

Philip Ai

Novel Writing

Instructor- Meredith Sue Willis

Oct. 8, 2024

Info About Novel

Type of Novel - My novel is science fiction dystopian novel.

Possible Page Length-My possible page length is between 200 and 300 pages

How much written- I wrote 31 pages

Narrative Viewpoint-My view is limited narrative viewpoint

Conflict- The conflict between the Candyman and the State embodied in the Prefect of Diet over the right to eat candies.

Rhea Almeida

– The genre or type of your novel

Auto-fiction

– The length you guess it will be in the end (150 manuscript pages? 300?)

~ 200 pages

– How much you’ve actually written

About 6000 words (not all linear, I have disparate scenes that haven’t connected yet)

– Point of view-how is the story told?

First person narrative.

– One important conflict

Conflict is often thought of as a person against themselves; or, a person against other individuals; or, a person against society; or even a person against natural forces (The Martian).

My auto-fiction novel follows the journey of Risa, a 25-year-old journalist who moves from Mumbai, India to New York City by herself. Just weeks into the life-changing move, she makes a new friend who introduces her to a whole new world and community: the queers of New York. She grapples with new questions about her sexuality, and eventually falls in love with a gorgeous lesbian artist from Brooklyn. Simultaneously, she straddles the home, family and identity she left behind in India, and the new family she discovers in the US. The book’s main conflict is more internal, with vivid characters and scenes that paint an exciting and debauched picture of the city’s underground party scene, with undertones of life as a city reporter.

-- My strengths as a writer

My writing style is descriptive and engaging without being too wordy, and (I think) I can set a

scene up well.

-- My challenges in getting it written

I often change my mind about scenes and characters as I'm writing, and then get bogged down in outlining those details rather than just continuing to write. I also have the bad habit of editing as I'm writing, which stalls progress.

Hans Aschim

Genre: Literary Fiction/Crime

Length: 250 pages

Amount Written: 30%

POV: Third person omniscient. The narrator is a sort of extension of the main character. I'm exploring shifting to first person.

Conflict: Grappling with greed, class, family, and sense of self against a world made of a bottomless pit of status and temptation.

My strengths: Observation. Directness. Speed.

My challenges: Obligations of work and family. My love of pulling a loose thread on another story.

Pompa Bannerjee

The genre or type of your novel—unlabeled fiction

The length you guess it will be in the end –150 pgs

How much you've actually written—20 pgs

Point of view-how is the story told?—two points of view. At least one first-person narrator

One important conflict--?

My strengths as a writer--?

My challenges in getting it written--plot

Phil Berroll – 10/9/24 Class Assignments

1.

Information about my novel:

– The genre or **type of your novel** Satire (this category was not on your list, but I feel it's more accurate than "Humor").

– The length you guess it will be in the end (150 manuscript pages? 300?)
About 200.

– How much you've actually written **All of it – as I mentioned when I submitted my excerpt, I'm revising an earlier draft.**

– Point of view-how is the story told? **1st person.**

– One important conflict **Frank vs. authority figures – e.g., police, Homeland Security.**

– My strengths as a writer **“Dialogue,” he said assertively, “and the ability to create original, non-generic characters.”**

-- My challenges in getting it written **Carving out time; not getting discouraged.**

Hermione Brice

– The genre or type of your novel

Auto fiction

– The length you guess it will be in the end (150 manuscript pages? 300?)

~ 200 pages

– How much you've actually written

6000 words (not all linear, some are different scenes that haven't connected yet)

– Point of view-how is the story told?

First person narrative.

– One important conflict

Conflict is often thought of as a person against herself; or, a person against other individuals; or, a person against society; or even a person against natural forces (The Martian).

My auto-fiction novel follows the journey of Risa, a 25-year-old journalist who moved from Mumbai, India to New York City alone. Just weeks into the life-changing move, she meets a friend who introduces her to a whole new world and community: the queers of New York. She grapples with new questions about her sexuality, and eventually falls in love with a gorgeous lesbian artist from Brooklyn. Simultaneously, she straddles the home, family and identity she left behind in India, and the new family she discovers in the US. The book's main conflict is more internal, with vivid characters and scenes that paint an exciting and debauchorous picture of the city's underground party scene, with undertones of life as a city reporter.

