

WAYS TO WRITE A FASTER



BOOK





GO CONTEMPORARY

Fantasy, even urban fantasy, requires world-building and a plausible magic-system. Historical fiction needs painstaking research. But that eats into writing time. Set your story now, in the real world, and save yourself the work.



GO LOCAL

Exotic settings are great but need research. Set the action somewhere you know, have visited, or have extensively stalked with Google Streetview.



GO AWAY

The essence of a fast book is undisturbed writing time, in big blocks. If you can hang an enforceable Do Not Disturb sign on your door for a chunk of time every day, do that. If not, book a Premier Inn and do 13,000 words a day over a long weekend. It's possible. Exhausting, but possible.



GO GENRE

For romance, thriller, mystery or horror stories, follow the genre's conventions for your pacing, plot twists and climax. If you want literary ground-breaking, wait until you're not grinding out 1666 words every day for a solid month.



GO PLACEHOLDER

For every word you write which makes you think, *I must check that* – don't. Just jot down a placeholder word like BLUFFING, and keep typing. Later, search the document for your placeholder and replace it with proper research.



GO READYMADE

Find and use a story structure template. For example, a Nanowrimo book is only 10 chapters of 5,000 words, each made of a few scenes. That's very possible, and does not make for a big To Do list.