

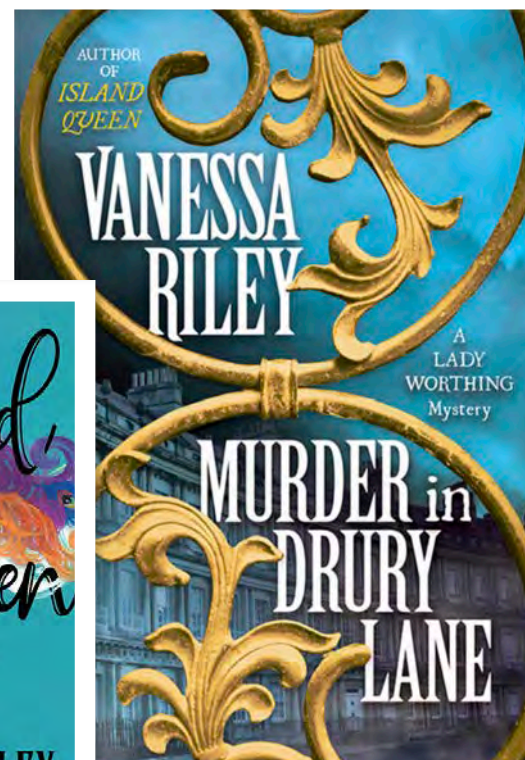
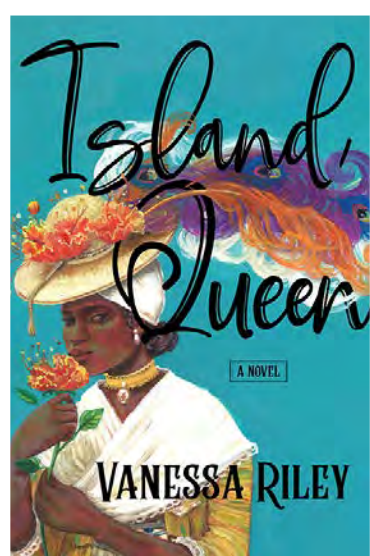
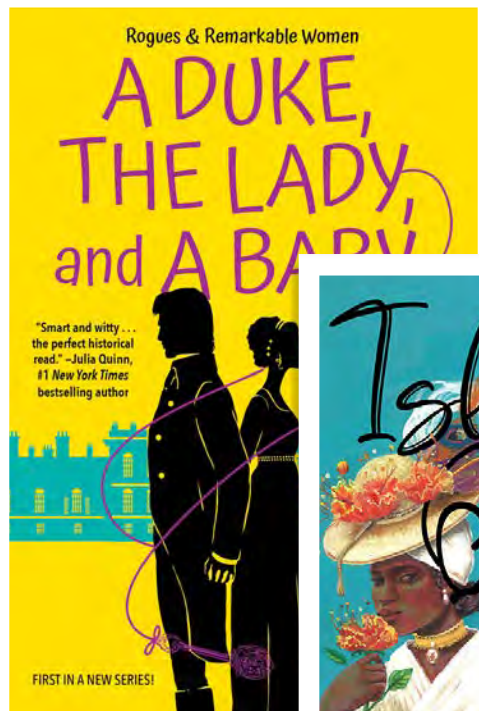


