



## REVISION PROCESS

Even though the goal of this retreat is to get your book written, to get it actually completed it needs to be revised, which is why so much emphasis is put on revision as part of your prep work. It is anticipated at this retreat, you will complete the writing of your book and at that time you'll be immediately moved in to revision.

Please take advantage of the opportunity to get as much of your work revised as possible at the retreat, because I have seen a substantial falloff in productivity once our authors leave the retreat.

For those of you moving on with us to the PublishNow program or anyone who wants to join solo, the Author Revision Class sessions hold you accountable for not only completing the writing but also the revision of your beloved book. For more information on either program, see Janelle Kutz. Here are the revision steps I suggest you follow.

## REVISION STEPS

- 1) Keep in mind that when revising your book, you have to be in the same Divine Author Within (DAW) state as when you were writing it. This is absolutely *essential* to your success. Otherwise, you will end up over editing and destroy your book, editing out your heart and soul.

The only way to ensure that you remain in the Author Within State is to tap in to your next book, on a consistent basis, to cause an overflow of inspiration from the writing over to the revision process. To accomplish this, listen to the writing audio and alternate between writing book two and doing the revision of book one, writing on your next book for 15 minutes, and then revising for 45 minutes. Keep in mind, as well, that whenever you become overly critical of the book you are revising, it is time to readjust your attitude by going back to your writing.

- 2) Point Number Two: It's important that you complete each of the revision steps completely before moving on to the next step.
- 3) Point Three: For the first time in literary history, we have a general blueprint on how readers prefer to be approached. Adjusting to this design significantly increases your chance of readers enjoying reading your book. The way contemporary books by first time successful authors are laid out are basically all the same. Thus, adjusting your book to the needs of the reader through the use of this system automatically gives you a greater chance of success.

Here's how you do it. Lay out your poster board in to five columns: a beginning, mid-point, middle, mid-point, and an ending with each blank Post-it Note depicting a separate scene. A scene can be as long as a chapter or as short as a paragraph. Performing the following will give your book the roadmap it needs to systematically readjust itself to the style readers most want to read.

Your poster board should be laid out with blank Post 'em Notes as follows:

Column 1	(3) pinks; (4) blues; (1) yellow; (1) orange
Column 2	(2) pinks; (3) blues; (1) yellow; (1) orange
Column 3	(3) pinks; (4) blues; (1) yellow; (1) orange
Column 4	(2) two pinks; (3) blues; (1) yellow; (1) orange
Column 5	(4) pinks

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
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Once you have your poster board laid out in the above manner, read through your manuscript **quickly**, skim it, and allow your book to speak, as it did when you were writing it, to you telling you what goes where on the poster board. Appreciate descriptions of each scene on the Post 'Ems. Leave blank Post-It Notes as place holders for scenes or passages that still need to be written.

Just for your information...

### **Pink Scenes:**

**These are the scenes that make you, the author, feel the strongest.** They make a specific emotional or informational point. **Deeply, 100% emotional scenes.** The most powerful pink scenes should appear in column 1 then column 5 (at the end) and then column 3 (at the middle).

### **Blue Scenes:**

Pinks are always followed by blues. Blues are **backstory or purely factual material.** Blues basically comprise no emotional reaction. They share specific facts and figures about your characters or your subject. Blues are the actual purpose for the writing of your book. **Blues are your book.** Blues give the reader a rest after the emotional pinks.

**Yellow Scenes: 60% emotional.**

**Orange Scenes: 80% emotional.**

Oranges and yellows are transitional bridges back to a 100% emotional pink. The **yellows and orange only exist to connect the blues back to the pink.** You won't have a lot of them. Orange and yellows are often your leftover pinks.

- 4) When your board is complete, Tom will either approve and tell you it is correct or he will make suggestions on what needs to be changed or added.
- 5) Once your board is approved you will need to arrange your manuscript the way it is laid out on the poster board.
- 6) Step Six - Quickly read through your manuscript **front to back** filling in any missing material, creating bridges between scenes and smoothing over any rough edges.
- 7) Read the manuscript **back to front.** Not literally backwards but from the last section to the first. This is a way to catch any previously overlooked errors, insights or additions. Make those additions and/or changes.
- 8) Lastly, moving front to back one last time, read over your manuscript looking for typographical or grammatical errors such as punctuation and spelling. Make any necessary corrections.

Once you have completed Step 8 you have completed the author revision process. It's now time to move your manuscript into the professional realm of revision, promotion and publication.