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Jackie Celio

– The genre: Sports, romance

– The length you guess it will be in the end (150 manuscript pages? 300?): 250 or more pages

– How much you've actually written: there are 5 to 6 scenes written but none are in order yet.

– Point of view-how is the story told? It's a third person Jenny's and David's point of view. I want people to see thing through both of their eyes.

– One important conflict: Jenny fights an inner battle with herself about falling in love for the first time with the subject of her article. They have some misunderstandings because other men want her, and other women want him.

-- My strengths as a writer- I have an overactive imagination. I'm always playing scenes in my head, and I have to write it down before I forget. Sometimes its not even for the same novel.

-- My challenges in getting it written- I get distracted very easily and get writers' block a lot and I end up writing 5 stories at once. I need to work on my spelling and grammar as well, and when I read my work, I see what I wanted to write and not what was actually written.

KarenFlyer

– **The genre or type of your novel:** realistic fiction, chick Lit maybe?

– **The length you guess it will be in the end (150 manuscript pages? 300?):** estimating 300 pages or so

– **How much you've actually written:** I have written the prologue and chapter 1. There will be 18

chapters (Sept through May, alternating Chrissy and Tina)

- **Point of view-how is the story told?:** close third person, alternating Chrissy and Tina
- **One important conflict:** main conflicts are 1. between Chrissy/Tina and her dad and 2. between Chrissy/Tina and her demons which cause her to drink
- **My strengths as a writer:** I am very good at description, especially when narrating FEELINGS AND EMOTIONS, and also I love using metaphors
- **My challenges in getting it written:** I am not accustomed to fiction (I usually write non-fiction) so I am challenged with not already knowing the ending... being able to create a story myself. I also am not accustomed to writing a lot of dialogue so I am hoping to learn some tools for writing better dialogue in this class :)

Lauren Jenkins

- The genre or type of your novel Historical fiction (spans one full year 1969-1970, based on real-life events in Gunnison county, however the characters are fictional)
- The length you guess it will be in the end (150 manuscript pages? 300?) Draft is complete at 78,000 words. It has gone through a few rounds of revisions but it still feels very incomplete to me, so I am thinking I may aim to add 5,000-10,000 more.
- How much you've actually written Full draft
- Point of view-how is the story told? Oscillating first person between Billy and Stacey (I would also really love your opinion on whether this works.... Stacey is the narrator of the prologue, but

then she doesn't come back in until chapter 7 when she's introduced in the plot. Then it goes Billy, Stacey, Billy, Stacey, Billy until, for plot reasons, it ends with a few chapters of Stacey)

– One important conflict The story is about a Colorado town going through a personality change - from a coal mining town to a ski/tourist town, with the conflict being between Billy's crowd (viewed as progressive hippies) and Stacey's hometown neighbors (viewed as the old-timers). The more internal conflicts are about Billy and Stacey's coming-of-age as twenty-somethings; Billy as the naive, impulsive, and Stacey as the steady, strong, with each of them learning from the other).

– My strengths as a writer I feel that I do dialogue well, but I struggle with descriptions.

-- My challenges in getting it written I don't know if the story works, if it's interesting enough for anyone to read. I struggle to make my character's journey exciting and believable. (I had actually written a novel before this that I scrapped for the same reason)

Jake Rakov

Homework due 10-9-24

– The genre or type of your novel: **Thriller**

– The length you guess it will be in the end (150 manuscript pages? 300?)

120,000 words - right now when I put my pages in "manuscript format" I get 360-400 words per page so I would guess 250-300-ish pages.

– How much you've actually written? **Around 30,000 words**

– Point of view-how is the story told?

Third person narrator. POV will be on one character at a time, primarily on protagonist Kaplan, but other POV's will include side characters related to subplots.

