



Serial Information Sheet

What is a serial?

A serial story is a story told in parts, which we call episodes. Episodes can be standalone stories—that is, with a beginning, middle, and end—or a smaller segment of a larger story (cliffhangers).

How do I know whether my story should be told as standalone episodes or as a series of cliffhanger episodes?

How many point-of-view characters, setting, the complexity of the plot, and the overall length of the entire story help us decide which type of serial structure, if any, best fits your story.

I have a terrific idea for a serial story, but it's not written yet.

Unfortunately, we need more than an idea before we can make a determination of our interest and your story's suitability for serial publication. We do realize that a serial is a long-term writing commitment, and we don't expect you to have written an entire serial with 10-20 novella-length episodes before you submit your story to us. We do, however, expect to see at least one completed episode and a plan for the remaining episodes before we can fairly evaluate whether your story is a good fit for us (and vice versa). If we like the story and the way you tell it, we will work with you to come up with a publication plan and offer you a contract. Please note that we won't publish any episodes until we are certain you can deliver all of the episodes. What we absolutely will not do is keep our audience waiting for the next episode. We release serials on a fixed schedule.

How often do you release episodes?

That depends on the serial's format. We release episodes every 1-4 weeks, depending on the length of the episodes and the number of episodes in the story.

I'm in! What do I do next?

Follow the instructions to submit your work for consideration. We'll get back to you within 14 days after receipt of the completed form. Please don't leave anything blank or incomplete. Incomplete submissions will be rejected.

In an e-mail to Submissions@BookmitePress.com with the subject heading “Serial Submission”, please paste your responses to the following bullet points:

1. Pen Name
2. Author’s biography
3. Legal name (if different from pen name)
4. E-mail address
5. Phone number
6. Title of serial
7. Genre(s) of serial – list all that apply
8. Title of first episode
9. Outline of serial in paragraph form – one (1) paragraph for each episode. Be sure to tell us who the point-of-view character is if that varies from episode to episode and the approximate length of each episode (word count). The paragraph should describe the plot and character arcs in the episode and explain how they fit in with the overall plot and character arcs. For example, if episode two is about a protagonist’s childhood but it’s also when another character, a dear friend of the protagonist, develops into the bad guy in the series, be sure to tell us that’s the case. You could say that the protagonist is still naïve, but the antagonist decides to follow a dark path, and thus, the protagonist’s arc is still in the stage of innocence while the protagonist’s is moving out of innocence into evil.
10. What makes this serial compelling? In other words, what will make readers want to buy the next episode?
11. What makes each episode different from other episodes? Is each episode sequential (follows along a timeline with each episode further along the timeline)?
12. Paste a copy of the first 5000 words of episode one into the e-mail. E-mails with attachments will be sorted into SPAM, so please copy/paste the content. We’re not worried about formatting. We do, however, abhor viruses.