

DEVELOPMENTAL EDITING

My approach to **development editing** addresses the following questions:

- Does my first sentence grab my readers' attention?
- Do the opening paragraphs...the first 10 pages, keep them riveted?
- Do I have a compelling hook and inciting incident?
- Are my characters believable? Are they cardboard and need more depth? Are my character arcs valid and moving?
- Did I describe my protagonist so that readers engage with him/her, identify with his/her plight, and root for him/her?
- Is my dialogue effective and does it unique for each character?
- Did I balance dialogue and prose appropriately?
- Is the pace effective? Does my story drag in spots? Does it feel rushed?
- Did I add effective cliff hangers?
- Are there plot holes?
- Does the ending tie up all loose ends and satisfy my readers?
- Did I show or tell?
- Am I missing any key elements of story structure?

What is my process of developmental editing? I will read your book at least twice and write an editorial document, fifteen to twenty pages, which includes an overview of my thoughts, and continues on to provide specific areas for improvement with definitions, explanations, specific examples from your manuscript, and ways in which improve or correct those examples. Furthermore, I will comment notes in the margins of your manuscript, noting areas that needs reworking and exactly how to make them better.

And, two more notes:

- 1. I am your editor to support you and your writing so that you feel confident in moving forward to prepare for publication.
- 2. Your book is your book. I strive to ensure I do not impose myself on your work. My suggestions are just that: suggestions.

Email me at <u>DiannSchindlerEditor@gmail.com</u> and request a sample editorial document.
If you decide you are interested, I usually request your first 1500 words which I will review send back to you with specific comments. Also, at your request, I'll send an estimate and potential timeline for completion.