

WRITE THE STORY

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Do you have a great story that must be told or you'll explode?

NO
YES

Do you have characters, conflict and stakes that the reader will care about?

NO

Read books like *Story Engineering* by Larry Brooks and *Save the Cat* by Blake Snyder.

YES, BUT I STILL HAVE DOUBTS

YES

Have you read enough to know what you love and hate about the kind of story you're writing?

YES

NO

NO, AND I DON'T CARE

Read more books you love.

I KNOW WHAT WORKS FOR ME NOW

THESE WRITERS ARE REALLY GOOD

Are you good enough to tell this story?

YES
(This is the correct answer.)

NO

Read *The War of Art* and *Turning Pro* by Steven Pressfield. (You should do this regardless.)

GET OUT OF MY WAY!

I THINK I'M READY...

Are you reading flowcharts and books, telling yourself it's research, when you should be writing instead?

DANG

THAT'S SILLY

Do you think you have writer's block?

NO

YES

The story isn't ready.

BS

I'm scared to fail.

I wrote something that doesn't belong in this story.

WRITE