



***Escapism* – Radio plays to perform and record at home**



Information and Guidelines

Welcome to *Escapism*. Some of you may know exactly what to do. Others may be new to recording. Either way, we invite you to give it your best shot and then send your recording to Menagerie. We will release the recordings via our website and social media channels.

First Steps:

- Decide on your play and read it through out loud before recording anything
- Figure out and practice any sound effects, or live/recorded music you wish to add
- Some of the sound effects are challenging, so be inventive!
- If you're unable to create the sound, figure out a way around that (eg. narrating)

What You Will Need:

- A digital recording device - phone, computer, tablet or voice recorder
- The quietest place you can find to record - try out different locations
- If possible, create a small den to record in - use soft items such as pillows or blankets. This helps to create a less 'echoey' sound.

Choices You Can Make:

- To record the whole play in one go. Or to record it in sections, then edit it together. Either is fine (remember, you're having fun, not taking an exam!)
- 3 of the plays have outside locations - you could record these either inside or outside. Try it out and listen to how it sounds.
- PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU SAVE YOUR RECORDING AS EITHER **MP3** OR **WAV** FILE

Hints for successful recording:

- Ensure you are at an appropriate distance from the recording device
- Experiment with this: if you're calling or raising your voice, stand further back or turn your head away. If you want to be really quiet, intimate or 'inside' the listener's head, record close to the device

Hints continued:

- Do a dummy recording to ensure your device is working
- Listen back to your recording to see if you want to make it different in any way – if so, cut & paste, edit, or re-record the whole thing
- Try not to argue too much about how to perform the plays – our aim with this is to bring households together, not drive you apart!

How to send your recording to Menagerie:

- PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR RECORDING IS EITHER AN **MP3** OR **WAV** FILE.
- Please do this through [We Send It](#) or [We Transfer](#) – you can send files up to 5GB without having to register and they are both FREE. Send it to office@menagerie.uk.com. We will acknowledge receipt.
- Please also briefly tell us what it was like to record your play – any great discoveries, mishaps or challenges? We'll post any good ones up on our website.
- You can send files to be uploaded anonymously or let us know your names and who's performing – better still, why not send us a photo of you in action!
- If you have any questions, please get in touch: office@menagerie.uk.com.

What happens to your recording?

We will keep hold of all recordings and release them on a rolling basis through our website and social media channels. Depending on how many recordings we receive, we aim to put 4 performances up each day, letting you know in advance when yours is being released. You can let us know whether we are able to use your name, a pseudonym or whether you wish to remain anonymous – we will abide by your request.

Please note that the copyright to the plays remain with the authors so please just use them for this project. The plays are free to use from June 1st – August 1st 2020.

Four things that we ask of you:

1. That you send us a photo and/or a short account of your experience. We will publish these alongside your plays. In line with GDPR we will only publish names and photos with your permission
2. That you feedback to us what it was like to perform and record your play
3. That you [subscribe](#) to our mailing here if you wish to stay in touch with Menagerie
4. That you remember to have fun!

And now...*Break a Leg!* Not literally, please. It's a theatre saying which means 'Good Luck'. [Here's the link](#) back to our webpage with the 4 plays.

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