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2023-12-06 Pit Stop with Gina Rogers.mp3

DATE

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DURATION

1h 4m 28s

5 SPEAKERS

Karen Commins

Anne Flosnik

Gina Rogers

Speaker3

Speaker4

START OF TRANSCRIPT

[00:00:04] Karen Commins

It is the top of the hour, so I want to welcome everyone to Pit Stop, your fortnightly midweek rest area to refuel your drive. I'm Karen Commins, I'm an audiobook narrator and the chief cartographer for NarratorsRoadmap.com, and I'm your host for Pit Stop. With me today in the co-pilot seat, as always, is my lovely friend and award winning audiobook narrator Anne Flosnik, who hosts the Narrator Uplift show on clubhouse. How are you this afternoon, Anne?

[00:00:32] Anne Flosnik

Great. Happy to be here.

[00:00:35] Karen Commins

Well, I am delighted you are. On each episode of Pit Stop, audiobook, narrators who have vocations beyond narration pull into Pit Stop, and they are sure to inspire you to follow all of your interest and use all of your talents and gifts. I want to let you all know that the conversation is being recorded, so you'll be able to relisten or catch parts you missed. Do feel free to comment in the chat. Raise your hand in the chat app because we would love for you to be part of the conversation. So thanks so much to everyone for joining us. I am super excited today to welcome Gina Rogers to Pit Stop. Gina has narrated over 200 audiobooks under several pseudonyms. She continues to teach Zumba classes from her living room via zoom, and now she's sculpting and selling her miniature clay creations online and at craft fairs. She attempts to meditate and practice gratitude daily. When she finds herself with some rare time off. She enjoys playing with her very cute dogs, catching up with friends and family, and going to the beach. So welcome to Pit Stop. Gina, I'm so glad you're here.

[00:01:45] Gina Rogers

Thank you so much for having me. I've been smiling the whole time since you guys started talking. I've just been smiling. Thank you.

[00:01:52] Karen Commins

Oh, well, I think you're always smiling, aren't you? Every time I've seen you, you're smiling.

[00:01:58] Gina Rogers

Every time the camera's on.

[00:01:59] Karen Commins

Oh, well, there you go. And we don't even have a camera here. And yet you're still smiling. So that's good news, too.

[00:02:07] Gina Rogers

It's you and Anne. Yes.

[00:02:09] Anne Flosnik

Oh.

[00:02:10] Karen Commins

It was so funny to me because, uh, you know, I posted the announcement about this on social media, and, um, I think it was Petrea Burchard who said, you're a creative tornado. And I love that description of you.

[00:02:24] Gina Rogers

Um, I've been telling everyone that it's my favorite description ever, and she's actually never seen my studio, but she's absolutely right. It was me. Yes.

[00:02:37] Karen Commins

Well. So I saw that you you have a bachelor's in communications and media studies, but. That's kind of a broad thing. So what did what did you go to school? What did you want to do?

[00:02:53] Gina Rogers

Well, I've been one of those people who never really knows what I want to do. I have so many different interests, so I started. I wanted to help people. I went to school thinking I was going to be a psychologist, so I was studying psychology, but the science aspect wasn't working for me. So I switched to botany because I love plants. And, um, my mom said, you're gonna have to deal with bugs. And I quit botany. It's like I was very I was very flippant. And then I was like, oh, communications is the easiest. I can get that without studying. But, um, in retrospect, I really wish that I had gone into there was mass communications, which I did. Um, and this is going to date me, but we were studying the internet and with a capital I.

[00:03:42] Gina Rogers

Yeah, it first started the web.

[00:03:46] Gina Rogers

Um, but the other option was, um, speech pathology. And in retrospect, I would have loved that because I like my articulation is what I'm known for in a lot of circles. And I just, I wish I had a better guidance counselor. Anyway, when I graduated, I didn't know what to do. And, uh, a friend of mine said I should come work for this company, that it was environmental risk management. So super boring. But a lot of young people worked there, and it was sales. And I was a telemarketer essentially selling maps for commercial engineers who were I don't if you guys don't know anything about it, I'll just stop right there. It's so boring.

[00:04:26] Karen Commins

But it has to be very exciting to some people.

[00:04:32] Gina Rogers

It was our big joke. Everybody who worked at this company, our joke was, when you're at a party and someone asks what you do, you say, I work in sales and they say, what do you sell? And you say, ah, maps. And they're like, what kind of maps? And you go into this long explanation and their eyes glaze over because it's so boring, very different than when you're at a party and you're like, I'm an audiobook narrator. And people are like, what? Um, so things have changed. But it was that job that I was not doing well in sales, and it was because I would call people and say, hi, this is Gina calling from EDR. Do you have a minute and I can talk to you about this. And my boss said, you gotta throw in some sexy. And I was like, what does that mean? And he's like, use your voice. And it turned into. Hi, this is Gina calling from EDR. Do you have a minute to talk about, um, our new map products and my sales skyrocketed. So I attribute that guy for my success in romance.

[00:05:31] Karen Commins

Well, that's something good that comes out of it. I'm hearing you say this, and I'm thinking sexual harassment.

[00:05:37] Anne Flosnik

Yes, yes.

[00:05:39] Gina Rogers

Yeah.

[00:05:40] Karen Commins

Oh, did the guy not go through the required training? And this is not something you say to people.

[00:05:47] Gina Rogers

Oh my gosh.

[00:05:48] Gina Rogers

No. And you know what? It's terrible. But I have never I'm so grateful. I've never truly felt like sexually assaulted or offended in any way. But my sisters joke was I spent 20 years in Los Angeles pursuing acting after that job, and my sister said, wait, I'm blanking on his name. Who's the horrible guy? Harvey? She said, it's too bad you never hung out with Harvey because you'd probably let him give you a massage. Oh, God. I was like, so nice. So just like, happy go lucky. I mean, there's a there is a job act to being as jovial and accepting. And every once in a while, in retrospect, I'm like, oh my gosh, Gina, come on. How did you miss that? But he meant he meant it in a nice way. He was a very nice guy.

[00:06:37] Karen Commins

We can hope.

[00:06:39] Gina Rogers

We were friends.

[00:06:40] Karen Commins

Well, you mentioned maps. And, of course, uh, because I have NarratorsRoadmap. I call myself the chief cartographer. But there's a book called The Cartographers. And I don't know if you've read this, but it's it's a great fictional story, but it's actually based on a real incident that back, you know, the turn of the 1900s when people were actually making maps and people were starting to go places in cars. I think it was General Dynamic, I want to say. Anyway, they were the big map makers, and they put a fictional city on one of their maps, and so if it showed up somewhere else, then they'd know it was copied. And this story is based on that. That real piece of history. And so, given your past job, you might like that story. You might enjoy it a lot.

