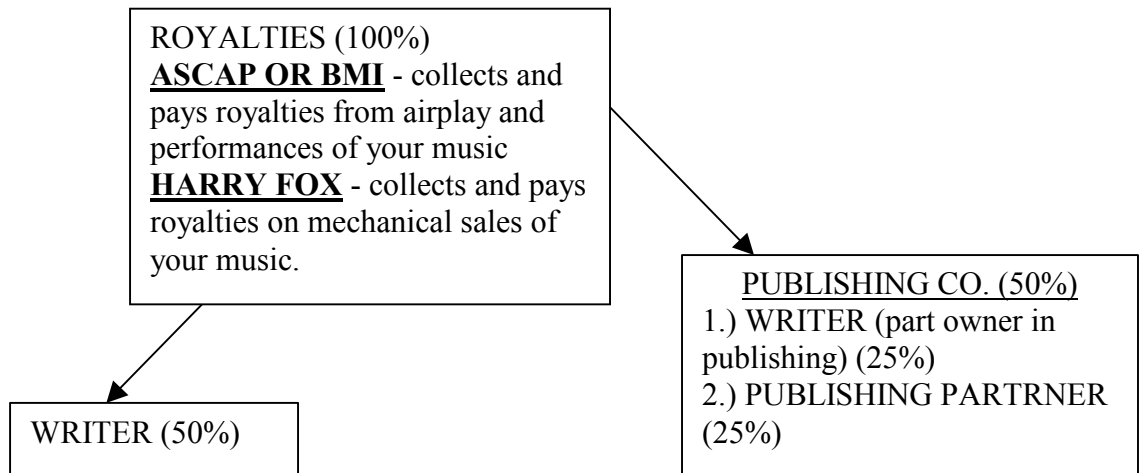


How to Start Your Own Publishing Company and Retain Publishing Rights:

- 1.) Pick a name for your Publishing Company
- 2.) Sign an agreement between the writer(s) and the newly formed publishing company to note the agreement (See Publishing Agreement). This is important especially if there is more than one writer and only one writer will be doing the actual promotion of the work. Conversely, it is important if the original writer wants to retain some publishing rights, yet share some rights with a third party.

For example:



With this scenario, the writer (you) retains 75% of the publishing.

- 3.) Sign up for ASCAP, BMI, or SESAC (a performance rights organization). Each song must be registered with one of the agencies. If it is not, you won't get paid. Songwriters and Publishers must join separately. You may still retain your publishing rights as an individual songwriter, as well. You can only sign to one company and the songwriter and publisher must be affiliated with the same company.
- 4.) All copyright should then be registered in the name of PUBLISHER. This is because the duty of the publisher is to administer and enforce rights of the works.

If the work is already registered with the Library of Congress for copyright, use the “Copyright Assignment” agreement included in this volume of contracts to use between the writer and the publisher.

- 5.) If you are using a fictitious name, you must file a d/b/a (doing business as) in the city or county you live. With this, you can get an EIN (employer identification number) from the IRS. This is important, because if you do start making royalty income and are paid by the performance rights organizations, you will need to open a bank account in the name of the publishing company. Otherwise, you won’t be able to cash the checks issued to you.
- 6.) If you’re not getting the amount of exposure you need to truly exploit the potential of your music from your own publishing company, consider finding an established publishing company and give up 50% of your music for the deal. A third option is to find a publishing company that will “co-publish” your music alongside your own existing publishing company.
- 7.) If you’re wildly successful in publishing your own music and simply can’t keep up with the administration of all incoming royalties, consider hiring an administration publisher to collect and administer your royalties on your behalf.