Claiming Your Story - How to Journal to Write the Book of Your Heart

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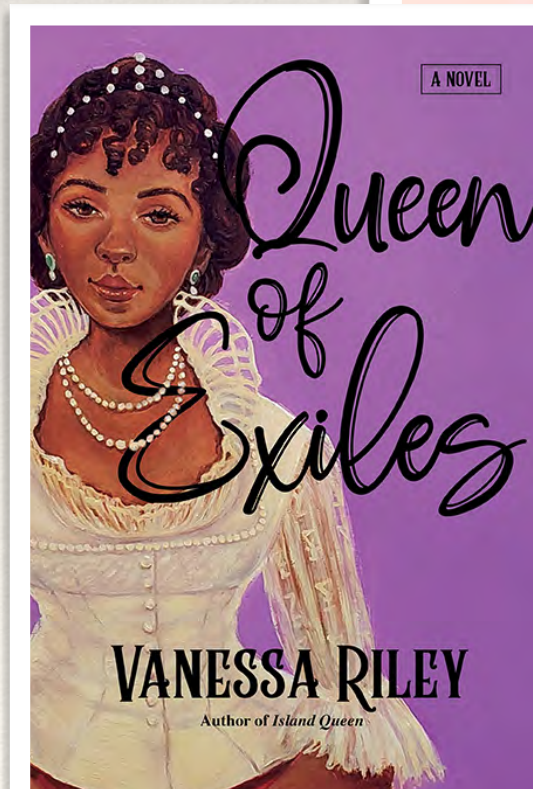
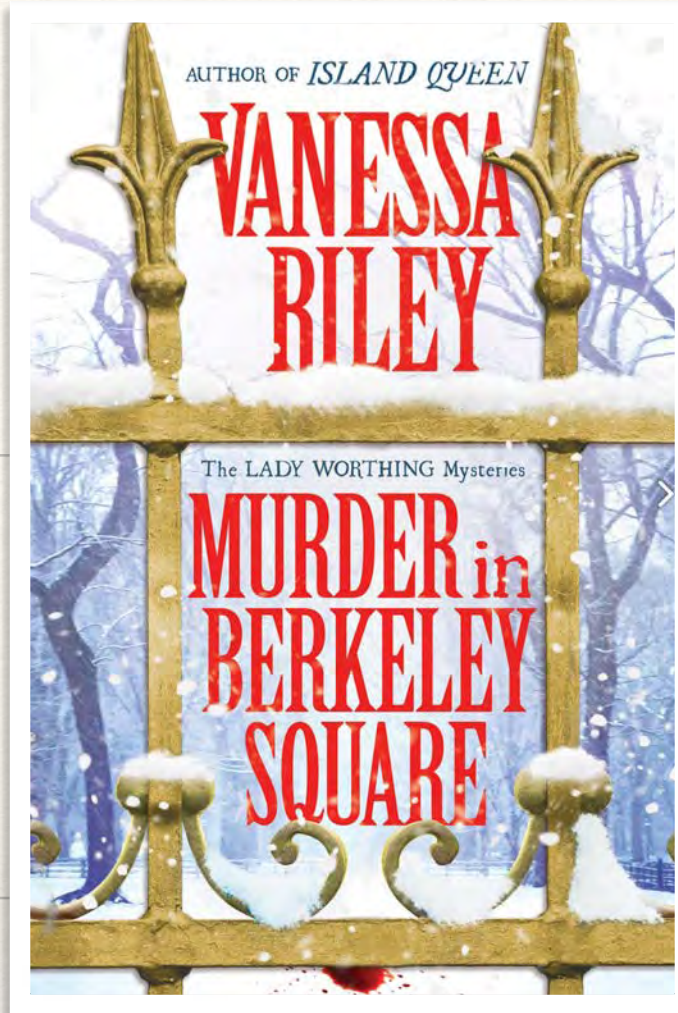
*Hybrid Author of Historical Fiction,
Historical Mystery and Historical Romance*