[00:07:35] Gina Rogers

I wrote it down. I will check it out, but I will say that I did not enjoy the maps. I started out as a researcher for they were called Sanborn Historical Maps, and they're very they're interesting because they go back to the 1800s and they show any sort of spill or like a gas station, or they.

[00:07:56] Karen Commins

Show the buildings. I've looked at some of those. They're actually very fascinating. If you love history.

[00:08:01] Gina Rogers

I was terrible at the job, and I actually really don't like history. I always miss the target. You had to print off on a microfiche machine.

[00:08:09] Karen Commins

Oh, yeah. Now we don't want to go there.

[00:08:11] Gina Rogers

And it was too sad. And I was always have to stay. I always had to stay late and fix my errors, so I'm not. But I did write that down. It does sound interesting. I'll, I'll I'll have a look.

[00:08:23] Karen Commins

It might give you a whole new appreciation for your past life and all those maps. And so you went to school in Connecticut. Are you from Connecticut or the northeast?

[00:08:34] Gina Rogers

I grew up in a little town called Darien that is very, very snobby. My mom still lives in the house I was born in and. Yeah. I realized recently that despite my 15 years waiting tables in Los Angeles, I still sound like a snob. So I get cast a lot as the snobby debutante. And that's fine, because that's who I grew up with. Mm.

[00:09:00] Karen Commins

Yeah. And I want to talk about LA. But I have to go back to your comment also that you got out of botany because you were told you'd have to deal with bugs. Did you not remember that before you moved to Florida because it's Bug City there, right.

[00:09:16] Gina Rogers

So it's so bad. Karen. They have a bug guy come once a month and they still find some. It's it's a trade off, um, the bugs in the politics, but everything.

[00:09:31] Karen Commins

Else, we're not going to bring that up.

[00:09:34] Gina Rogers

Everything else is great. I love the weather. It makes up for it.

[00:09:38] Karen Commins

And where? Where in Florida are you?

[00:09:41] Gina Rogers

So I'm in Bradenton.

[00:09:43] Karen Commins

Oh, okay. My cousin lives there.

[00:09:46] Gina Rogers

Really?

[00:09:46] Gina Rogers

Did we talk about this?

[00:09:49] Gina Rogers

What have we talked about that before?

[00:09:51] Karen Commins

I don't think so. Huh? And he's all the time showing us pictures of alligators in their neighborhood.

[00:09:59] Gina Rogers

I've not seen one in the wild yet. I have seen armadillos, which are crazy. They look prehistoric. I've seen very frightening snapping turtles in my drive that are much larger than you think they should be. And like giant moths, I haven't seen an alligator though. Manatees, Dolphins. It's very exciting place. It feels like I live in Jumanji.

[00:10:29] Karen Commins

Well, so you you went to LA. You said you went. You spent 20 years working and acting in LA. So tell us about that.

[00:10:38] Gina Rogers

So when I was working at that mapping company, um, I was getting cast in things like people would say, oh, you act right. Why don't you come act in my I was in Nonsense, which was one of my favorite roles. And because I have, I have a I was always studying voice as well. So I sang a lot in choirs and things and, um, things, choruses, choirs. Uh, I was doing musical theater and I did a couple commercials and, um, I danced a little on MTV and VH1, and I made a lot of money in that sales job, more than anyone right out of college should make. And I was buying everything I ever wanted, and I was just I wasn't happy. I was living for the weekends and vacations, and I thought, what could I do that would make me happy? And I was like, I'm going to go be a swing dancer in Los Angeles. It was when the Brown Derby and Swing that was that movie called swingers was really big. So I just, I don't know, picked up. And I mean, there were there were some pit stops in the middle. There was a man involved, but, um, I went to Colorado, then Oregon, and then I landed in Los Angeles and, um. It was really, really hard. I'm not going to lie. There were some dark years there. I lived in a renovated garage for ten of them. Mhm. And, uh, living, working in restaurants was rough. And everyone said, I don't know what to do with you because you, you have this curly red hair and redheads are either gorgeous or super awkward and ugly, and you're somewhere in the middle and we don't know what to do with you.

[00:12:13] Karen Commins

I heard you are not. You were definitely in the first category.

[00:12:18] Gina Rogers

I so appreciate that. Thank you. Um, Los Angeles will do a number on you, though. And so when I started narrating and voiceover, I was so happy that nobody could see what I look like. Oh, it didn't matter that I didn't look the part. So now when everybody's on social media, they're like, put a video of you live narrating. I'm like, no.

[00:12:44] Anne Flosnik

Yeah, that's the point. Yeah.

[00:12:45] Karen Commins

But you know, that kind of limits you. I mean, if I don't do it and I'm not saying you have to do it right, but I wouldn't let that be the reason that I didn't do it. In other words, I mean, if I really wanted to do it, I would.

[00:13:02] Gina Rogers

You mean read like narrate?

[00:13:05] Karen Commins

Yeah. Yeah, if I wanted if I wanted to do that, I would. And it wouldn't matter how I look or how I think other people think I look or whatever. It's do I want to do that? And the answer for me is no, but it sounds like you might want to do it. I mean, you teach on video.

[00:13:23] Gina Rogers

No, no, my narration is different. I really I like to disappear in the booth and disappear in the story, and I actually don't like I tried it once. I've narrated live on TikTok and there were aspects of it that was that were fun, but for me, like, so, I'm also a highly sensitive person. I was coaching with Christina Rooney, and that was one of the first things she said to me. Has anyone diagnosed you as a highly sensitive person? I'm very sensitive and I'm very, um, she said to me, when you get stressed out about things because I do, I do, I do get, I get stressed out just like everybody else. And, um, I have a lot of anxiety when I'm not on camera smiling and spreading joy. And, um, she said, what do you do when you have to work? And I was like, oh no, no, no, my booth is my heaven. I go in there and everything fades away. So it's kind of like a sacred space that I just have not wanted to share on social media. I do my little videos where I'm like, this word is tripping me up, or I don't, can't say this, but that's it.

[00:14:29] Karen Commins

Well, I think that's a great approach. It just sounded like a minute ago you were saying you didn't want to do it just because of, you know, the hair or the looks or what people said in LA or whatever. Right?

[00:14:42] Gina Rogers

Right. No, there's lots of reasons I don't like it. I like voiceover, I like playing with a microphone and being whatever character they need, you know?

[00:14:53] Anne Flosnik

I'm with you, Gina. Completely agree on camera is one thing and voice is something else.

[00:14:59] Gina Rogers

It's magic.

[00:15:01] Anne Flosnik

It is? Yeah.

[00:15:04] Gina Rogers

So yeah.

