#### Your novel is ...

- A cast of compelling characters with strong wants/needs/desire/motivation
- A story with drama, romance, conflict, humor and heart-warming scenes
- Told in front of a richly textured and memorable setting that tickles many senses
- Either neatly outlined and organized or else just primed enough for exploratory discovery writing
- Simplified enough to complete the first draft within the bounds of November yet filled with the promise of unfolding subplots and engaging side characters
- Constructed with rising and falling tension with something like the 7 point plot structure

Advice provided by your friends at naperwrimo.org

Your novel structure might be ...



#### Your Characters are...

People who appear internally consistent and yet are capable of surprise. Characters should have four crucial elements:

- a driving need, desire, ambition or goal, since desire creates conflict
- a secret (like a hidden trait/inclination or an incident from the past)--secrets inform us of what the character has to lose.
- a contradiction that yields enigma, mystery and surprise
- and vulnerability, which draws in the reader..



#### Your Character's journey involves....

Key moments and emotional incidents to explore for your character:

- moment of greatest fear
- moment of greatest courage
- moment of greatest sorrow
- moment of greatest joy
- worst failure
- moment of deepest shame
- moment of most profound guilt
- moment of most redemptive forgiveness

Ref: How to craft compelling characters, David Corbett, 2011 Writer's Digest Article



#### Your plot is ...

... the 'what' plus the 'why' of a story, and how multiple whats and whys fit together in a larger chain.

Your plot should:

- Create curiosity and raise lingering questions.
- Show cohesion
- Obey their own internal logic.
- Avoid cliche and create surprise.
- Give readers something worth the investment of time and effort it takes to read

Ref: <u>https://www.nownovel.com/blog/how-to-</u> <u>plot-novel/</u>



#### Your character's motivations are...

- Influenced by their past actions, the people and events who shaped them, and the people and forces who are acting now upon them.
- The driving force behind their actions throughout the story
- A part in how they interact with other characters
- Something that's allowed to change as circumstances develop



### Your tools are...

- Somewhere to regularly back up your novel to; e.g., dropbox, google Drive,
- A word processor like google docs or Word or document editor like vim (see naperwrimo.org/vim); or a distractionfree text editor like Write!, FocusWriter, WriteMonkey, or Raven. Or try a multifaceted novel writing software system like yWriter5 (free) or Scrivener (commercial software)
- Index cards for outlining; or XMind for mindmapping
- nanowrimo.org forums, especially the Reference Desk and Plot Doctoring



# Your NaNo Community is...

- Playing games on the region forum nanowrimo.org/regions/usa-illinoisnaperville
- Making introductions on Oct 27th at the Municipal Center of Naperville
- Dueling trains on Nov 3rd
- Crawling through libraries and collecting memes (lib crawl link)
- J Typing awa~y in dear ole Naperville
  (naperwrimo.org/events)
- Potlucking and churning out words at the All-Day Write-In Nov 16?? @ 400 Eagle Street
- Watch the wordcounts rises (nanofaces link)



NaperWriMo.org

### Your schedule is ....

	Sunday	Monday		Tuesday	We	Wednesday	F	Thursday		Friday	S	Saturday
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### Your Motivation Sources are...

- Our local forums on the NaNo site <u>nanowrimo.org/regions/usa-illinois-</u> <u>naperville</u>
- NaperWrimo website <u>naperwrimo.org</u>
- Twitter accounts who run NaNo writing events
  - <u>twitter.com/NaNoWordSprints</u>
  - <u>twitter.com/NaNoWriMo</u>
  - <u>twitter.com/FriNightWrites</u>
  - Get a new kitten picture every time you meet a word count goal <u>http://writtenkitten.net/</u>
  - Writers on our Slack or IRC channels
    - naperwrimo.org/slack
    - naperwrimo.org/irc
  - Everyone else at write-ins
  - Your Mom, your MLs, and your dog



### Your novel's future is ... (post-NaNo)

- Sitting in your laptop for two months until you can stand to look at it again
- A lot, and we mean a lot, of editing
- Story walls at a Journey Meeting to fix those NaNo plot holes
- Carefully watched by members of the Writing Journey (writingjourney.org)
- Being passed out to critique partners
- A third (and maybe fourth draft)
- Sitting pretty in B&N and Anderson's Bookshop



# Editing is ..

- Fixing plot holes
- Questioning if all scenes are needed
- Questioning if all characters are needed
- Transforming passive verbs
- Reducing word count
- Killing your darlings
- Removing redundancy
- Receiving critiques
- The word loss diet
- Re-outlining
- Reviewing your story as if someone else wrote it– someone you don't like
- Axing adverbs
- Updating telling to showing
- Ending chapters on cliff hangers
- Replacing negative with positive



# Your Editing Checklist is ...

Basic Principles:

- Do things that make you want to come back and edit some more (You cannot edit an entire 50,000+ word novel in one sitting, so you need to set it up so that you're willing to come back again and again and again.)
- You don't have to fix everything on one pass.
- 3. Do things that make your novel better with each pass.
- 4. Keep working until you're happy with the finished result.
- Think about getting outside input— Critiquecircle.com, Journey Story Walls, other stuff

For more, see katherinelato.com/journey/edit-advice.pdf

### NaperWriMo Hipster PDA 2018



Name: \_\_\_

Novel: \_\_\_\_\_

#### nanowrimo.org/regions/usa-illinois-naperville