Vanessa Riley

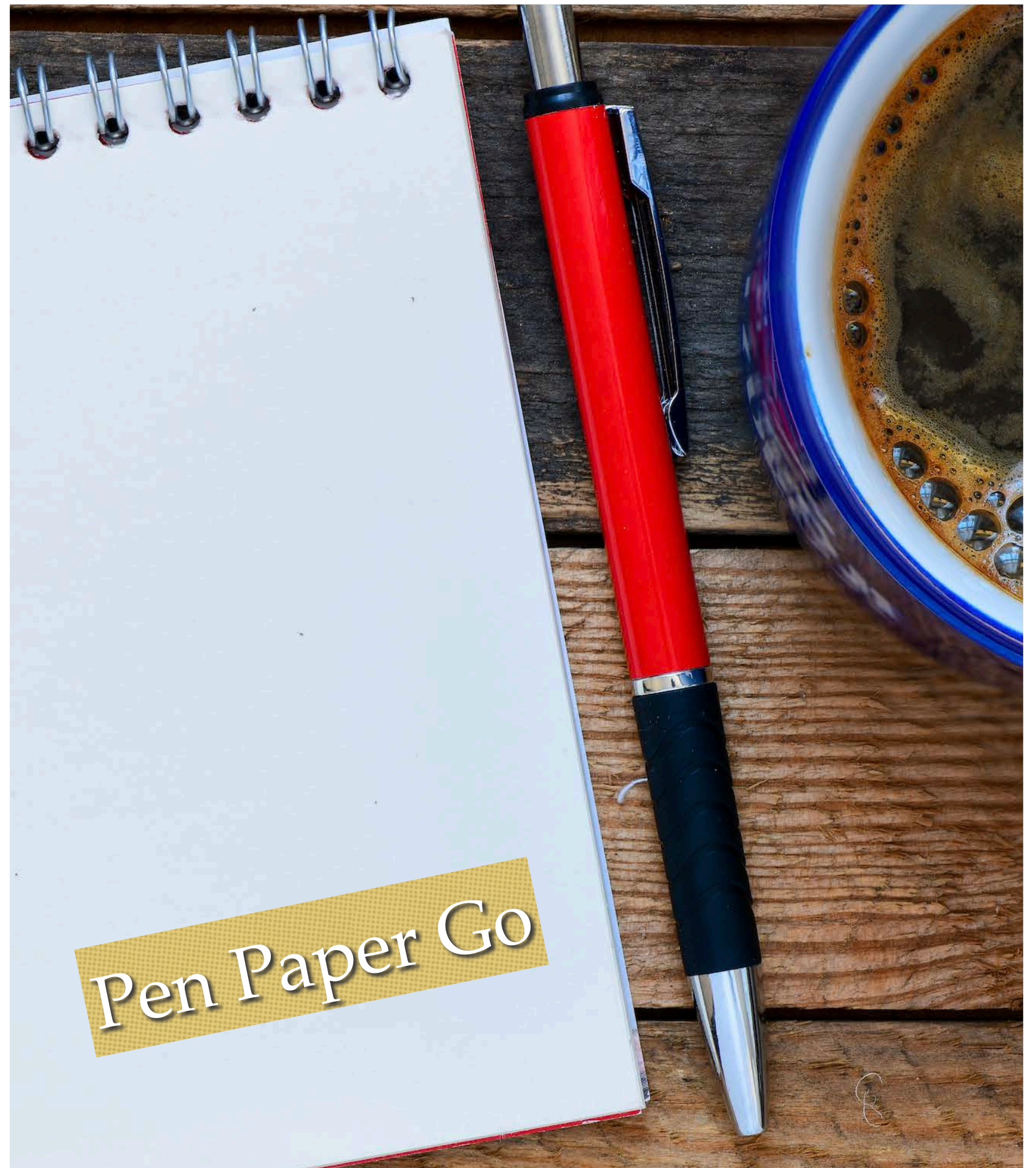


Today's Talk

- The Basics
- The Tools
- 5 Why's
- Mind Mapping
- Bullet Points
- Parting Thoughts
- Q&A