[00:15:05] Karen Commins

And nobody's diagnosed me. But from what I've read, I would definitely say I fall in that category of highly sensitive person. Meaning like if two people start talking to me at the same time, my brain is processing both of them, and it's kind of like goes and meltdowns like, you know, no, you talk, then you talk. Don't both of you try to tell me something at once. I mean, it's that and like, you know, perfume or cigarette or, you know, very sensitive smell. So, I mean, I totally get all that. And I've always been sensitive from even being a child of, you know, people, a stupid kids make fun of you, but, you know, you carry that with you. And so I totally get what you're saying about that. That. Yeah. Like, why put yourself out for people to maybe. Make these stupid comments today.

[00:15:53] Gina Rogers

Yeah, I don't I never check reviews, by the way. I that's a thing that narrators talk about. I don't check them. I don't look at them ever. I go to coaches and I'll, you know, regularly to catch things I'm doing wrong, but I'm just too sensitive, I don't. But, um, but the. Yeah. No, nobody gets to go in my, in my booth with me, you know, unless they're directing me.

[00:16:20] Karen Commins

So how did you get from. Acting in LA and and then into voiceover and then from there into audiobooks. You know, talk to me about these transitions you've made to get from point A to B to. It seems like you're now at point C.

[00:16:39] Gina Rogers

Sure.

[00:16:40] Karen Commins

You may be at point F or G, I'm I mean, I don't think I can keep up, actually.

[00:16:45] Gina Rogers

The tornado is just out of control. Um, I have I have been feeling a little overwhelmed lately. I'm looking forward to a couple a week off between Christmas and New Year's. Um, what happened was, and I feel like the story. I've told the story so many times, but there's a lot of people in here I don't know. So, um, I was at a party in Los Angeles hobnobbing with a bunch of writers, and I was telling a story about my mom, and I was imitating her New York accent. And, uh, the story was she was at the grocery store with my sister and my sister's friend. And so my mom has always wanted to get rid of her act. She actually hired a speech pathologist to get rid of her accent, and she can't. When she gets upset, it comes out. And so she calls. My sister's friend's name is Maura. She calls her Moira, and, uh, she has her thick glasses on that are sunglasses. And she's writing out her check at the cash register, and the cashier was asking if she wanted paper or plastic bags, and it was getting uncomfortable because my mom wasn't answering. And so my sister and her friend were like, mom, mom. And so my mom's like, what? What? And she's like paper or plastic. And my mom just lost it and she goes, paper or plastic?

[00:18:01] Karen Commins

Who cares? I just spent.

[00:18:02] Gina Rogers

89.95 and meat products are no. 8995 in groceries. And I didn't even get any meat products. Who cares? And. Oh my God, can you do you narrate audiobooks? And I was like, yes, I do, because in Los Angeles you're taught that you do whatever. Yes, the answer is always yes. And then you learn. So she had me. She wanted to find a narrator that sounded like me, but could that could do that voice. And I guess she'd auditioned. And by the way, every narrator who's listening. If an author says this to you, it should always raise a red flag. She's like, I auditioned 50 to 100 narrators, and I can't find one that's doing that. Right. Well, anyway, the first book that I narrated, I did not complete. We worked on it for 3 or 4 months, and having an on camera background in a theater background, I thought that it was normal for them to come back with direction on every other sentence. Um, you took a breath here you were two. You were an octave lower here than you were there. And so finally I said, you know, I think you need a director and a full cast. I'm gonna not I'm not going to charge you, but I'm not going to do this. And then I went on a this was in 2013. So I had a lot of luck on my feeling was I just invested in a microphone and equipment and coaching and now I'm going to do this. And so I, I did a lot of titles there. And it's funny, I was thinking about my pseudonyms. The first pseudonym is just my maiden name, which was Gina. Michio has a few titles, and it was good because those were not my best work. And then Gina Rogers and then Monica King is my romance pseudonym, and Danny Williams is my politics pseudonym. No. Yeah. So there are a bunch of us.

[00:19:55] Karen Commins

You do a lot of niche work and multiple personalities.

[00:19:59] Gina Rogers

Yeah, and I love I love that I can do that.

[00:20:04] Karen Commins

So do you narrate political things that are opposed to your own belief about it? I mean, like, yes.

[00:20:13] Gina Rogers

So there was one that was about guns and women's self-defense, and there were just a couple chapters that I thought got a little violent and I didn't want. Um, with my experience on camera, when I was cast a couple of times, I was cast as like a very mean, aggressive woman. And when I was introduced to people after they said they didn't believe it was me. If so, if you're following the director was like, This is Gina. She's the star of the movie. And the people were like, no, you weren't. That woman was a bitch. And I'm like, oh no, that was me. So it was interesting called acting. Coming from that experience, I thought, I don't want any listener to get confused and think that this is me and, you know, approach me. Um, so it's a little bit of like, a scared, but it's just based on my experience as an actor. So yes. So I did the gun books and then most recently a publisher that I wanted to work with for so long and paid really great rates, gave me this very high profile book. And, um, it was one of Trump's lawyers and, um, most of it was interesting. I found it very interesting. But the last couple chapters, she just got so nasty. She was like being mean. And I didn't want that. So. Yeah.

[00:21:36] Karen Commins

So. But you did it. But under the pseudonym, is what you're saying? Yes.

[00:21:41] Gina Rogers

And I'm always embarrassed because I know, Karen, you have such high standards for yourself. And I have to admit. I think 20 years in LA made my standards low, and I'll basically do anything as long as it's not my name, not anything. I do have some rules, but. This was, uh. Yeah. I just use a fake name. I'm sorry.

[00:22:05] Karen Commins

Well, no, there's no reason to apologize. I mean, because we all. That's part of what we all have to do is decide what we're willing to do, what our boundaries are, how we want to present ourselves out in the world. And certainly in our business. It's very acceptable and normal that you present yourself in different names for different types of genres, so you have no reason to apologize. You're approaching your business in a very smart fashion.

[00:22:35] Gina Rogers

Thank you, thank you.

[00:22:37] Anne Flosnik

Did you say to the publisher at the start of the project, though, that, you know, I'm not too sure. Can I do this under a pseudonym, or did you start off saying it was going to be you and then you changed horses a bit?

[00:22:51] Gina Rogers

No. And usually I'm very good about it. I'm like, I believe I'm at about 200 and something books. And this was the first time that I signed on as Gina Rogers. And then when I started narrating, I proofed it and there was a lot I prepped it and there were a lot of, um, political names and terms that I wasn't too familiar with because I'm not that I'm not very involved in politics or well versed and, um. I was doing all of that prep work, so I was very focused on that, and I read, I glanced over the last couple of chapters and thought. It's just her pontificating. It's nothing not worry about. So no, to answer your question, as I was recording those last two chapters, I think it was an eight hour book. I, um, thought, oh goodness, I'm just what should I do? And I reached out to. I had just met Iris McIlroy and the New England Narrator's Retreat, and I said, how difficult is it to change to a pseudonym after I've already been cast and contracts have been signed? And she said, it depends on what has gone on behind the scenes with the, um, what is it called? Karen? You probably know, um, you know, what's been listed on audible and whatnot.

