

# When In Doubt, Drop Back and Punt

written by Holly

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I'm making real progress again on **Talyn**. Got a 1500 word net gain yesterday in spite of removing a solid chunk of text. I did it by going back to exactly the point where things went badly wrong, and writing the scene I should have written the first time. Sometimes I can pretend I got it right and just keep going, but this time I couldn't get the brain to play along with the fingers.

So I actually fixed something in mid-first-draft.

I left in everything that I know that I'll eventually have to cut, too – I know this is cowardice on my part – the equivalent of pretending the badly damage net under the tightrope is better than nothing – but I'm hoping that as I work my way through I'll find something salvageable in the material that has to go. Any part of that hundred pages that I don't have to discard will be to the good.

And just to add to the excitement, now I have to finish the galleys for **Gods Old and Dark** and get them back to Diana promptly, something that I'm going to have to do sitting on the couch in the afternoon while the kidlet is building Bionicles.

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