

The Critical Skill of Self-Editing: Focusing on What Agents and Editors Really Care About

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Class Outline

Class description: You can get published—you'll just have to operate on your "baby." Learn how to perfect your prose and streamline your story.

The Basics

How does an editor/agent decide what to do with your unsolicited manuscript?

How much time will an editor give your manuscript?

What to do if an editor rejects your novel but gives you suggestions for a rewrite.

What to do if an editor suggests you hire someone to help you rewrite your novel.

Know your category.

Get your word count right.

Have a marketing plan.

Finalizing Your Manuscript

The most important things you can do

And a few others:

POV and voice

Diction, punctuation, spelling, et al

Grammar/syntax: avoiding misplaced modifiers and other Trojan horses

Avoiding overwriting/telling

A word about plot

Things that will get you rejected