[00:24:04] Karen Commins

The metadata.

[00:24:05] Gina Rogers

Yes. Thank you. I knew you would know. Um, so.

[00:24:09] Karen Commins

I didn't know I was going to be tested on that today, but yay!

[00:24:13] Gina Rogers

I reached out to casting and I said, I don't want to cause anyone any extra work if you need to. If it's going to, then I'm totally fine as Gina Rogers, but I'm realizing there's like a bit of a I use the verb diatribe or something, like, she's getting really aggressive here and I'd love to use this pseudonym. And they, they said, no problem. But yeah, short answer, I didn't.

[00:24:36] Anne Flosnik

Oh no, you handled that very diplomatically.

[00:24:39] Gina Rogers

Thank you, thank you.

[00:24:40] Anne Flosnik

Yes. Good job. And I'm glad that it was. It was well received. So that was a win all around. Gina.

[00:24:46] Karen Commins

Exactly.

[00:24:47] Gina Rogers

Yes. Except that my dad, who's a giant Trump supporter, wanted everyone to know that I narrated that book. I was like, no, dad, that's the point of the pseudonym stuff. Oh yes.

[00:25:03] Karen Commins

Well, he didn't take out billboards or anything, so you're probably okay.

[00:25:07] Gina Rogers

Yeah. So. And then I feel like the reason you guys wanted. Um. I don't want to, I. I talk so much, I could just blab all day. But the dancing. I was not permitted to dance as a kid, and, um, I started dancing in college, so it was not at a level where I could compete in ballroom, but I was taking ballroom. I found Zumba, and that's when I started back in like 2013, and I had been teaching seven classes a week in LA when we went on lockdown, and I was very close with all my students. So I started teaching every day for free online, and then you can't do that and narrate because you get really dehydrated. So I just went down to the two days and I still do that. And those are it keeps me exercising. So it's been amazing. And I'm going to teach that class in LA. The studio is paid for. I don't know if you guys follow me on Facebook, but, um, I rented a studio space. It's huge. So everybody could spread out. Um, yeah.

[00:26:08] Karen Commins

I saw that. I'm going to add that to the member calendar in the newsletter for NarratorsRoadmap members. So people going to LA will know that's another thing they can look for.

[00:26:19] Gina Rogers

Yeah. Yeah. Thank you. And then what happened was I broke my toe I think last year and I couldn't dance. And it was like I was narrating and I had nothing and I was I'm a very much I have to always be doing something. So I started playing with succulents and I was propagating them and I had these tiny little plants, but no pots. And I went online and they were like \$80 for tiny pots. I was like, I can make them. That is how I started playing with clay. And then when I went to the narrow street, everybody was talking about imposter syndrome. So I made little manifestation boxes shaped as books with a little scroll inside, and you could write your mantra on that and have it in your booth. And, um, not that I don't. People have just started asking me for customizable things and roast recently. I'm doing bookshelves that are also business card holders. Wow. Along with ornaments and all sorts of things. So yeah, I say whatever interests you, go for it, because narration is so flexible and we can do it around the other things. It's beautiful. Mhm mhm.

[00:27:27] Karen Commins

Oh and I love your clay creations so much. And I have one of those intention boxes and you made a little harp on the cover of mine because I asked you to. Yeah. And I love it. And I'm, you know I wrote down an intention in it. And so it's on my desk in my office and, and I sit there a lot, and I see my little box and I think of what's in it. And that just keeps me focused on that. It's kind of a short time goal, but it's not one that can happen this week. So it it does really help because I do keep thinking of what's inside that box and I want. What's inside to become my reality outside. Yeah. So I'm excited about that. One thing I've wanted to know. You've been now. You've been making all these so cute little earrings. Do you can you get 14 carat fittings?

[00:28:18] Gina Rogers

Uh, yeah. Actually it's funny. Um, there's a gift shop owner in town that I'm friends with, and she asked me the same thing last week. She said, you know, now that you're doing more of that, you should invest in, um, more like, more quality. Yeah. Yes. The short answer. Yes. Well, good.

[00:28:38] Karen Commins

We'll have to talk about about some earrings because like, I saw the the little snowman holding the little book, I thought, oh, that's so cute. And, um, but I. Only wear gold. And there's a reason for that. It was when I was a child. When I was a child, my, you know, Kmart was in existence and they would have these. Earrings, ten for a dollar. And, you know, when you're a teenager, it's like, oh, well, that's great. But my mother said to me, and this is stuck with me all these years, instead of buying all those, why don't you save your money and buy one good pair of earrings? And so that's what I do. And so now I'm kind of a snob. It's like. And I feel like I can't there aren't they don't make little fun earrings you know. And so if I could find somebody who could I'd love that.

[00:29:31] Gina Rogers

That's really something. Yeah. I never thought about. See, my thinking was, oh, they're they're such silly little fun earrings. Like, nobody's going to want them if they want. It didn't make sense to me, but I'm sure there's other people like you out there.

[00:29:45] Karen Commins

I can't be the only one. Yeah.

[00:29:49] Gina Rogers

Yeah, that's a really good point. It's a really good point. I like it every time I, I there's, like, something new that I'm like, I need to do that, I love it.

[00:30:00] Karen Commins

Well, it's just because I'm, you know, selfishly looking after my own interests of what I want, so. But so I love that you've, you know, you started doing that and you're still doing the dancing. And you've started going out and selling these things at craft fairs. And how's that going? It seems like you're really enjoying it.

[00:30:21] Gina Rogers

So I will say that I enjoy chatting with people and that part of it, but the setup and the takedown is ridiculous. I'm all about work smart, not hard. So randomly, as our social media does, they put a coach in front of me. That is a, um. She's a handmade seller business coach and she reminds me of Jennifer Guillory. I just took Jennifer Guillory's. Taming the Muse and it was amazing. And it's going to help me so much with my the way I approach my entrepreneurial business. Um, with regard to being a creative freelancer. But this woman that I found on Facebook for the crafts business is, um, she teaches you how to sell online, and she's only \$27 a month, which is in my budget. And, um, she has all these videos. So if you notice, I'm posting a lot online for the clay business. And, um, my goal is to stop doing as many craft fairs. I'm only doing one. And, um, sell more online because it just the amount of time and the tent that you have to put up is so heavy, so cumbersome. And I'm such a small person, I'm like the size of a small child, so I have to force myself to help him. He's never happy about it. And last time last, the last bear I was at was really windy and all my things blew over and a bunch of stuff. Oh, and I was like, oh my gosh, this is just too much. So. I have one this month at an art hotel that I'm really excited about because it looks real fancy, so. And it's inside.

