft: _____
- Final manuscript: _____

5. COMPENSATION

Total Fee: \$ _____

Payment Schedule: ☐ 33% upfront (\$), 33% halfway (\$), 34% on completion (\$)

☐ Monthly installments of \$ _____

☐ Milestone-based payments: _____

Expenses: Reimbursable expenses include: _____

6. OWNERSHIP & RIGHTS

All rights, title, and interest in the completed work shall be the sole and exclusive property of Author, including:

- All manuscript materials and work product
- Domestic and foreign publication rights
- Film, audio, and adaptation rights
- All content and ideas related to the book

Transfer of Ownership: Complete upon final payment.

7. CONFIDENTIALITY

☐ Ghostwriter's role will remain confidential

☐ Ghostwriter may be credited as: _____

Ghostwriter may use excerpts for portfolio purposes with prior written consent and executed NDA from potential clients.

8. INDEMNIFICATION

Each party shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the other against claims, suits, costs, damages, and expenses arising from:

- **Author:** Any scandalous, libelous, or unlawful content
- **Ghostwriter:** Copyright infringement or violation of property rights in their work

9. DELAYS & PERFORMANCE

If Ghostwriter causes delay beyond final deadline: \$_____ per day penalty.

If Author causes delay (missed meetings, withheld information), Ghostwriter is entitled to payment for completed work and deadline extensions.

10. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Disputes shall be submitted to binding and confidential arbitration under American Arbitration Association rules in [State], [County]. Prevailing party entitled to recover attorneys' fees and costs.

11. TERMINATION

Either party may terminate with [XX] days written notice.

Kill Fee: Upon termination, Ghostwriter receives \$_____ plus payment for completed work.

12. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- This agreement constitutes the entire agreement
- Modifications must be in writing and signed by both parties
- Agreement governed by laws of [State]
- If any provision is unenforceable, remainder remains in effect

SIGNATURES

Author: _____ **Date:** _____

Ghostwriter: _____ **Date:** _____

Disclaimer: This contract template is for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. Consult with a qualified attorney before executing any legal agreement.