Boundary-preserving Lifescripts

Slamming down the phone isn't the most graceful way to end a consultation call—even if it's leaking into paid-work territory.

Try one of these lifescripts, and save yourself from the pit of bottomless freebie despair.

"Wow, it looks like our 15 minutes are up! I've really enjoyed talking to you about your { business/project/ mission }, and I'd love to strike up a creative partnership. I'd recommend working together for a two-week trial period, and then re-assessing your goals and budget. Sound good?"

"15 minutes sure flies by when you're plotting total world domination, doesn't it? How 'bout we lock you down for a series of three sessions with me, and kick your { business/project/mission } into high gear."

"Thanks for sharing your { business/project/mission } with me—this chat has gotten me really fired up! Let's sign off for now, and I'll think about the deliverables you outlined. I'll send you a quote & proposed timeline within 24 hours, and we can go from there, OK?"

"You've posed some really meaty guestions, and I'm excited to help you refine your { business/project/ mission } even further. We could easily brainstorm all day long, but I'm sure we both have other appointments on the docket! How about a 60-minute brainstorming session, one week from today? I can shoot you a PayPal invoice right away."

