

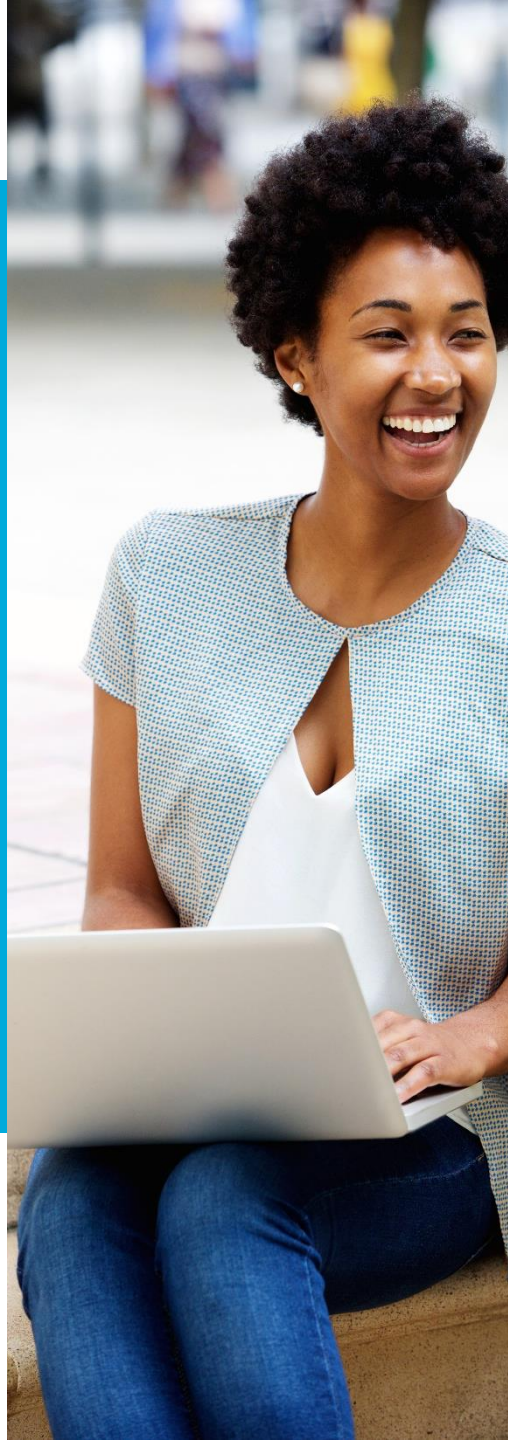
How Editors Work to Strengthen Every Scene

with **JoEllen Nordström**

The background of the slide is a collage of various book covers, tilted at an angle. Visible titles include 'The Perfect Date', 'The Bas False Mo', 'Michael Willie', 'HERO CHIEF', 'NYASIA A', 'MITCH', 'ARK', 'ESTRIES', 'ECHOES: The Quest of the Ambush Out', 'SHOBHA ALVA', 'THE DEPTHS Work', 'Karllynn Brooke', 'ANDREY', 'road map destiny', 'HIDDEN CITY OF MYSTERY', and 'HYBRID PART 1'.

Scene evaluations by a professional editor

**Professional Editors
Evaluate Your
Scene Arcs**





Every scene must have a:

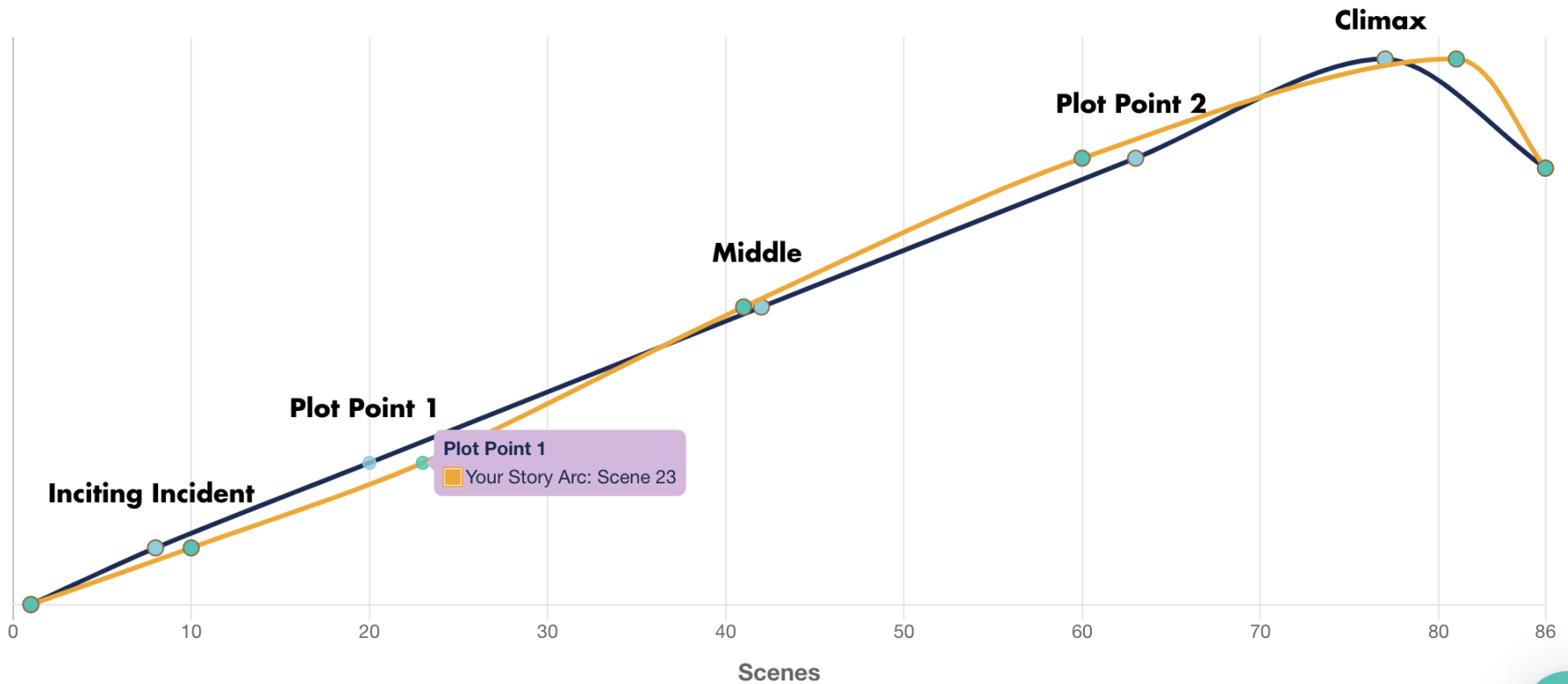
- **Beginning / Hook**
- **Middle / Development**
- **End / Climax**

Your **SCENE ARC** Also Has Key Sections to Evaluate

Story Arc

View Character Entry & Exit

Recommended Story Arc Your Story Arc





The scene arc elements:

- **Goal**
- **Conflict**
- **Disaster**
- **Reaction**
- **Dilemma**
- **Decision**

The 2 Essential Parts of a Scene





Scene Arc 2 Essential Parts:

- **Action**
- **Sequel (Response)**

Action section



- An action arc comprises an action / event
- Involves characters in a unique setting
- Creates conflict and tension

Sequel section



- Encompasses tension as a reaction to the action
- Results in a new dilemma
- Requires a decision by the character

Continues pursuing their overall story goal

Action Arc





Action Arc

- **Goal**
- **Conflict**
- **Disaster**

ACTION ARC

provides the external and situational events

GOAL



Is the goal relevant to the plot?

Is it essential to the plot?

Does it lead to a new scene & create a new goal, conflict, and disaster?

Does the scene goal match the POV character's goal?

Unique and Short Term

Combines with CHARACTER & PLOT GOALS

Action Arc

CONFLICT



- Does the conflict matter to the protagonist & his goal?
- Does it interfere or threaten the protagonist's goal?
- Is the conflict essential within the scene's goal?
- Does it relate to the overall plot?
- Does the conflict drive the story forward?
- Is it organic and a result of the previous conflict/events?
- Is it logical?

Action Arc

DISASTER



Is the disaster engaging and important to the readers?

Does it set up the next scene's goals?

Does the disaster drive the plot?

Is it an organic & logical result of the conflict?

