**Be Your Own Developmental Editor Using a Bookmap**

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* What is a book map?
	+ A book map is an overview of a book, broken down scene by scene or chapter by chapter, usually in the form of a table.
* When to do your book map?
	+ After you’ve written your first draft and let it sit and marinate…
		- Get emotional distance from characters/scenes
	+ Take off your creative writer hat and put on your ruthless editor hat
	+ Book map BEFORE you give it to beta readers/editors/etc.
	+ This is for YOU, after the first draft
* You’re still going to need Beta Readers and Editors after these revisions
	+ Allows you to study your plot, structure, pacing, and character development of your story as an OBJECTIVE editor
* Filling out your book map
	+ Summary of the chapter/scene
	+ % into story (for beats/plotting/structure info)
	+ Timeline
	+ How do your characters develop?
	+ Where does it take place?
	+ What happens in the plot/s?
	+ Does the scene reinforce the theme?
* Summary of the chapter/scene
* Characters
* Plots/Themes
* Start with the big ideas!
	+ Note any issues/concerns
	+ Goals
	+ Motivations
	+ Conflicts
	+ Plot moving forward
	+ Story arc beats/pacing
	+ Check character and emotional arcs
	+ Scenes have their own checklist!
	+ Start with the BIG ideas
	+ Yes, you need to add visceral reactions and freshen up your clichés BUT that’s for a future round of revisions, after the STRUCTURE is ready for the paint, drapes, and carpets. ☺
* What next? GENRE PROMISES!...YOU MUST **READ YOUR GENRE**
* EXTERNAL PLOT ARC
	+ Opening: 0-15%
	+ Main characters introduced, world rules established, MC (Hero/heroine/protagonist) baseline – who they are in their world “before” the story
	+ Inciting Incident: 10-15%
	+ Protagonist’s world changes – normal world is upset
	+ First Plot Point: 25% - End of Act One
	+ Protagonist makes a decision to do something as a direct result of the inciting incident
	+ First Pinch Point: 37.5%
	+ Get an idea/hint of the antagonistic forces – something is working against the MC
	+ Second Plot Point: 50% - MIDPOINT
	+ Shift in protagonist’s perspective, their attitude changes from reactive to proactive!
	+ Second Pinch Point: 62.5%
	+ Another glimpse of antagonistic forces
	+ Third Plot Point: 75% BEGIN THIRD ACT
	+ Crisis – Devastating defeat
	+ Dark Moment – protagonist feels that all is lost
	+ CLIMAX
	+ Protagonist has epiphany and can solve the problem
	+ Big battle – showdown between protagonist and main antagonist
	+ Resolution
	+ Show how the MC’s life is different “after” the story
* INTERNAL CHARACTER ARC
	+ Opening: 0-15%
		- Main characters introduced, shown in their present world… NEED/WANT is shown. Have a tangible external goal. Reveal character’s wound, hint at misbelief. Shows who they are in their world “before” the story.
	+ Inciting Incident: 10-15%
	+ Protagonist’s world changes – normal world is upset
	+ First Plot Point: 25% - End of Act One
	+ Protagonist makes a decision to do something as a direct result of the inciting incident. We see who they could become if they healed their wound.
	+ First Pinch Point: 37.5%
	+ Antagonistic forces trigger misbeliefs about who they are and what they are capable of.
	+ Second Plot Point: 50% - MIDPOINT
	+ Protagonist sees who they could be. Must decide to not go back. (Change is hard)
	+ Second Pinch Point: 62.5%
	+ Wound hammered hard, proof of misbelief
	+ Third Plot Point: 75% BEGIN THIRD ACT
	+ Crisis – Must overcome misbelief
	+ Dark Moment – protagonist feels that all is lost and can never change
	+ CLIMAX
	+ protagonist has epiphany and desire to change
	+ Big battle – Confronts what is holding them back and accepts consequences
	+ Resolution
	+ Show how the MC is different “after” the story, has become their best self
* Next comes scene level editing, which could/should be its own workshop!
* Resources and advice
	+ Contests. There are a TON of contests out there that are free charge a nominal fee (under $50). Find one in your genre and be a judge and SUBMIT YOUR WIP!
	+ Books:
		- Lisa Cron Story Genius
		- Save the Cat Writes a Novel (Save the Cat website has more beat sheets)
		- Syd Field on Screenwriting (Josh Malerman told me to read it)
		- SG Redlings recs:
			* Take Off Your Pants-Libbie Hawker
			* Johnny Shaw on Medium: Finding Your Voice and Going Too Far
* Websites (tobidoyle.com)
	+ Jami Gold – for beat sheets
	+ Fiction University – for writing questions
	+ [https://www.helpingwritersbecomeauthors.com](https://www.helpingwritersbecomeauthors.com/) KM Weiland
	+ WritersHelpingWriters.net – Angela Ackerman/Becca Puglisi (Emotional Wound Thesaurus)
	+ <https://writeshop.com/genres-how-to-write-a-fairy-tale/>
* Intensive Genre Weekend presented by Michael Knost and Sheila Redling–Coming in October in HUNTINGTON!!!
* Join Writing Groups and Organizations