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KEEP YOUR PANTS ON!: HOW TO OUTLINE A ROMANCE NOVEL WHEN YOU ARE AN INTUITIVE WRITER



Synopsis

Calling All You Intuitive Writers out there! Does the idea of having to plan your romance novel in advance horrify you, even though you are afraid of getting lost or never finishing a new story? Well here is the secret. When you are planning to write a new story, all you need to focus on are the characters, and how they are going to change during the course of the romance as a result of the relationship. That is what will make your story both unique and compelling. Advanced story craft techniques are very handy at the editing and revision stage when you shape your story for the reader – but not here! Instead, we use the power of character arc and emotional conflict to create a simple but effective emotional story map for your romance novel. As you write your romance, your characters will come to life on the page, and reveal their true personalities through what they say and do. But first you have to get those characters onto the page and interacting with one another – fast! This is the six-step writing process professional romance authors use to develop their novels – and stay motivated and excited by their story. Now you can do the same. And keep your pants on! Find out how to outline your romance novel when you don't know a thing about story structure and the whole ideas of pre-planning your story freezes you. And enjoy doing it!

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Customer Reviews

I have to admit that as the headline states, I am a pantsers. I've tried so many methods to outline my writing and utterly failed at every single one. I do so much better just writing, honestly. So, I'm going to say right off the bat this book is right up my alley based on the title alone. I knew going into the reading that I wouldn't find much fault in her methods. Honestly, I still haven't. My issues with the book have nothing to do with the process or even the writing. Nina is knowledgeable on how to get your idea and your characters onto the paper without stressing yourself out over every detail in the plot. I've spent this morning, after reading most of it last night, putting her process into play. So far, I've learned a lot about my characters and why they start out feeling as they do. The two sentences of my starter idea have expanded to the point I'm ready to start writing. My hand needs a break from all the pre-writing I did this morning, but I'm ready to start writing. Please don't let the words pre-writing scare you. It's all free writing with your characters talking to you and discovering what makes their story worth telling. I didn't know much about my hero, but now I know enough about him to see he's going to be interesting and not just a handsome face for the heroine to fall in love with. I'm looking forward to discovering their story. By now you're probably saying something like "It sounds like you really enjoyed the book and found it useful. So, why the four stars instead of five?" Since I haven't actually sat down to write the idea in its entirety, I don't feel I can give it five stars until I've done so. Yes, I know I could have waited until I see it to its completion, but then I'd forget to come review and this book is wonderful if you write romance and freeze up at the thought of outlining the whole story before you can write a word. In other words, it's been the best non-outlining way of planning my novel that I've attempted yet. Now to my issues. As I said they have nothing to do with the process or the writing. The typos. Granted there weren't many of them, but the one or two places they happened made me have to go back and read the sentence again to understand what she was trying to say. One there's an out instead of an our. The other I still can't decipher. Neither one detract from the meat of the process, but my brain latches onto them and won't let go. My own issue, I know. On the whole, for \$2.99, this book is a great deal. If you hate outlining but don't mind pre-writing to find your story beyond your initial inspiration, this book is for you. I think it has helped me take the process I already use and expanded it so I'm on more sure footing when I start writing.

Thorough, walks you through it. One of the best romance writing books out there. Two thumbs up.

I own a ton of writing books, but struggle on the concept of plotting and outlining an entire story. This book helps you to set up the characters and the beginning of the story, and then pants your way through to the end, since a writer is bound to stray from the original outline anyway. Nina Harrington has written tons of category Romances, so she knows her stuff. She also gives examples of her own work in this book, and since I am very much a 'learning by example'-type of girl, I liked this a lot. Also don't forget to check out the additional resources on her website. If you're looking to make a career in writing category romance, this book should definitely be on your list!

This is a very high level overview. I was hoping for a little more detail--specifics, something along the lines of Save the Cat beats. Overall, still helpful.

Good start for someone new to the genre lots of interesting information.

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