[00:32:06] Speaker3

I identify with you about the, um, setting up and, you know, taking your wares around. Not that I had any crafts, but really the start of my acting was selling Oriflamme, which was skincare and makeup. And so it was like a traveling circus, you know, heft all that stuff around and put it up and take it down, like you say. And just that whole selling thing was so distasteful to me, and the way that people looked at me as if I was some kind of a cockroach, you know, it was just, I think I'm a sensitive person, too, and it just drove me for the hills. But I learned an awful lot from the time that I did it. But it was painful. It really was painful.

[00:32:45] Gina Rogers

Yes, yes I did. I had a lady come up. She was talking to me about the, um, the, uh, intention boxes, and I said that I would love to, you know, if the business took off, I would love to donate them to, like, girls clubs or girls and boys clubs. Mostly for girls, I guess. Like you, to give them to kids and they can boost their confidence. And she looked at me and she said, well, why don't you just teach them how to make it? And I was like, um, it's really hard to make, actually. Oh, gosh.

[00:33:19] Karen Commins

Yeah. Like, oh, this is just so easy. I just tossed this off in ten minutes. Sure. Yeah. I'll have a little lunch and learn with them.

[00:33:28] Gina Rogers

I mean, I guess I like I kind of see where she was coming from, but yes, I felt cockroach was a good way to. I was like, oh.

[00:33:35] Karen Commins

Well, it's like audiobook narration. People who don't do it don't have a true appreciation for what goes into making it happen. And I wondered, I saw you went to Reader's Take Denver and you were also at Romantic Con in Connecticut, and I wondered how similar those kinds of things are to doing a craft fair. And did I think, uh, I think I saw Viviana Izzo invited you to Denver, but how did it come about going to the other one? Were you invited by authors and were you prospecting? And did you have an exhibitor table at either or both of those events?

[00:34:13] Gina Rogers

So it was interesting. Um, Vivi did invite me to Denver and an author that I had done a lot of royalty share projects with was going to be there, and my best friend lives in Denver. I was very opposed to group situations after Covid. You know, most of us, we stayed home and were like, wait, if I stay home, I don't get sick. I don't have to take time off of work. So it was a big step for me to go. And I will say it was flattering because people did know my pseudonym, Monica King, and they would come up and ask for my autograph, and that was really cool. Oh, wow.

[00:34:53] Anne Flosnik

Lovely. Yeah.

[00:34:54] Gina Rogers

Uh, I was really flattered people had like, printed. I have, I had a fake photo, like a stock photo that that author actually gave me to use as Monica's on Facebook. And, um, well, people had printed that out and put it in a book and wanted me to sign it, and I was like, oh wow. Oh my gosh. So very flattering. Now, granted, there were like 5 or 10. Meanwhile, I'm across from Troy. Darren, is it Duran or Duran? I never know. And um, Marcio and they have lines around the bend. So, you know, there was a bit of like, oh, now romantischen, upon some advice from a couple other narrators that do these events, I turned into a crazy marketer. I reached out to every single author that was going to be there. I left them a voice message on their Instagram and I said, hi, I'm Monica King. I'm going to be at Romantic Con. If you have any interest in chatting about audiobooks, I'd love to meet you. Just give me a check on this message or respond back and I'll put you on my list of people to find and meet. Right. Wow.

[00:36:03] Anne Flosnik

Very impressive.

[00:36:04] Gina Rogers

So like 15 or 20 of them wrote back and.

[00:36:08] Karen Commins

Wow, that's great!

[00:36:09] Gina Rogers

Oh thank you, thank you. Yeah, it was really aggressive. And I made them, um, little packets with a QR code to my a video that said, it's so nice to meet you like I was I was on this, you guys. I was like, I'm not gonna spend this money, not get a return on investment. And, um, but romantic con was easy because my mom's in Connecticut, so it, you know, it was kind of like a double thing, but I did not. I got one, two people that were interested. So to answer your question, I didn't even sit at my booth at that event. And it might have been bad form. I walked around everyone's table. I made sure that I wasn't interrupting them with their fans, but if they were alone, I'd say, hi, I'm Monica, I'm also Gina. I left you the message. Here's a little gift for you if you want to chat more, let's set up a zoom. So. But it didn't work for me. I've not had much luck with that.

[00:37:03] Karen Commins

Is that the one where you had the t shirt? That said my pseudonym has straight hair, and then you had those cute little keychains of the clay intention boxes with the little hair locket on it.

[00:37:14] Gina Rogers

Yep, yep. It wasn't an intention.

[00:37:16] Karen Commins

They were so cute and such such perfect branding it was. I just commend you on the cleverness of the whole thing.

[00:37:23] Gina Rogers

I really appreciate that. No one else, even I was thinking about this yesterday because I met with that business coach and I mentioned her because if there's anyone listening who's like, I would like to sell crafts, reach out and I will give you her information. She's brilliant. Um, she, uh, I had a one on one with her yesterday, and. And I said, I'm kind of all over the place. And I keep like, I'm doing earrings and I'm doing intention boxes. And and she said, what's the one thing that you're enjoying that you get paid the most for? And you can replicate. And it's the bookshelves that are business card holders. But. I was thinking yesterday about those keychains because I made hundreds of them, and I don't know if people thought it was weird. So if you guys go to these events, people have swag, romance narrators and authors have swag. I don't even know what that was. Vivi had to explain it to me. It's like stickers or tumblers or keychain stuff.

[00:38:21] Karen Commins

We all get.

[00:38:22] Gina Rogers

Yeah, yeah, I never, never had that. And I'm like, I'm not gonna I'm not gonna buy swag. I can make swag. And then I started, you know, you get I got a little self-conscious. Like, do people think it's weird that I'm handing out, like, handmade keychains? But no one said anything? Like, people were like, oh, this is so cool. But no, I had a QR code on the back of it. I didn't get any work out of it, so. I don't know.

[00:38:51] Karen Commins

I don't think they thought it was weird. It could be that they didn't. I mean, I guess you had a whole bunch of them and they would know this was one they could have. But sometimes people aren't clear on whether this is something you're giving or selling, and they don't want to just take one if they don't know. So it could be that maybe they didn't know they were free to have I don't know.

[00:39:15] Gina Rogers

No, no, no, I gave out a ton of them.

[00:39:17] Karen Commins

Oh okay. Well, just shoot my theory down. Why don't you. Um.

[00:39:22] Gina Rogers

And it's funny, I mean, I, I sound like I honestly, I thought I liked it and I was happy to do it, but I thought I was pretty confident. I'm fully I'm being honest with you guys, that I was going to get a return on that investment and I did not.

[00:39:39] Karen Commins

Well, just because you haven't doesn't mean you won't.

