

## **Note to Author:**

You are authoring a fictional novel in the first person; at times, this can be difficult to maintain. My caution to you is to be aware of present and past tense. At times you move between present and past tense, and active and passive voice. In areas you want to make an impact, use active voice. This will create an illusion for the reader as though they are there in the story.

Novels have descriptive text to set the scene, adding words may not be necessary to tell the story but are necessary to describe a scene and create flow, which is in opposition to non-fiction manuscripts. My caution is to be aware of clarity in your writing, too many words or misplaced words can add confusion to the text while carefully placed words and phrases can add clarity or confusion.

The placement of phrases creates a transition from one idea to another. These transitions are what create rhythm and flow. In certain areas, I have made edits to structure, wording, description, and tone in the first few paragraphs as an example. These are merely suggestions to demonstrate how to create cohesion and coherence. I have made suggestions to change the voice from passive to active, removing unnecessary words creating concision and clarity.

If you would like to discuss further and how to apply throughout the remainder of the novel, I would be happy to meet with you to discuss.