Does the disaster connect appropriately to the scene's goal?

Sequel Arc





Sequel Arc

- **Reaction**
- **Dilemma**
- **Decision**

SEQUEL ARC

the internal balance to the external events



REACTION

Is the reaction related to the disaster?

Is it an appropriate and logical response?

Does the reaction match the character's personality?

How have you portrayed the reaction?
Is it sufficient & effective?

Have you illustrated the reaction powerfully?

Time of reflection

Emotional connection to the readers

Sequel Arc

DILEMMA



Is the dilemma a direct result of the disaster?

Is it clear to your readers?

Why would your readers care?

Is the dilemma portion of writing balanced with its significance?

Sequel Arc

DECISION



Is the decision a direct result of the dilemma?

Does the decision create a strong and logical goal for the next scene?

Does it drive the story forward? Or does it solve the problem & end the story?

Does it reveal insight to the character?

Is the decision element obvious (shown) or stated appropriately?



The 6 Key Elements of Your Scene Arc:

- **Goal**
- **Conflict**
- **Disaster**
- **Reaction**
- **Dilemma**
- **Decision**



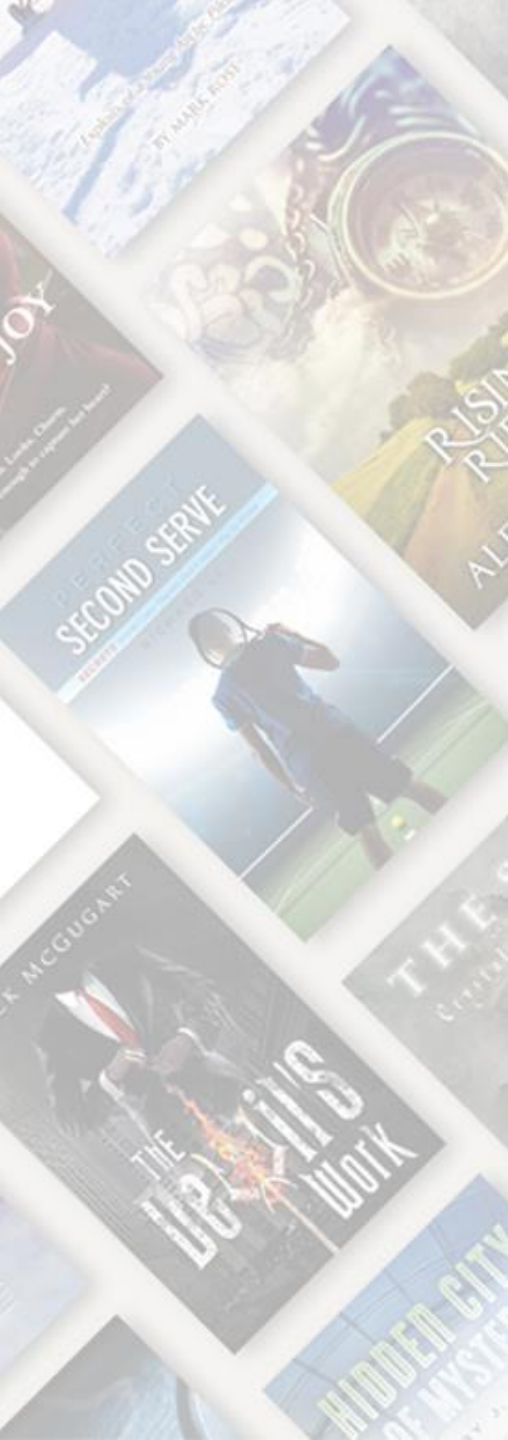
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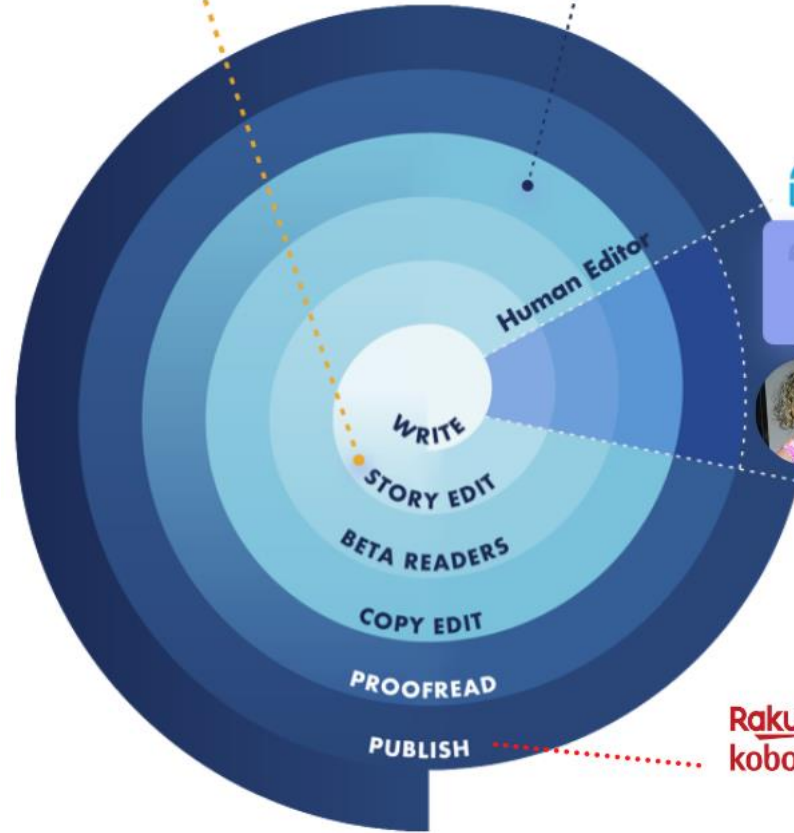
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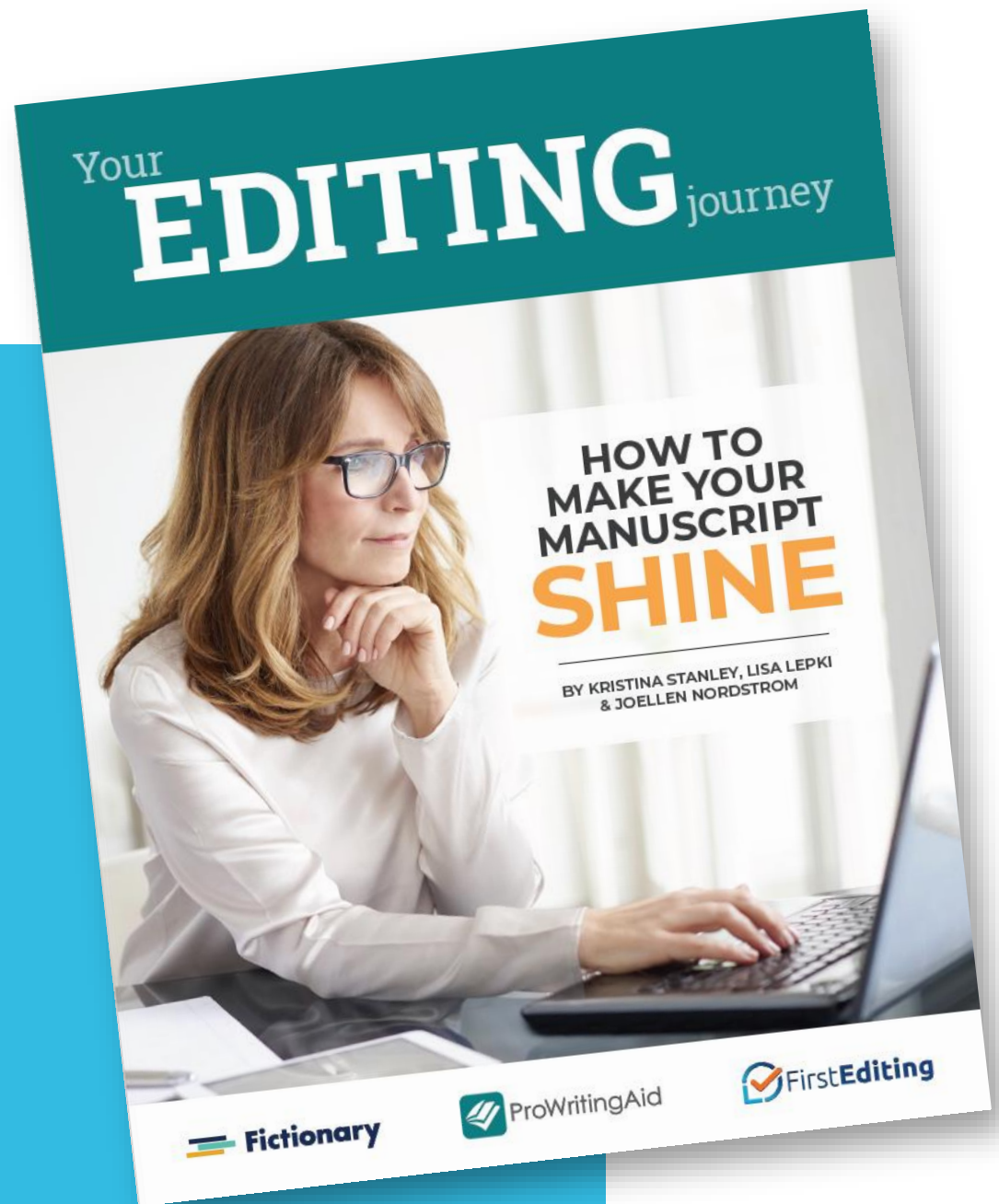