[00:39:42] Gina Rogers

That's true. That is very true.

[00:39:43] Karen Commins

When was this event?

[00:39:46] Gina Rogers

August.

[00:39:47] Karen Commins

So it's just been four months.

[00:39:49] Gina Rogers

True. Yes, yes.

[00:39:51] Karen Commins

And people are, you know, heading into the fall and heading into holidays and. And it could be that, you know, you might see a return on that investment next spring or next summer.

[00:40:02] Gina Rogers

That's true. That is true. It's like.

[00:40:04] Karen Commins

You know, for like their kids are starting school back and then there's all that and. It's just you just don't know. And it and the thing is, and this is what I, I truly believe what you put out in the world comes back to you, but it usually comes back in a time and place and from a direction you don't expect. So I think because you've made all this effort. And you made out the keychains. You know, maybe this is why you're getting all the interest in your clay sculptures from other avenues, because that energy is coming back to you and you are getting a return on it, but it just doesn't, you know, you're looking at it. These authors that I contacted should be calling me back and, you know, pushing contracts in my face. And they're not doing that. But it could be that this energy is coming back to you through people who are very interested in buying your bookshelves and buying your intention boxes. And, and you could see these authors pop up with. Something for you in the future. So that's why I say just because it hasn't doesn't mean it won't in the way that you expect. And it may already be happening now and you just don't realize it.

[00:41:21] Gina Rogers

That is true. Thank you. And yes, if a publisher comes to me and says, would you like to be submitted for this author? And then they put it forward, they'd be like, oh, this is the this is the one that gave me the keychain. Keychain. You're absolutely right. Yes. Well, and you could.

[00:41:38] Karen Commins

See you could always follow up with them.

[00:41:41] Gina Rogers

True. And I'll be honest with you, um, I don't typically in your.

[00:41:45] Karen Commins

Unending spare time. Yeah.

[00:41:47] Gina Rogers

I don't typically share. Like, I'm not a person who says now working for audible, not working for this judge, anyone for doing it. But I don't do it. I have gotten so busy with narration work in the last two months. None of those authors, but I have. It's funny, I said to my husband, I think I manifested too hard because I'm booked into this summer and um, well, I don't have to craft shows. I'm getting orders and I'm like, waking up in the middle of the night, like, what did I forget? Do I have to go to the post office? No, I got to prep this book. So, uh, be careful what you manifest. No, I'm not in any way complaining. I guess I was just sharing my experience that. Um. I don't know, just to share the experience of. What happened, what I did. How much work?

[00:42:45] Karen Commins

I think you just proved my point. You're booked into the summer. Yes. You're just not booked with the people that you thought you'd be booked with.

[00:42:54] Gina Rogers

Yeah. You're right. And I do know this. When you put when you, like, move forward and you change your energy, things do like that's what I mean. It's I believe in fully believe in manifestation and I did I put a lot of energy into that. So maybe it didn't come directly, but it definitely has come indirectly in. All aspects of everything I do.

[00:43:15] Speaker3

So, yes. What is your method of manifestation? Gina? Give us your. Give us your secrets. Well. I'm sorry, what's your secrets of manifestation? Can you share something with us?

[00:43:27] Gina Rogers

Well, so I kind of really dove into it a couple months ago. Joe Dispenza has a lot of YouTube videos, and there's another person named Earl Nightingale. Oh yeah. A YouTube video. And I just started because I would wake up in the morning going back to me, joking about you guys see me smiling on camera. But I do tend to be really stressed and anxious. And my mind I automatically go to negative a lot. So I would wake up in the about a about three four months ago, I would wake up in the morning and start thinking, oh gosh, I have to do this, I have to do that, I have to do this. And instead I would turn on one of those YouTube videos and I would listen as I walk the dogs.

[00:44:16] Speaker4

About.

[00:44:18] Gina Rogers

You know, it's all about your attitude. And I can't remember. This might have been Mel Robbins, but when I. When I wake up in the morning, I think instead of thinking, I have to get this many pages recorded, I have to go to the post office and I have to do the dance class. I think I get to do this. Mhm. And it completely changes how you feel like one of them was talking about you can say I am a successful, completely booked narrator. But unless you feel it in your gut and you have that, like, feeling of, like waking up on Christmas morning, you're a kid or Hanukkah or Kwanzaa. Um. Yeah. You get that feeling when you're, like, so excited. And it's very easy to lose that as an adult because we and especially if your mind goes towards negative and scarcity. So I have I hope I answered your question and I get really yes yes yes yes yes.

[00:45:18] Speaker3

Okay. Good. It makes perfect sense.

[00:45:21] Gina Rogers

Yeah. So I get to do this, I, I changed I went from a salesperson looking forward to the weekends to I get to teach a dance class today, and I get to go in my special little booth and play every character. And it's hard, but it's fun. So yeah. And that has that has worked. And instead of thinking, I don't have enough money for this, one of my mantras is money is flowing freely and abundantly to me and away from me.

[00:45:53] Karen Commins

I like to say people just love to give me money. That is, I'm gonna.

[00:45:59] Gina Rogers

Write that down.

[00:46:01] Karen Commins

The thing is, the affirmation is what helps rewire your brain. Yes, so that you actually can have that feeling of I am a highly successful. Well respected narrator or whatever it is that however you phrase it. And I think that's so important just to say and write your words in the direction you want your life to go.

[00:46:25] Gina Rogers

I, I.

[00:46:26] Karen Commins

I used to watch Joel Osteen and he would say, don't use your words to describe the situation. Use your words to change the situation. And Wayne Dyer would always say the way when you change, the way you look at things, the things you look at change. So I'm totally on board with everything you're saying, and I cannot let you get away in. Our time is quickly running out and I cannot get let you get away without asking you what I like to call the Pit Stop Hot Seat question. And it's a question you're not expecting. Of course. Um, I think I'd like to ask you if you came with a warning label, what would it say?

[00:47:15] Gina Rogers

Don't show me your dark side.

[00:47:21] Karen Commins

What will happen if I do so.

[00:47:25] Gina Rogers

I hate that this is being recorded. This is. This is for all of eternity to hear. Um. I am funny in that I am anyone's best friend, if any. I try to follow a bunch of you guys. Um, if anybody reaches out to me, I am sunshine and butterflies and rainbows. And I love helping people. Um, if you show me that you have a side of yourself that is dark or unethical or cruel in any way, you. You no longer exist in my world. And it's it's not something I'm proud of. I'm giggling because I'm embarrassed. But it's a warning because it happened with one of my neighbors. They did something that I feel is very unethical and so they no longer exist. And so when I see them, I don't. I just wave and keep walking. And my other friend said, it's like you just snipped her out of your life. And I said, yes, it's because I'm so sensitive and I'm so. I believe energy is something that you need to protect. And, um. She's not a nice person, so she does no longer exists.

