# Interim Report

Q3 2023

October 31, 2023



## Today's presenters



Johannes Larcher CEO



Peter Messner CFO

## Mission

To move the world through story

## Combination of Content and Streaming businesses creates synergies and value



## Financial Highlights Q3 2023

#### **Group Revenue up 11% YoY**



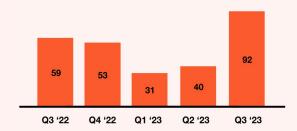
#### **Group Gross Profit Margin**



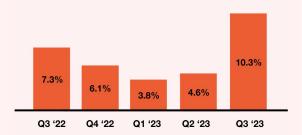
#### **Group EBITDA up 55% YoY**

Adjusted EBITDA, MSEK

**MSEK** 



#### **Group EBITDA Margin, excl IAC**



#### Comments

Q3 2023 compared with Q3 2022

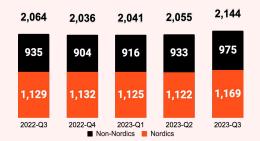
- Group net sales increased by 11% to 896 (806) MSEK
  - o 12% excluding Russia
- Gross profit of 352 (312) MSEK
- Equal to a profit margin of 39.3% (38.7%)
- Adjusted EBITDA of 92 (59) MSEK
- Equal to an EBITDA margin of 10.3% (7.3%)
- Operational cash flow amounted to 56 (20) MSEK
- Operating profit of 15 (-21) MSEK

## **Streaming Development Q3 2023**

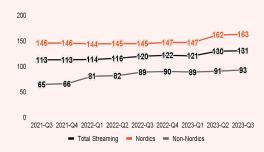
#### **Streaming Revenue, MSEK**



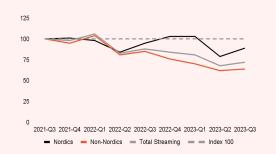
#### Average Paybase, 000'



#### ARPU, SEK



#### **Churn Trend, Index**

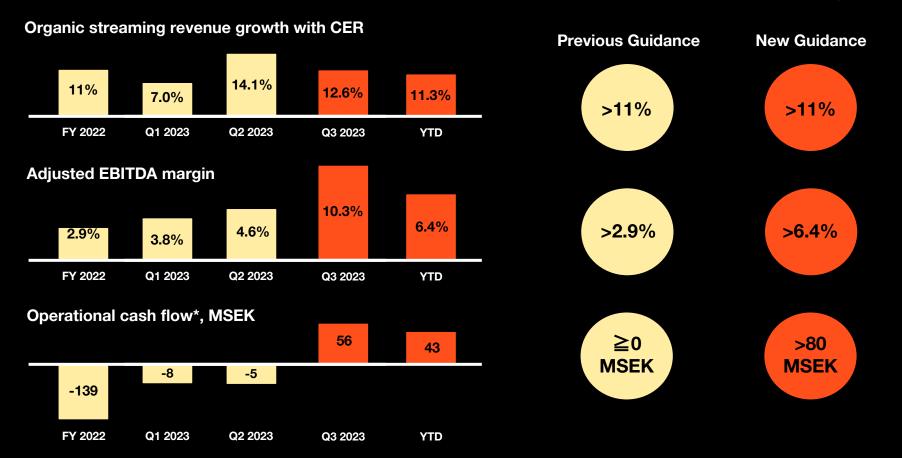


#### Comments

Q3 2023 compared with Q3 2022

- Streaming revenue up 13% to 842 (742) MSEK,
  - o 15% excluding Russia
- Streaming revenue in the Nordics increased by 16%
- Average number of subscribers increased by 80,000
  - o Of which 40,000 in the Nordics
  - Our four growth markets\* increased by 25%
- Continued focus on average CLV relative to the acquisition cost
- ARPU and churn developed well and are at healthy levels

### We are on track to exceed our full year 2023 financial targets



<sup>\*</sup> Adjusted EBITDA less operational capex

## Continuous improved EBITDA margin

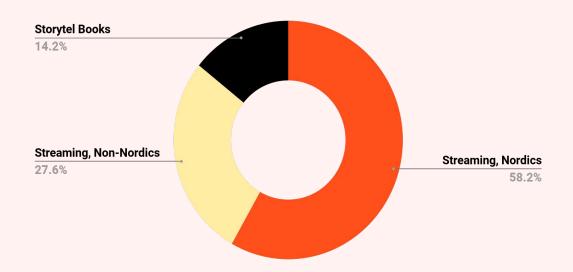
MSEK	Q3-23	Q3-22	Change, %	Q2-23
Net Sales	895.8	805.8	11	851.1
COGS	-543.9	-493.9	10	-517.9
Gross profit/loss	351.9	311.9	13	333.2
Sales and marketing expenses	-192.6	-174.7	10	-218.8
Technology and development expenses	-63.3	-82.8	-24	-63.9
General and admin. expenses	-91.5	-83.0	10	-95.6
Other operating income	5.7	2.8	103	13.8
Profit from participation in associates	4.8	4.9	-2	2.0
Operating profit	15.0	-20.9	n/a	-29.4
Net financial items	-14.3	25.1	n/a	11.4
Profit/loss before tax	0.7	4.3	-84	-18.0
Key metrics	Q3-23	Q3-22	Change	Q2-23
Gross margin	39.3%	38.7%	0.6p.p	39.1%
EBITDA margin	10.3%	7.3%	3.0p.p	4.6%