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First Editing

- Then Publishing!



Which Editing Services Do You Need?



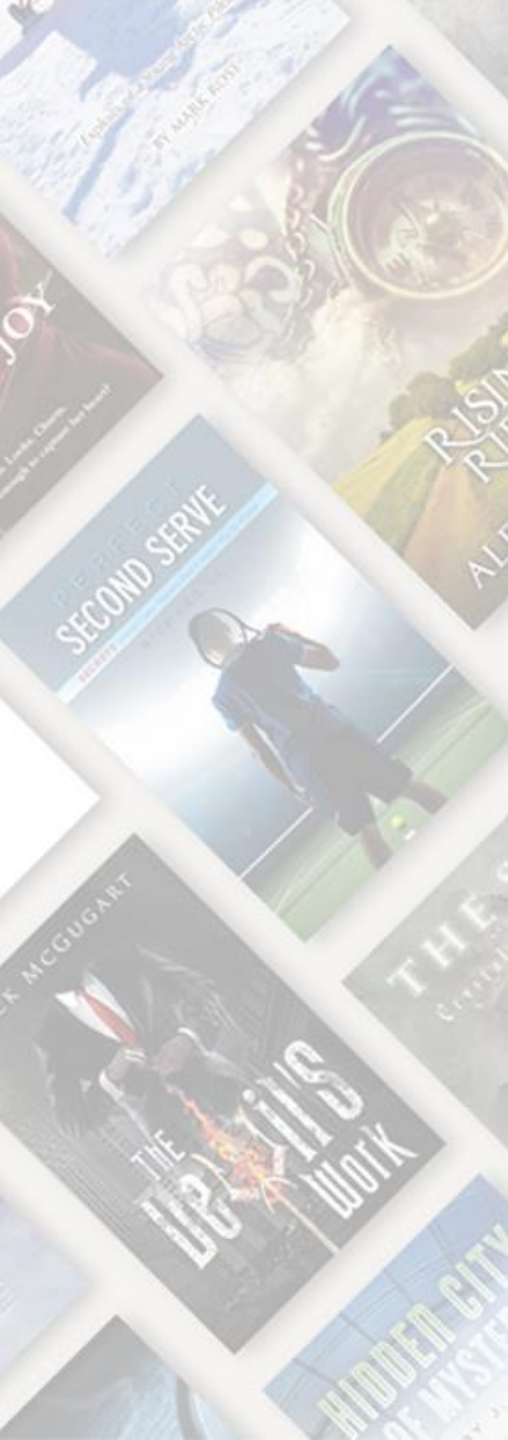


Editing services are based upon your:

- Manuscript's **status**
- Writing **needs**
- Author **goals**
- Editor's **recommendation**

Why Is Professional Editing Necessary?





Professional editing is necessary because it is

- Your investment
- Your “baby”
- Your reputation
- Your first impression
- Your best choice
- You are too deep in your writing to see what it needs



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Becoming
a successfully
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