The Basics



Pen Paper Go

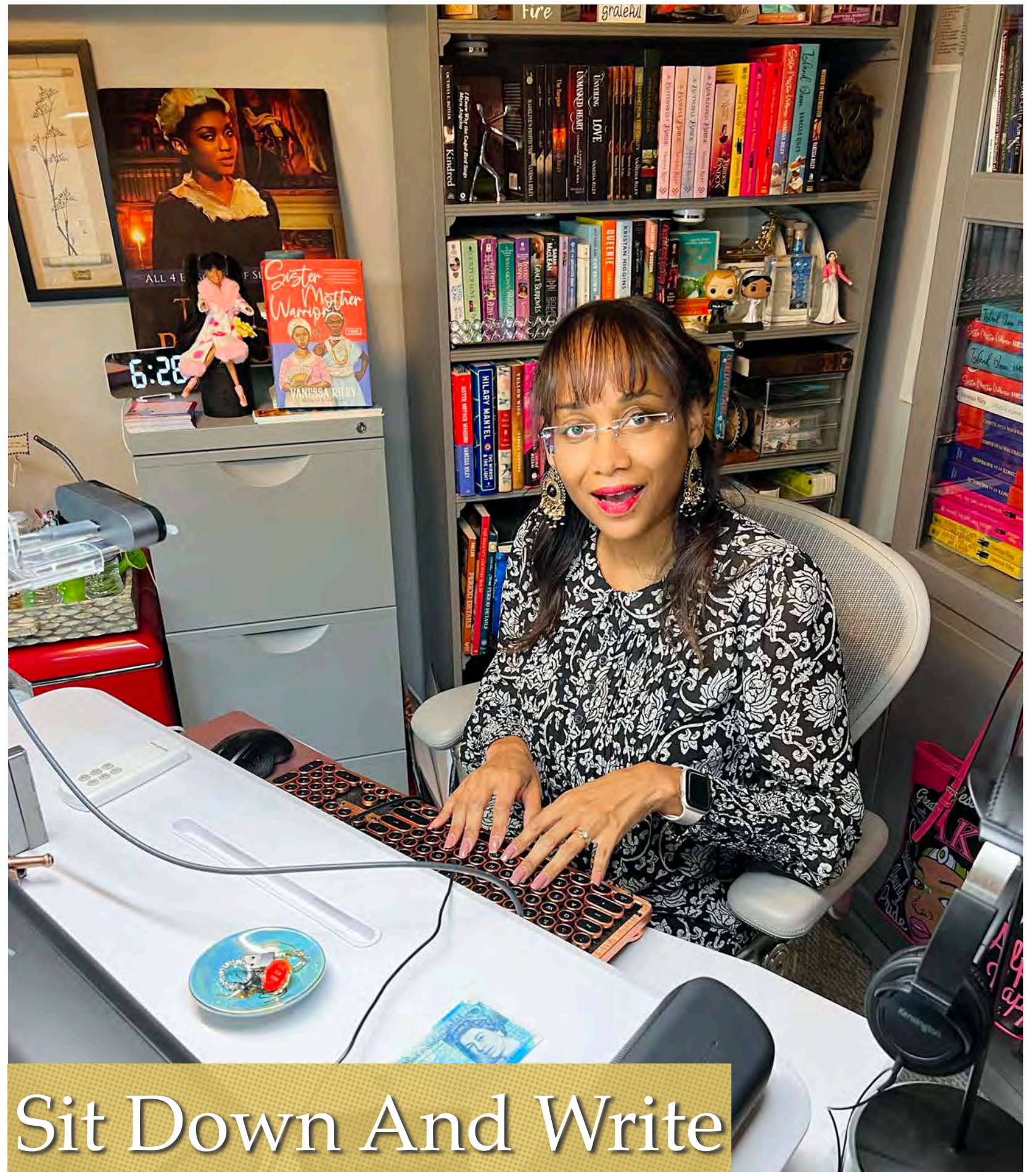
The Tools



Find Your Journal

The Tools

- On “Paper” Write Why You Write
- To Write The Book of Your Heart, You Must Know The Reason