[00:48:33] Karen Commins

I'm surprised you even wave.

[00:48:36] Gina Rogers

Yeah, yeah, sometimes I do. Sometimes I just turn around and walk the other way because I don't want to hurt anyone. But at the same time, what she did is not acceptable. And there have been instances where I've been friends with someone and they they say something nasty to someone else. And I'll try. I'll correct. I'll say, you know, I don't know why you said that. I don't think that's funny. And it catches them off guard because I'm all smiles and butterflies and everything's so fun and funny. But as soon as you do something like that, I don't have time for you. Is that end on a bad note, Karen?

[00:49:13] Karen Commins

That's not a bad note. No, that goes back to. It's very sensible having to decide for yourself where your boundaries are.

[00:49:20] Gina Rogers

Yeah.

[00:49:21] Karen Commins

Yeah. So it's a laudable note. Not a bad one at all.

[00:49:26] Gina Rogers

Thanks. I agree. I hate you guys. Yeah. No, you have to.

[00:49:34] Anne Flosnik

Protect your energy.

[00:49:36] Karen Commins

Yeah, exactly. Mhm.

[00:49:38] Anne Flosnik

Yeah. Your soul.

[00:49:39] Anne Flosnik

I mean your energy is your soul to some degree.

[00:49:42] Gina Rogers

It really is. And and it's just. It happened. I think it started in Los Angeles because they're they're just. There are a lot of people out there that will just take and take and take and you know. When you have so much sunshine to give you, you got to draw boundaries, right? But yeah. Um, it so I had heard a few other neighbors told me stories about these people and I thought, oh, that's terrible, but I don't know you that I didn't know the person telling me the story. So I, you know, gave this these people the benefit of the doubt and then. It happened and. Yeah. Blocked. I do it online too. If someone does something I don't like or. There's like an energy that I just think is negative or makes me feel bad in some way. Block. Mute. Done.

[00:50:45] Karen Commins

Sounds like a very wise approach.

[00:50:48] Gina Rogers

Yes.

[00:50:50] Karen Commins

This is not your next door neighbor, is it?

[00:50:52] Gina Rogers

She's a few houses down.

[00:50:54] Karen Commins

I was gonna say, actually, maybe you shouldn't answer that question. But you never know how word travels back to people. So.

[00:51:02] Gina Rogers

So funny, because I was. I was telling all these stories about my crazy neighbors in this. This community is crazy. Every neighbor is so off the wall bonkers. And guess who my neighbors is? Madeline. Amy's mom. Do you guys know Madeline? Maybe.

[00:51:21] Speaker3

Yeah. Yeah, I know of her.

[00:51:23] Karen Commins

Yeah.

[00:51:23] Gina Rogers

She's fabulous person. Wonderful. And so is her mom. I actually really like her mom. Um, but it was funny because somebody said, oh, you know, Victoria's daughter is an audiobook narrator. She lives in in the UK or in Europe. I can't remember where Madeline lives. I said, oh, I haven't heard of her. And then I realized we had been on a zoom call together, and I was like, oh, no. What stories did I tell about my neighbors?

[00:51:50] Anne Flosnik

It's a small world for sure.

[00:51:53] Gina Rogers

Yes, yes, yes. But, um, yeah. No.

[00:51:59] Karen Commins

Well, so with you doing narration and you doing dancing and you're making your clay sculptures, how do you manage to divide your time between all these things? And I know you said sometimes you wake up worrying about them. And do you have any kind of help with any of it?

[00:52:17] Gina Rogers

You know, I love that you. I saw you wrote that somewhere. Um, I would love to hire a virtual assistant, but I'm not financially in a place where I can do that yet. Um, so what I do is narration always comes first. And so far, everything else, like my students, are very understandable. Some days I'll be like some weeks I'll say I have so much narration work, I have to cancel class and they're fine with it. And, um, the clay so far, I'll say it's going to be just a day or two before I can ship that out. So I prioritize. Narration comes first, then when I have a break, I do. The clay is it's the best because I do it while I'm listening to audiobooks. And by the way, I'm listening to Petraeus, Camelot, and Vine right now. And it's wonderful.

[00:53:06] Karen Commins

Fun.

[00:53:06] Gina Rogers

Yeah. Fabulous. Um, so that's like I try to multitask as much as possible. So if I'm listening or watching a video on how to, um, sell something online, I'm also making the clay while I'm doing that. And then someone said, you know, you never talk about when you learn the choreography for the class. And I said, I usually do it in the mornings in bed. I watch the videos, or I come up with a choreography in my head. Um, it's I write everything down in a hard copy planner, and I also have a wall planner that I put all my books on. I schedule myself out and I always schedule myself out a couple extra days. Then I know I'll need just in case. Mhm. Yep. Over. What is it? Under any fun.

[00:54:01] Karen Commins

Time? Right.

[00:54:03] Anne Flosnik

Right.

[00:54:05] Anne Flosnik

It's very wise.

[00:54:06] Karen Commins

But do you schedule yourself some downtime, some fun time? Um, because you sound pretty scheduled.

[00:54:13] Gina Rogers

Right now, and I don't know if it'll always be like this, but the clay is like. It's. So I stopped drinking, drinking wine, which was my favorite thing in the world recently because my body's just not reacting well. Clay is my reward. I love it, it's so fun. I just enjoy it so much. But when I'm when I realize I'm getting stressed, I will sit outside and meditate. My husband has, um, made a pond in the back with, um, koi fish and I'll get out there and just meditate or go for a walk. I do. I have a weekly walking friend. Yeah, it's. I'm honest with you. The last month, I have not had much free time.

[00:54:56] Karen Commins

And how far are you from the beach? Because I know you said you like to do that.

[00:55:01] Gina Rogers

It's about two miles. It's great.

[00:55:04] Karen Commins

Really?

[00:55:05] Gina Rogers

I'm a bike and I'm planning to bike to the beach as often as well.

[00:55:10] Karen Commins

Yeah. I always dreamed of living that close to the beach. And when we finally decided to move for years, we were going to move from Georgia to Florida. And when we finally decided to move, we moved 12 miles. You know, so that that beach living is something I can still only do on vacation. So I'm very jealous of you for that.

[00:55:30] Gina Rogers

I. I will tell you, uh, I think it was like it was probably 2017. A friend of mine in LA said, come over and let's make vision boards. And I was like, no. And he's like, yeah, it's going to be so fun. And I was like, all right. So I came over and I made this vision board and I never finished it. But I did put a house that was on the beach with, um, Adirondack chairs and it looks like our house, so.

[00:55:56] Karen Commins

Oh, I love that story.

[00:55:58] Gina Rogers

It sounds woowoo, but the manifestation stuff and the fishing boards, it works, it works. Karen, make a vision board.

