

# Denny Martin Delivers Quality Production for Grand Prize

**By Darren Wiedman, FWSA Song Contest Grand Prize Winner**

I just wanted to give a little report on my experience with Denny Martin and the free demo he provided as a prize at the 2023 Christmas gathering. I reached out to Denny via email in mid-December. He responded the same day and answered all my initial questions. After a little back-and-forth where I asked him even more questions, which he patiently answered, I sent him a rough demo, chords, and lyrics, and a few songs to give him an idea of the feel I was hoping for. He was very complimentary of my song and offered several recommendations for demo singers, even providing an mp3 of a recently finished song by one of them. He recommended slowing the tempo a bit on my song to make it easier to sing, which I agreed to.

I was not involved in the recording process. I just let him do his thing, including selecting the demo singer (Melissa Duvall). He originally offered several instrument choices (like percussion, bass, and rhythm and lead acoustic guitar). I opted for a very simple and intimate sound—acoustic guitar and minimal electric (both played by Scott Neubert).

I originally said I was in no hurry. But I saw a posting at TAXI that seemed to fit the song, so I asked him to hit a deadline, which he did by several days. (TAXI ultimately rejected the song because it didn't have a chorus. Apparently, AABA songs are not very common in country music these days.)

In a follow-up email that Denny sent, I mentioned the TAXI rejection. He affirmed the song and told me to send it to a friend of his (who just happens to be a legendary Nashville publisher). That publisher also passed on the song, but just getting someone of his caliber to listen to it was a win for me.

I sent in an mp3 of the final version to post on the FWSA website. So it may be out there if you want to give a listen. I was very happy with the overall quality of the demo.

Overall, I was extremely pleased with the process of working with Denny and I recommend him highly.

Editor's Note: Darren's demo recording is available for listening on the FWSA website at the following link: [www.fwsa.com](http://www.fwsa.com). If interested in having Denny Martin produce a recording of your songs, you can contact him through his website, [www.dennymartinmusic.com](http://www.dennymartinmusic.com).

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