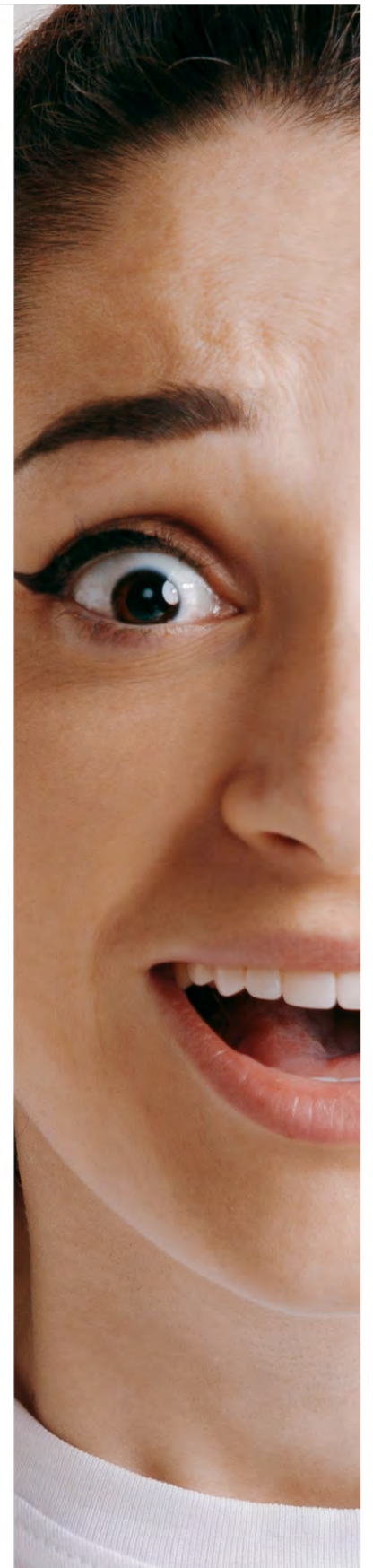


Sit Down And Write

Three Approaches

5 Why's

- Hunt for:
 - Meaning
 - Definition
 - Fresh

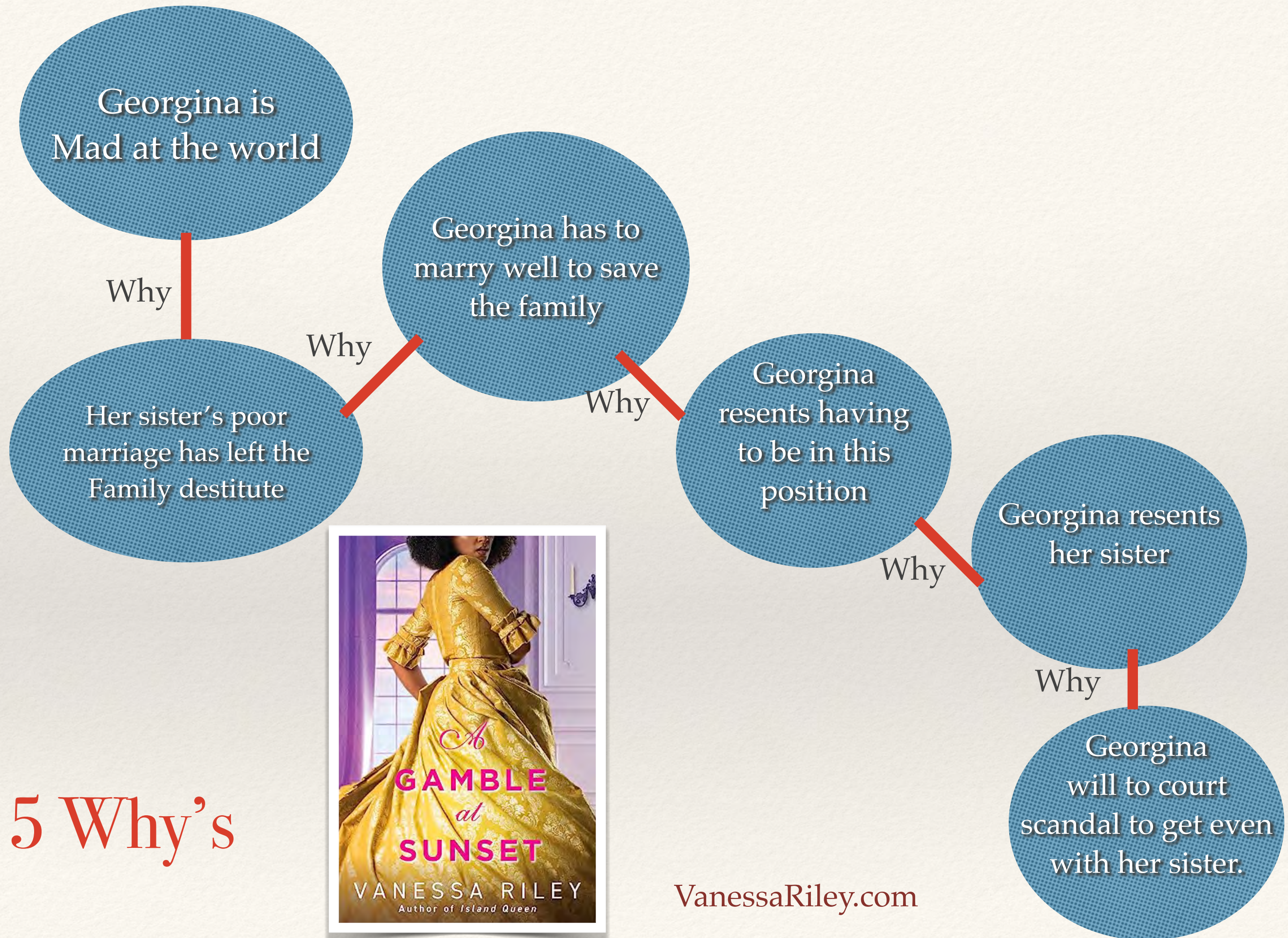


5 Why's

- Start with the Character
- Define the Problem
- Why did the Problem Occur
- Why does it affect the Character
- Why does it matter to the Character?
- Why is this important that it's solved?
- Why does is Character's World Different if Nothing Changes

