



**EDITOR**

a book editing company

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## Editorial Magic: Revising Your Way to Success

Congratulations! You've written a book. How do you know if your book is ready to be sent to agents or self-published? Here is a checklist of things to consider as you revise your book:

### CONCEPT

- Is your book's concept fresh and original?
- Are there too few or too many themes?
- Does the title best represent your book?

### PLOT AND STRUCTURE

- Do the opening pages hook readers?
- Are there any holes in the story or argument?
- Are the stakes high enough to provide momentum?
- Does the book resolve itself in a satisfying manner?

### CHARACTERS AND SETTING

- Are the main characters relatable and intriguing?
- Are there established character arcs and are they resolved by the end?
- Are there too little or too many characters?
- Is the setting unique or described in a unique way?

### SCENES AND DIALOGUE

- Is the dialogue natural and distinctive for each speaker?
- Is there too much or too little dialogue?
- Are you providing enough exposition to ground a scene?
- Are you telling too much versus showing?
- Are you providing too much backstory or information in the beginning?

### OTHER

- Is the verb tense (past or present) the right one for your book?
- Is the point of view (first person, second person, third person limited, or omniscient) the right choice and used consistently?
- Is the book well-researched or is more research required?
- Does the language flow, and is it the right style for your book?
- Is the tone consistent throughout?
- Is the book too long, too short, or just the right length?

To make sure your book is hitting all the right points, consider hiring a developmental editor. A developmental editor will read your manuscript and provide you with professional feedback on what is and isn't working, as well as give you guidance on revision (where the \*magic\* happens). The goal is to get your book into the best possible shape!

Got a question or need an editor? Contact Naomi Eagleson at [hello@artfuleditor.com](mailto:hello@artfuleditor.com).