

Writing Novel is Hard

I have a million stories whirling around in my head. Or perhaps a million is a bit conservative. Who's to say? Certainly not me, and that's for one specific reason. Writing a novel is really hard! I have yet to meet someone I talk to about writing that hasn't at least contemplated the idea of writing The Great American Novel™. I've sat down at least three times to undertake this daunting task, and each time seems so much harder than the last. I know that I've failed all the previous times I've tried. It's long, and tough, and arduous, and difficult, and--

And some other word for hard.

Writing a novel is hard. First you need a story that's worth telling. The first time I thought I had that. Sitting down, the idea was all in my head; that was enough for me to sit down to actually start writing, and I hoped it would be enough for me to get a fully realized novel with just a bit of work. The story changed about a dozen pages into the manuscript, and it was so much better. Two dozen more pages flew underneath my fingertips, key after key.

Clack clack clack clack.

Wait, that first page is wrong. It doesn't flow naturally to the twenty-seventh. Let's just go fix that real fast.

But now the third chapter is formatted all wrong.

Writing a novel is hard. 1st you have to actually put enough words into a document for it to be considered a novel. The 2nd time I thought I could do that. I put aside 1 entire month and told myself: "you're going to write 1,750 words every day. When you're done your novel is going

to be over 50,000 words.” I need to write 1,750 words every day. At about 800 words per hour: 4 pages in that time. If I can put aside 2.5 hours every 1 day, after only 30 days I will have put in 80 hours worth of work to write over 50,000 words which is enough for me to have 1 novel at least which is over 200 pages.

And I just need 4 more words today 2--

Writing a novel is hard. First you need to have a strong development for each character. This time I know I can do that. What good is a story if the characters aren't people that you want to be with. The people need to be fully realized, multi-dimensional, and compelling. I want to sit down with these characters. Dax is someone that you can get a beer with, and Zara is ambitious and could definitely kick my ass at chess.

They're fun people to be with. They're my friends!

And I love hanging out with my friends, even when we aren't really doing anything in particular.

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