

# sols 7 writing rules 2.1

things I try to keep in mind when writing.

1. The red thread

2. Choices

3. Structures

4. TMI

5. Freedom

6. Drive

7. Trust your reader

IN CONCLUSION:

## 1. The red thread

Why are you telling this story?

Everything has a purpose. What is the express purpose of this piece of writing?

The reasons behind your idea could be to write a drama, that will make people bawl, or a slice of life, that will make people laugh and smile. Either way, the reason runs through everything like a red thread. Every time you question yourself, think back to your thread. Your reason.

Be clear minded when you think about it. It's the foundation your world sits on and the threads weaving your scenes together. It shouldn't be haphazardly tossed on top, but be noticeable in every creative decision.

In addition to this, think of how you are telling your story, and to whom. How you express the information matters. So go into figuring out your story, with these things in mind.

-Why am I telling this?

-Who am I telling this to?

-How am I telling this?

## 2. Choices

When reading or watching anything fictional, keep this in mind: Nothing **just happens**, no piece of worldbuilding **just exists**. Everything was chosen to be this way, by the writer. Why did they make this choice? What other choices could they have made?

You too are a writer. Every move you make is a choice as well. Treat it as such.

This is a little bit of cognitohazard. On the one hand, you have infinite power over your world and your ideas. Everything can be altered at any point in time. Every scene is optional. Every attribute is optional. You have full control. With great power, comes great responsibility: That can also mean horrible anxiety. Every single thing in the story or the world falls back on you and your choices.

The red thread can help a lot here.

It can act like your guideline, when anxiety consumes you over your choices - you can use the red thread to pull yourself out of the depths of self doubt - “Why is this here?” Well, I wanted this reaction and this choice makes the core more effective.

Just keep in mind - You are making this. You are choosing everything.



The rest of everything here relies on the first two rules. **WHY** you are doing this and **THAT** you are doing this.

### 3. Structures

The importance of structure is to be able to understand your story clear mindedly.

It is not just a random collection of scenes - but a long list of information and movements to be conveyed.

In what order you convey it, why you should drop certain info when - that’s what a structure tells you. If you understand different story structures - you can apply the most viable one for you and understand why you should place certain actions and information where.

Then suddenly each movement in your plot has a name, and a place. And you can become clear minded about your approach.

All a structure is, is a series of **what, where, why**.

### 4. TMI

Too Much Information.

You can overwhelm and bore your readers, if you insist on telling them about every single thing. Before they ask you “Why are you telling me this?” ask yourself: “Why *am* I telling them this?”.

Avoid **unnecessary, but nice**. If there's an overload of info, consider what this conveys of your story - if it's already been repeatedly conveyed, if it's already crystal clear - consider cutting it out.

Always ask yourself: Do they need to know this?

If no - what other reasons are you putting the info here for?

Reconsider your choices.

## **5. Freedom**

It's just a book. It's just a comic. It's just a script. It's just whatever - don't take it all too seriously.

I know you love your ideas. I'm sure they're great, but don't be too precious with them and don't become a prisoner to them.

Be free with changes. Have fun!

Writing shouldn't be a chore. You like writing, or else why do you do it?

If you find it super stressful, try to think of why it is stressful. Locate and destroy.

Be free.

## **6. Drive**

Consider your plot and your character(s) - Are/is their specific crossroad(s) of traits what is needed to fulfill the plot? Could the plot happen to anyone or is it only them who can make it happen? In a driven story - the character(s) will be the exact person/people needed to make the events of it all happen. Strive to be driven. Strive to be concise.

Nothing Just Happens.

If your character(s) doesn't fit your plot. Either the plot or the character(s) have to change.

## **7. Trust your reader**

Your audience is smart. Let it figure things out and don't spell everything out perfectly. A lot of my writing style comes from describing the sensation of feelings rather than the feeling itself. This is because I trust my reader to understand and I want them to relate.

What in specific do you want your reader to figure out for themselves? Where is mystery present? Answer these questions for yourself and try to write for your specific intent.

## **IN CONCLUSION:**

Trust yourself and trust your reader. You can do this.