

Novel Consultations

How to Make the Most Out of Our Time Together (on the phone or in-person)

What You Can Expect from Me

My goal is to help you develop tools that you can use with every novel you write, not just the one we discuss in our time together. To that end, depending on whether you've chosen a single consultation or a package, I'll read your pages or full manuscript in advance of the first session. Then we'll discuss any or all of the following in our hour together (phone/Skype or in-person):

- Plot/story structure
- Character(s) and character(s) arc
- Theme and vision for the story

Note that I won't be giving you a specific critique in these sessions. However, I will share my impressions about the story before asking some high-level questions to get you thinking about the story in a new way. This will lead to a fruitful discussion that will give you some direction on what to do next.

Subsequent sessions may include a look at one or more revised scenes or chapters (up to 5,000 words) and how what we discuss can apply to other scenes/parts of the novel.

Single vs Multi-Session. If you're feeling fairly certain you'll want more than one session, I'd recommend choosing a multi-session package. It keeps you committed to your project and is a little cheaper per hour than if you add on a session after the first one. See the brochure for more information.

Critique. If, after our session, you decide you want more specific feedback, we can talk about a manuscript critique.

(over)

What I'll Expect from You

When you submit your pages or manuscript, please also include a short paragraph or two about your vision/goals for the novel, especially in terms of theme. What inspired you to write it and what you'd like readers to take away from the story when they finish it. That helps guide me in giving you feedback that supports your vision.

An openness to seeing your story in a new way. 😊

Be prepared to talk about:

- the purpose of your story/ theme(s) you are going for/ what you want to leave with the reader at the end of the story (per the paragraphs mentioned above)
- End goals – publication? Self-publishing?
- Any areas you want to work on with the story
- Bring a notebook or computer to take notes (or have something handy if we are on the phone)
- Come with questions about the story, next steps, etc.

Looking forward to chatting online or in-person!