- Net sales for the quarter grew by 11% to 896 (806) MSEK
- Gross profit up by 13% to 352 (312)
   MSEK; margin of 39.3% (38.7%)
- Sales and marketing expenses increased by 10% to -193 (-175)
   MSEK. The comparison is affected by organizational changes since last year
- General and administrative expenses totaled -92 (-83) MSEK. The change is mainly due to an increased centralization of certain functions and of the management team.
- Operating profit improved to 15 (-21)
   MSEK, as a result of strategic shift to focus on profitable growth
- EBITDA improved to 92 (59) MSEK and the EBITDA margin to 10.3% (7.3%)

## **Q3 Segments performance**

#### Revenue split, Q3 2023

(100% = 896 MSEK)



#### Comments

Q3 2023 compared with Q3 2022

#### **Streaming, Nordics**

- Reported revenue growth of 16%, and 13% in constant currency
- Gross margin increased to 42.2% (38.4%)
- ARPU increased by 12% to 163 (145) SEK
- Avg. paying subscribers increased by 40,000 during Q3 with continued focus on LTV

#### **Streaming, Non-Nordics**

- Reported revenue growth of 8%, and 13% excluding Russia
- Gross margin decreased to 46.3% (47.3%)
- ARPU increased by 4% to 93 (89) SEK
- Avg. paying subscribers grew by 40,000
- The Netherlands, Poland, Bulgaria, and Turkey grew paying subscribers with 25%

#### **Books**

- Reported external revenue decline by 5%, while internal revenue increased by 25%
- Higher share of digital sales
- Gross margin decreased to 46.5% (55.6%)

### **Balance sheet**

MSEK	Q3-23	Q2-23	Q1-23	Q4-22	Q3-22
Intangible assets	2,642.7	2,668.6	2,583.8	2,622.4	2,755.1
Tangible assets	19.6	22.5	27.0	26.0	28.9
Right-of-use assets	97.7	109.9	115.5	115.4	116.7
Non-current financial assets	85.6	81.0	75.1	87.7	95.8
Inventory	89.1	94.6	103.4	102.1	121.5
Current receivables	634.8	618.0	618.5	658.6	643.9
Cash and cash equivalents	540.6	531.3	540.4	776.3	457.4
Total assets	4,110.1	4,126.0	4,063.7	4,388.5	4,219.3
Equity	2,161.0	2,165.4	2,122.3	2,193.0	1,973.3
Non-current liabilities	946.9	952.9	991.9	831.3	915.6
Current liabilities	1,002.2	1,007.7	949.5	1,364.2	1,330.5
Total equity and liabilities	4,110.1	4,126.0	4,063.7	4,388.5	4,219.3
Available RCF	150	150	150	250	250
Total available liquidity					
Total available liquidity	691	681	690	1,026	707

- Intangible assets decreased by 26 MSEK vs Q2 as a net result of investments, amortization and fx effects
- Non-current financial assets increased by 6 MSEK, net of movements in pension provision, bonus provision and leasing liabilities
- The equity-to-asset ratio was 53% (47%) at the end of the third quarter
- Bank debt includes 150 MSEK term loan (current) and 700 MSEK utilized RCF (non-current)
- Cash and cash equivalents were 541 MSEK, and total available liquidity, including 150 MSEK of unutilized RCF, was 691 MSEK at the end of the quarter

### Improved profitability and cash flows

MSEK	Q3-23	Q2-23	Q1-23	Q4-22	Q3-22
EBITDA (incl. IAC)	91.6	39.6	30.5	38.5	59.2
Depreciation and amortization	-81.4	-71.0	-82.0	-80.7	-85.0
Profits from participation in associates	4.8	2.0	3.4	-4.6	4.9
Net financial items	-14.3	11.4	-16.2	-44.9	25.1
Profit before tax	0.7	-18.0	-64.3	-91.7	4.3
Adjustments for non-cash items	88.2	53.0	84.2	113.1	61.0
of which, reversal depreciation and amortisation	81.4	71.0	82.0	80.7	85.0
of which, change in capital gains/losses	-1.9	-3.5	-4.6	5.7	-2.2
of which change in FX gains/losses	-9.8	-23.1	0.0	33.2	-36.7
of which, change in provisions	21.1	8.3	6.9	-5.3	16.5
of which, change in other non-cash items	-2.5	0.2	0.0	-1.2	-1.5
Taxes paid	-10.0	-10.7	-2.2	-9.3	-5.1
Cash flow from operating activities before change					
in working capital	78.9	24.3	17.8	12.1	60.2
Change in working capital	41.0	12.1	3.9	-31.7	13.3
Cash flow from operating activities	119.9	36.4	21.7	-19.6	73.5

