

# Nailing my thumb to the wall

written by Holly

September 29, 2009

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So here's the process I'm going through in order to skip revising the second section of the novel before I've finished the rest of first draft.

- Write a single sentence encompassing what I want each existing scene to become.
- Try to match that sentence to the characters and action already existing in the story.
- When I can't, then come up with a new sentence that fits the spiffy new first part of the book without breaking more of the existing writing than is ABSOLUTELY necessary.
- Avoid touching a single word in the existing draft, no matter how tempting, even as I hear the tinkling of broken scenes shattering to the floor with every spiffy new scene I devise.
- Maintain my equanimity while seeing whole buckety craploads of words headed for their doom.
- Mutter imprecations and profanities at the idiot who wrote some of the stuff I'm dealing with.
- Realize that repeatedly nailing my thumb to the wall is not the wacky good time it's reputed to be, and determine that I'm going to have to get out a notebook and PHYSICAL index cards, and work this out in realspace before I'm actually ready to face the new scenes I need

to write.

Hope your writing went better.

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