IWOSC OC Satellite Meeting Notes November 4, 2015

Independent Writers of Southern California (IWOSC) [www.iwosc.org](http://www.iwosc.org)

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NEWS

1. November is National Novel Writing Month!
2. NaNoWriMo
3. IWOSC Saturday Seminar: Storytelling (Nov. 14)

DISCUSSION: EDITING

1. Types of Editing
	1. Developmental/Structural/Substantive Editing
		1. The Big picture
		2. Structure, plot, character development
	2. Line/Stylistic Editing
		1. Paragraph level
		2. Overuse of words, jargon, sentence length and flow, transitions
	3. Copy Editing
		1. Sentence level
		2. Spelling, punctuation, grammar, and consistency issues
	4. Proofread
		1. The minutiae
		2. Formatting, spelling, punctuation, typos, repeated words
		3. Ideally should be done after ALL revisions
2. DIY
	1. Create a Story Bible. (digital file)
	2. Use a checklist. (handout)
	3. Figure out your common mistakes/weaknesses. Add those to your checklist.
	4. Use beta readers or critique partners.
	5. Read it out loud.
3. Editing Aids
	1. Software: Grammarly, ProWritingAid, Serenity Editor, Slick Write, Ginger
	2. Books: Self-Editing for Fiction Writers;
4. Hiring an Editor
	1. The better your manuscript, the less an editor will cost.
	2. Be strategic with your budget, especially if you are self-pubbing.
	3. It’s a relationship and requires good communication.
	4. Before you begin, determine:
		1. Timeframe/deadlines
		2. What exactly do you need help with?
		3. Budget
	5. Where to find an editor
		1. Friend recommendations
		2. IWOSC; Flo and Roberta at www.wordsalamode.com
		3. KBoards Writer’s Café
	6. What to look for in an editor
		1. Experience in your genre/field
		2. Experience with the issues you’re concerned about
		3. Clients
		4. Can they meet your deadlines?
		5. Price and contract
		6. Sample edit (~10 pages)
			1. Was it returned on time?
			2. Do they give explanations for edits?
			3. Have they offered insights you haven’t thought of before?
			4. Are they enthusiastic about your work?
5. Handle the edits professionally!