- Effects from strategic delivery and cost reduction resulting in solid Y/Y improvements:
  - o Reported EBITDA at 92 (-59) MSEK
  - o Operating profit at 15 (-21) MSEK
- Adjustments for non-cash items are primarily driven by:
  - Depreciation and amortization
  - Currency exchange movements
  - Changes in provisions
- Cash flow from operating activities increased to 120 (73) MSEK
- Cash flow from investing activities was -46 (-63) MSEK, cash flow from financing activities was -59 (-9) MSEK, and
- Total cash flow for the period was 14 (1) MSEK

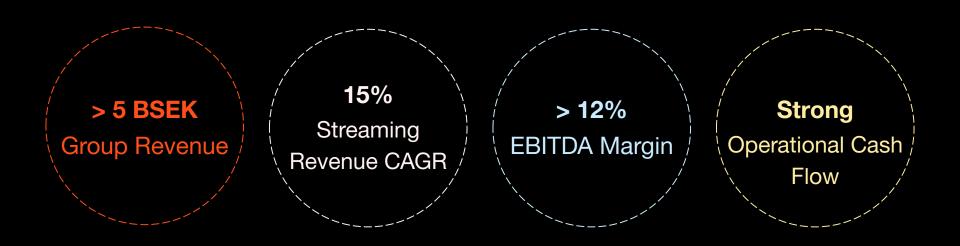
## Operational cash flow

MSEK	Q3'23	Q2'23	Q1'23	Q4'22	Q3'22
EBITDA excluding IAC	91.6	39.6	30.5	53.0	59.2
Operational Capex *	-35.9	-44.7	-38.3	-41.1	-39.7
Operational cash flow	55.7	-5.1	-7.9	12.0	19.5

- 55% Y/Y improvement in EBITDA in line with strategic shift
- Continuous investments in product/tech and content
- Improvement of operational cash flow as compared to Q2, and overall positive trend
- Targeting more than 80 MSEK operational cash flow for 2023

<sup>\*</sup>Operational capex consist of tech investments and investments into audiobook productions. Due to the redefinition of Operational capex in Q1 2023, the 2022 figures differ as compared to the presented figures in the 2022 year-end report.

## Mid-term Financial targets - Storytel in 2026



## **Key Drivers for Sustainable Profitable Growth**



## **Balanced Profitable Growth Across Our Regions**



## **A Strong Competitive Position**

## Audiobooks Streaming Pioneer

Well-established **brand** synonymous with high quality audio experiences in our Core Markets.

**Know-how** in offering a best-in-class engine for discovery and enjoyment of audiobook content.

100% focus on audio stories.

#### Localized and Unique Business Model

Proven business model that has established Storytel as one of the leading audiobook streaming services, with more than 1.4 million titles from more than 1,400 publishers and in 41 different languages.

Audiobook consumption is **highly local**, with more than 85% of consumption taking place in the local language from works by local authors.

High synergy strategy of operating both D2C Streaming services and leading publishing houses, combined with investments in differentiating and original audio-story content.

## Loyal, Highly Engaged and Well-Served Subscriber Base

Solid demand, high engagement and low churn despite a challenging macroeconomic environment in Scandinavia and several other core markets.

Our consistent and improving performance bears testimony not only to the resilience of the audiobook market, but also to **how well we serve our customers**.

## **Key Takeaways**

- Strong improvements of operational and financial performance through disciplined execution of our profitable growth strategy
- Showcasing last-line profitability and cash generation through healthy subscriber growth, higher ARPU and more disciplined cost management
- Solid progress towards our mid term financial targets and in a good position going into 2024

#### **Updated Near Term Guidance for 2023**



Organic streaming revenue growth in line with previous year (11%\*)



Full Year EBITDA margin well above 6.4%\*\* (previously above 2.9%)



Operational cash flow\*\*\* of at least 80 MSEK (previously break-even)

<sup>\*2022</sup> streaming revenue growth excluding Audiobooks.com, Russia and with constant exchange rates
\*\* EBITDA excluding items affecting comparability

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Operational cash flow = EBITDA excluding items affecting comparability less operational capex



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