[00:56:06] Karen Commins

Oh, I have, and so much of it has come true. I'm not complaining, mind you. It's just that was the one thing. But it. There's so many reasons why we decided that wasn't a good change. So we didn't do it. Yeah. And we'll still go to the beach. I mean, it's still there. It's not like not like the ocean dried up because I didn't move.

[00:56:28] Gina Rogers

How far are you from the beach?

[00:56:30] Karen Commins

Oh, gosh. I mean, we're in northeast Georgia. I'm 40 miles northeast of downtown Atlanta. No, actually, I'm. Yeah, I'm 40 miles. So for me to get to the closest beach is Savannah. It's probably about 4.5 hours. And we like to go to Ponte Vedra. And so that's about. 6 to 7, depending on how many stops we make. Uh, how fast we go, because it's, you know, it's south of Jacksonville and it's it's just north of Saint Augustine. We love going there. But, um, anyway, enough about me, because our time is almost up and I'm not done grilling you.

[00:57:08] Gina Rogers

Oh. Oh.

[00:57:10] Karen Commins

So you had said something about, um. You know, to do things that you want to do. Do you have some specific advice that you could share with other people who want to expand their horizons beyond narration?

[00:57:28] Gina Rogers

Um. I say Jennifer Jill Araya had said something about. Well, she made a point of saying that. Most full time narrators have something else that they do. And I feel like at one point in my career, I was just a full time narrator, and it took a little bit of the joy away. I like having extra time to record a book, because some days I wake up and I'm like, I don't feel like it today. And I know if I go in there, it's not going to be my best work. So I encourage everybody to find the other things that bring you the joy. And I'll go to PJ and Kristine. Heaven. I don't know how to pronounce her last name. P.j. and Kristine do that play workshop, and how important it is that we see narration as our time to play.

[00:58:24] Anne Flosnik

Oh, Kristine Hvam, is it?

[00:58:26] Karen Commins

Yes yes yes yes yes.

[00:58:29] Gina Rogers

So I took their workshop a while ago and that was when I was full time narrating. And it like lit this little spark that was like, yes, it's a freelance job and it's flexible and I can make it work around my schedule so that I can do the other things that spark joy and make me. So if there's anything you like, I say, go for it. And, um, because I didn't think of monetizing the clay until people started asking for it, so. I don't know that. I did I answer your question?

[00:59:11] Karen Commins

Yeah, but you can keep going.

[00:59:13] Gina Rogers

I, um, I guess I was just thinking, if you're looking for another way to make money, because also, I, I had a tough time last year because I my motto, my thinking was always, you have to spend money to make money. And I went to a bunch of events. And that was also why I did that crazy marketing push at that last one that I went to, because I did a.

[00:59:35] Karen Commins

Terrific marketing push. Go ahead.

[00:59:37] Gina Rogers

Like, you know, like I didn't, um, and I will admit I enjoyed it. It didn't feel like work. It was it was fun because I was like, fishing, you know, it's my that sales personality, but, um.

[00:59:51] Gina Rogers

I, uh.

[00:59:53] Gina Rogers

I was I going to say, um, you were.

[00:59:55] Karen Commins

Thinking if you have to looking for other ways to make money.

[00:59:58] Gina Rogers

Right? Yes. Because with narration, with any freelance job, it's so up and down. You have one month where you make ten grand, and then one month where you don't have any income. And so again, a little plug for Jennifer. Her method and profit first. Profit first. Is that what it's called. It's a book by Michael Michalowicz. And he teaches you how to budget in a way that on the slow months you're still paying yourself. It's great. Um, but my point is, I wanted something so I didn't feel stressed about. Having to get books, having to ask a publisher to please give me a job. So that was the dancing. The dancing has always been a second source of income. Um, and someone recently said, you know, you really should be charging for your classes. I don't charge because I don't have a music license. And that was how I found out how I could go around that. And everyone who takes my class donates to me. And the ones who can't, I'm happy. That's totally fine, because I did a lot of things on scholarship. A lot of my dancing was. Given to me for free because I didn't have money at the time. So I believe, pay it forward and just find the things that spark joy and. Yeah. Manifest.

[01:01:23] Karen Commins

And I'm putting a link to that book that you mentioned in the chat of, um, Profit First.

[01:01:30] Gina Rogers

Yeah. It's great.

[01:01:33] Karen Commins

Well, this has been such a fun and terrific conversation, but we're already beyond our time. Do. How should people get in touch with you? I have your website in the Penn link. Is there, uh, some other southern thing, and is there anything that you would like to promote?

[01:01:50] Gina Rogers

The best place to chat with me is probably on Instagram at GinaRed. I can put that in the chat. Um, that's where I am everywhere. Gina Red was my nickname in college. Um, and. Promotion wise, if you guys are going to LA and you want to come to that dance class, I would love to have you. I'm also, I have a group on Facebook called Just Keep Dancing that I started when I started teaching online, and what I'm doing every Monday, you know, in my free time is breaking down a step. So like this past Monday I did a merengue. So that would come to the class. You have a basic because it's like a different language. People say, I tried your class and I couldn't follow. I give nonverbal cues to let you know what the next step is. So if you follow, if you're interested in that at all, just find me on Instagram and I'll send you the link. You can join the group. I don't charge for it. The only thing I would charge for is the class in LA. And that's it. Yeah. Otherwise. The clay is a happy heart. Clay. I have so many things. I'll put them in the chat.

[01:03:00] Karen Commins

Which? Which takes us full circle to the comment about you being a creative tornado. Yeah.

[01:03:07] Gina Rogers

Wow. Yes. I am a creative tornado. There's a lot happening.

[01:03:15] Karen Commins

And on that happy note, I should probably say it's time for everybody to get back on the road. So we're going to conclude today's Pit Stop. The recording will be available on clubhouse later today and probably next week. I'll post it with a transcript on MarratorsRoadmap.com. Pit Stop is also available in your favorite podcast platforms, including Apple and Audible. Anne, who is coming up tomorrow on Narrator Uplift?

[01:03:41] Anne Flosnik

Tomorrow I have Hillary Huber.

[01:03:44] Karen Commins

Oh, wonderful! I love her. I can't wait for that chat.

[01:03:48] Anne Flosnik

Yeah, yeah.

[01:03:50] Karen Commins

This is kind of the end of a season. I've decided I'm going to put Pit Stop on hiatus for a few months, and I hope to restart it in the spring, and that you'll take another road trip with us then. But in the meantime, I hope everybody finds joy in every journey and lives the life of your dreams. Thank you again so much to Gina Rogers for this fantastic conversation. And thank you, Anne for your great discussion and support. As always, and thanks to all of you for spending time with us today. Hope you have a wonderful weekend. We will see you soon!

END OF TRANSCRIPT



