

# Major reality check time

By Holly Lisle

I've been getting 3500 words per chapter – but each chapter has only been one scene. So I need about thirty-five scenes, rather than sixty scenes, to fill out the book. I'll go forty just to allow for shorter chapters. By that measure, I'm more than halfway finished outlining the scenes.

This was a nice surprise, though it means I need to rethink some of my scene pacing for the parts I've already outlined and make sure each scene/chapter has strong enough conflict to sustain 3500 words without padding.

The existing part of the manuscript is tight. I want the rest to be, too.

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