– One important conflict. Conflict is often thought of as a person against themselves; or, a person against other individuals; or, a person against society; or even a person against natural forces (The Martian).

There is the obvious conflict of Kaplan, my protagonist searching to find the truth about why Claire was murdered and what his research had to do with it. There are also conflicts in the subplots that are between competing philosophical views of reality, and the role of money in scientific progress.

– My strengths as a writer

I think my voice is my biggest strength, I think I can write very vividly and engaging, through descriptions, adjectives, and pacing.

– My challenges in getting it written

I often find myself second guessing if someone reading my work will get the same feeling, that it is landing with them how I intend. That doesn't mean if they'll like it or not, but rather if the work reads as I felt I wrote it. Such as pacing, and emotional impact.

Jeffrey Rudell

The type of your novel: Literary Fiction

The estimated final length: 400 pages.

How much of the book you've actually written: 130 pages

Point of View: Multiple Third Person

One important conflict: Dorothy and Blaze are my two main characters and are, to all onlookers, unlikely cohorts. Their friendship is unexpected and looked on with suspicion by the people in their respective worlds. Each woman's friends and associates refused to see them as anything other than stereotypes: Dorothy as a white savior to Blaze's noble "native" (as one racist character puts it); and Blaze herself as an Art World wannabe contriving to exploiting the patronage of a lonely, and wealthy, and collector. Both stereotypes grossly underestimate the woman, who secretly conspire to turn the art world upside down while forging their respective futures. (Is this an important conflict? Now I'm suddenly questioning it.) (!)

My strength as a writer: I am very observant. I have had a diverse range of jobs and have traveled widely. What I've learned is that every memorable scene is only memorable if coupled to an emotion. The Eiffel Tower, glanced at when one is bored, is little more than an obstruction on the horizon. However, explaining to a weeping farmer the threat of manure plumes to the downstream watershed, as we stand in his muddy field at daybreak? That's damn near

Shakespearean. I'm always trying to create scenes where my characters can have an emotional reaction.

My challenges in getting it written: I had only one year of college and despite everything I have learned, or taught myself since, I've never not felt like an imposter. This is also true when it comes to writing. A few years ago, in an effort to hack my own paralyzing fear, I started gamifying my writing insecurities by telling myself that what I've always called insecurity and fear is actually anticipation and excitement. Does it work? Sort of. I am in a writing group; I share my work with anyone willing to read it; I enroll in classes such as yours; and I try to hold myself to a deadline. But, as the saying goes, Writing is not hard, but not writing is even easier.) I try to hold myself accountable by writing every day (sometimes for 15 minutes, sometimes for three hours, but every single day). Not knowing where my story is headed is perhaps the most dangerous hurdle I face. To that point, I keep E.L. Doctorow's quote near my desk: "Writing is like driving a car at night: you never see further than your headlights, but you can make the whole trip that way." It sometimes helps.

Benjamin Williams

- The genre or type of your novel: literary thriller/crime/psychological thriller
- The length you guess it will be in the end (150 manuscript pages? 300?) 350 pages
- How much you've actually written 75ish polished pages
- Point of view-how is the story told? 1st and 3rd
- One important conflict: should Stephon's friends join the vigilante group.

– My strengths as a writer: writing emotions and silence

-- My challenges in getting it written: over revising and not moving forward.

Danny Williams

Genre? Adult contemporary, maybe. There's probably some term I don't know about.

Got about 35,000 words lined up, and 3,000 in scenes yet to be inserted.

Point of view: First-person, with some narration of past events but no actual flashbacks.

Conflict: Continue life as kind of a floater, or embrace a profession.

My strength: I'm comfortable and confident writing sentences and paragraphs.

My challenge: Self-doubt in developing a new skill at 72.

Attached is a 4-page important scene. Called into a meeting including the agency director.

(I made the director the son-in-law of Marvin Mandel, the disgraced former governor of Maryland. In real life, the director of Hagerstown Association for Retarded Citizens was Bob DeHaven, the son-in-law of Spiro Agnew.)