

Great way to find your Smashwords earnings!

I'm a publisher with a stable of six gifted authors, so **knowing how many books each of them have sold** at any particular time is a pesky problem. Especially if they want to know their **Smashwords** sales, where we had to wade through a mind-boggling list to make even an approximate tally.

Until now it was almost impossible to nail down the sales by item within a needed time frame, other than the quarterly checks that told the income earned for that quarter—but for what? **Good news:** that appears to be over. The headache at Smashwords has been fixed with a nifty, simple “Sales and Payment Report.”

Go to [Smashwords](#), to the **dashboard**, to the “**Sales and Payment Report**,” find the respective year you want to check, and open the “**Quarterly Earnings Mapping Report**.”

There, you will see a pick-the-buttons sort of keyboard where you will find **four categories:** (1) an **author** button, (2) **ghost author** buttons (like our six), (3) the **book titles** of [1] and [2] that are currently handled by Smashwords, and the (4) **15 channels (distributors)**—Smashwords, Sony, Barnes & Noble, Kobo, Amazon, Apple, Diesel, Page Foundry, Baker & Taylor, txtr, Library Direct, OverDrive, Flipkart, Oyster, and Scribd. (You may have to use the Control key to open more than one item per category. Hold it down as you add more information to the lists.)

You punch all of the keys you are researching (I hit “all” in each category) and out will come your quarterly earnings total, in Excel. You can sort the information in an Author or Title format. (The Title list tells which specific channel bought which books, and seems a bit more useful than the

Author choice.)

It's a godsend, and is actually quite clever. It's also fun to see Oyster and Scribd subscribers pecking at your offerings. One soul looked at one of my 99-cent reports—but only at 6 cents worth! This person was either an extraordinary speed reader or particularly discriminating.

Best wishes,

Gordon Burgett

P.S. If this is helpful, use the search button on any of my blog reports to find other comments about Kindle, Nook, BookBaby, Create Space, LSI, and other “open” publishers.