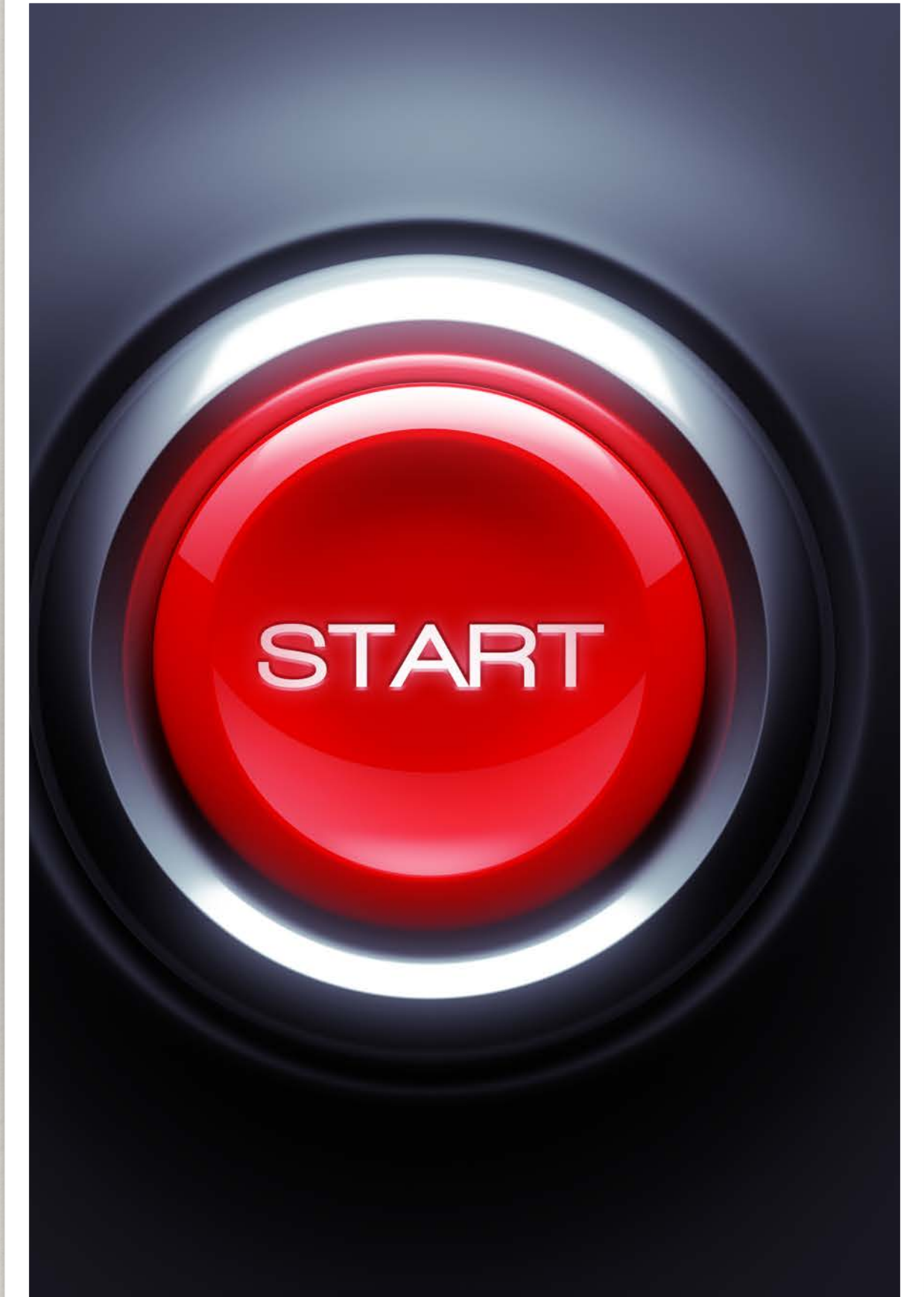


5 Why's



Exercise #1

- Pull Out Some Paper
- Name a Character
- Name a Problem
- Do the 5 Why's
- Do Free Association
- Do Danger
- Do Risks



Mind Mapping

- Free Association
- Looking For Patterns
- Taking Time
- Be Free



Mind Mapping

- Start with a Central Theme
- Branch out with Other Ideas
- Fill the Page
- Review the Page
- Do you see Patterns

