

THE STREAMS OPEN CREATOR LICENSE (SOCL)

Version 1.1 – Legal Edition

Effective Date: March 22, 2026

By Michael Pfalzgraf (also known as Shane P Michaels) (“Licensor”)

1. ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS

This Streams Open Creator License (“License”) constitutes a legally binding agreement between the Licensor and any individual or entity (“Creator”) who uses, references, or creates within the Streams Universe.

By using the Streams name, concept, or participating in the Streams Universe in any form, the Creator agrees to be bound by the terms of this License.

2. DEFINITIONS

2.1 “Streams Universe”

Refers to the proprietary fictional framework created by the Licensor, including but not limited to:

- The concept of interconnected “streams,” alternate realities, or narrative pathways
- The name “Streams,” “Streams Universe,” and associated branding
- Foundational lore, structure, mechanics, and thematic systems

2.2 “Original Work”

Any original content created by a Creator, including but not limited to:

- Stories, characters, artwork, media, products, or derivative narratives

2.3 “Creator”

Any person or entity utilizing the Streams Universe under this License.

3. OWNERSHIP AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

3.1 Retained Rights

All rights, title, and interest in and to the Streams Universe are and shall remain the sole and exclusive property of the Licensor.

3.2 Limited License Only

This License grants a limited, revocable, non-exclusive right to use the Streams Universe. No ownership rights are transferred.

3.3 Creator-Owned Content

Creators retain ownership of their Original Works, excluding any rights to the Streams Universe itself.

3.4 Reservation of Rights

All rights not expressly granted under this License are reserved by the Licensor.

4. LICENSE GRANT

Creators may commercially exploit their Original Works except as limited by Section 19 (Commercial Adaptations and Licensing).

5. ATTRIBUTION REQUIREMENT

Creators must include the following attribution in a clear and reasonably visible manner:

“Created within the Streams Universe by Shane P Michaels”

Failure to provide attribution constitutes a material breach of this License.

6. OPEN USE AND NON-EXCLUSIVITY

6.1 No Exclusivity

No Creator shall obtain or assert exclusive rights to any portion of the Streams Universe.

6.2 No Restriction on Others

Creators may not restrict, limit, or interfere with the rights of other Creators to use the Streams Universe.

6.3 No Enclosure

Any attempt to privatize, monopolize, or otherwise enclose any part of the Streams Universe is expressly prohibited.

7. PROHIBITED ACTIONS

Creators shall not:

- Claim ownership of the Streams Universe or its foundational elements

- Register or attempt to register trademarks or copyrights that conflict with the Streams Universe
- Rebrand, rename, or redistribute the Streams framework as a separate or original system
- License, sublicense, or sell the Streams Universe itself
- Impose additional legal restrictions that conflict with this License
- Attempt to commercially license or sell large scale adaptation rights (including film television or major distribution) without compliance with section 19

8. TRADEMARK AND BRAND PROTECTION

8.1 Reserved Marks

“Streams,” “Streams Universe,” and related identifiers are protected intellectual property of the Licensor.

8.2 Permitted Use

Use of such identifiers is permitted solely to indicate participation in the Streams Universe.

8.3 No Implied Endorsement

Use of the Streams name does not imply endorsement, partnership, or affiliation with the Licensor.

9. SHARE-ALIKE COMPATIBILITY

Any Original Work created within the Streams Universe must not impose legal or technical restrictions that would prevent others from creating within the Streams Universe.

This clause is intended to preserve the open and collaborative nature of the ecosystem.

10. TERMINATION

10.1 Automatic Termination

This License terminates automatically upon breach of any term.

10.2 Effect of Termination

Upon termination, the Creator must immediately cease all use of the Streams Universe.

10.3 Survival

Sections relating to ownership, liability, and enforcement shall survive termination.

11. ENFORCEMENT

The Licensor reserves the right to pursue all available legal remedies in the event of violation, including but not limited to:

- Injunctive relief
- Damages
- Recovery of legal fees where permitted by law

12. DISCLAIMER OF WARRANTIES

The Streams Universe is provided “as is,” without warranties of any kind, express or implied, including but not limited to fitness for a particular purpose.

13. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Licensor shall not be liable for any indirect, incidental, or consequential damages arising from use of the Streams Universe.

14. NO PARTNERSHIP OR AGENCY

Nothing in this License creates any partnership, joint venture, or agency relationship between the Licensor and any Creator.

15. MODIFICATIONS TO LICENSE

The Licensor reserves the right to update or modify this License at any time.

Continued use of the Streams Universe after updates constitutes acceptance of the revised License.

16. GOVERNING LAW AND JURISDICTION

This License shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of:

- The United States
- The State of Illinois

Any disputes arising under this License shall be resolved within the appropriate jurisdiction of Illinois.

17. SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this License is found to be unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

18. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This License constitutes the entire agreement between the Licensor and the Creator regarding the Streams Universe.

19. COMMERCIAL ADAPTATIONS AND LICENSING

19.1 Independent Creator Freedom

Creators may freely create, publish, distribute, and sell Original Works, including books, small-scale merchandise, digital media, and similar content, without any obligation to pay royalties or fees to the Licensor.

19.2 Reserved Rights for Major Adaptations

All rights relating to large-scale commercial adaptations of the Streams Universe are expressly reserved by the Licensor.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- Film, television, and streaming productions
- Major studio or network projects
- Large-scale licensing or mass retail merchandising agreements

19.3 Good Faith Licensing Requirement

In the event a Creator seeks to develop or participate in any project described in Section 19.2, the Creator agrees to engage in good faith discussions with the Licensor to obtain a separate written agreement.

19.4 Revenue Participation (Non-Fixed)

Any such agreement may include reasonable revenue participation for the Licensor, typically in the range of industry-standard percentages (for example, approximately 5–20%), to be determined in good faith based on the scope and scale of the project.

19.5 No Unauthorized Studio-Level Use

No Creator may independently license, sell, or otherwise authorize large-scale commercial use of the Streams Universe without the Licensor's express written permission.

THE SPIRIT OF STREAMS

The Streams Universe is an open door.

You are free to walk through it.

You are free to build within it.

But you may not close it behind you.

Best of luck

Shane P Michaels