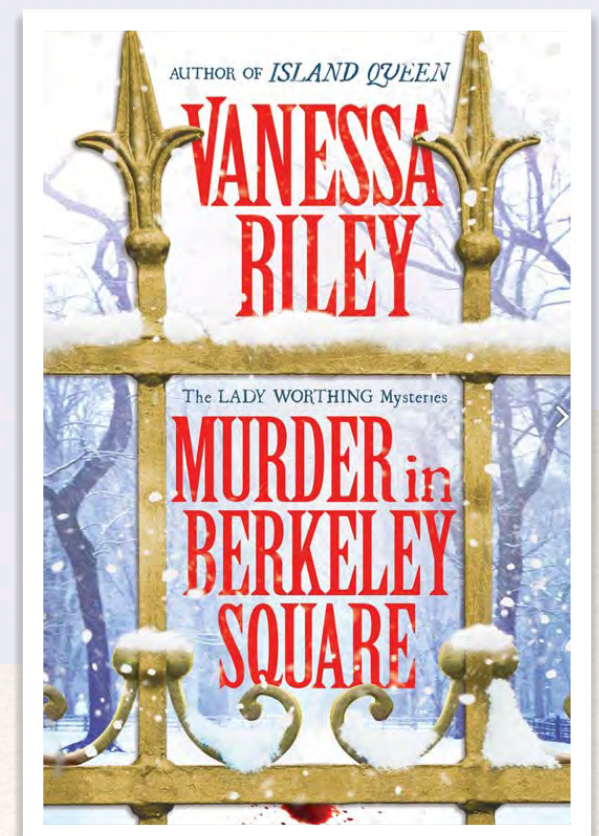




Mind
Mapping

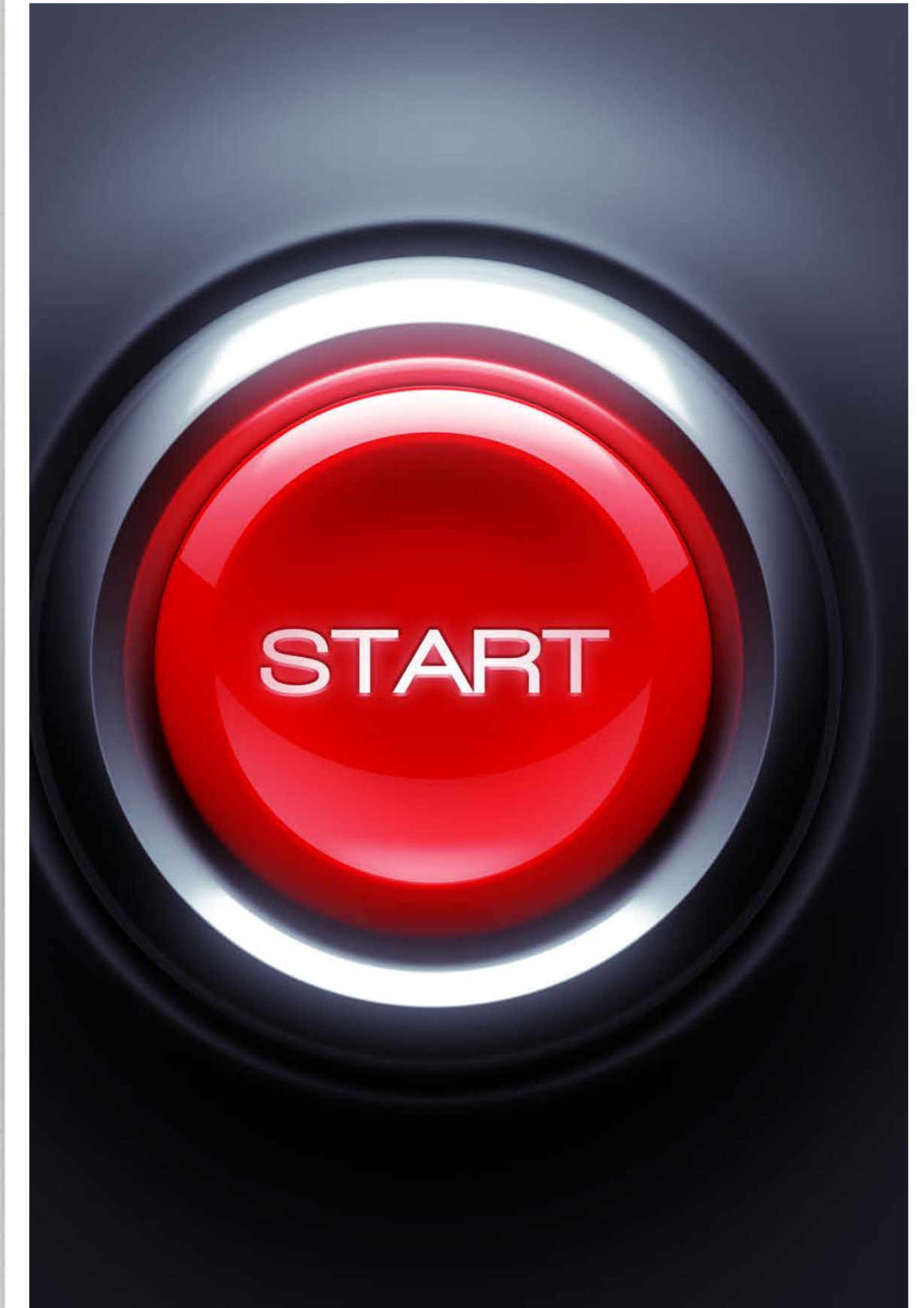


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Exercise #2

- Pull Out Some Paper
- In the Center, Name a Theme
- Free Associate
- Add as Many Spokes as you Can



Mind Mapping

- Free Association
 - Clear Your Mind
 - Write What You Find Interesting
 - You can Have Ideas that Don't Work
 - Look For Patterns
-
- Use Software to Help



MindNode
It starts with a thought



Bullet Points

- Logical Way to Start
- Point to Point
- My Personal Favorite
- Who Doesn't Like A List



Bullet Points

- What is the character's main goal?
 - What are they trying to do?
 - Why?
 - When does it have to be done?
 - How do they think it should be accomplished?
- What is the character's belief?
- What is their relationship / family state?
- What is the lie the character believes?



4 Questions -Beginning

- What is the character's main goal?: **Theodosia**
 - What are they trying to do?: **She needs to marry to protect her son and her fortune from an evil guardian**
 - **Why? The evil guardian will take her son.**
 - When does it have to be done? **She has 3 months**
 - How do they think it should be accomplished? **She will exchange letters in the London Morning post. She goes to the Burlingame to pick up her letters.**
- What is the character's belief? **She doesn't understand why some suffer?**
- What is their relationship / family state? **She's a widow with a son. She has run into the man who was her first love, who she thought died. He is the true father of her son.**
- What is the lie the character believes? **She desperate not to become her mother. Her mother was a harlot who had Theo out of wedlock. She believes she was foolish to believe in love.**



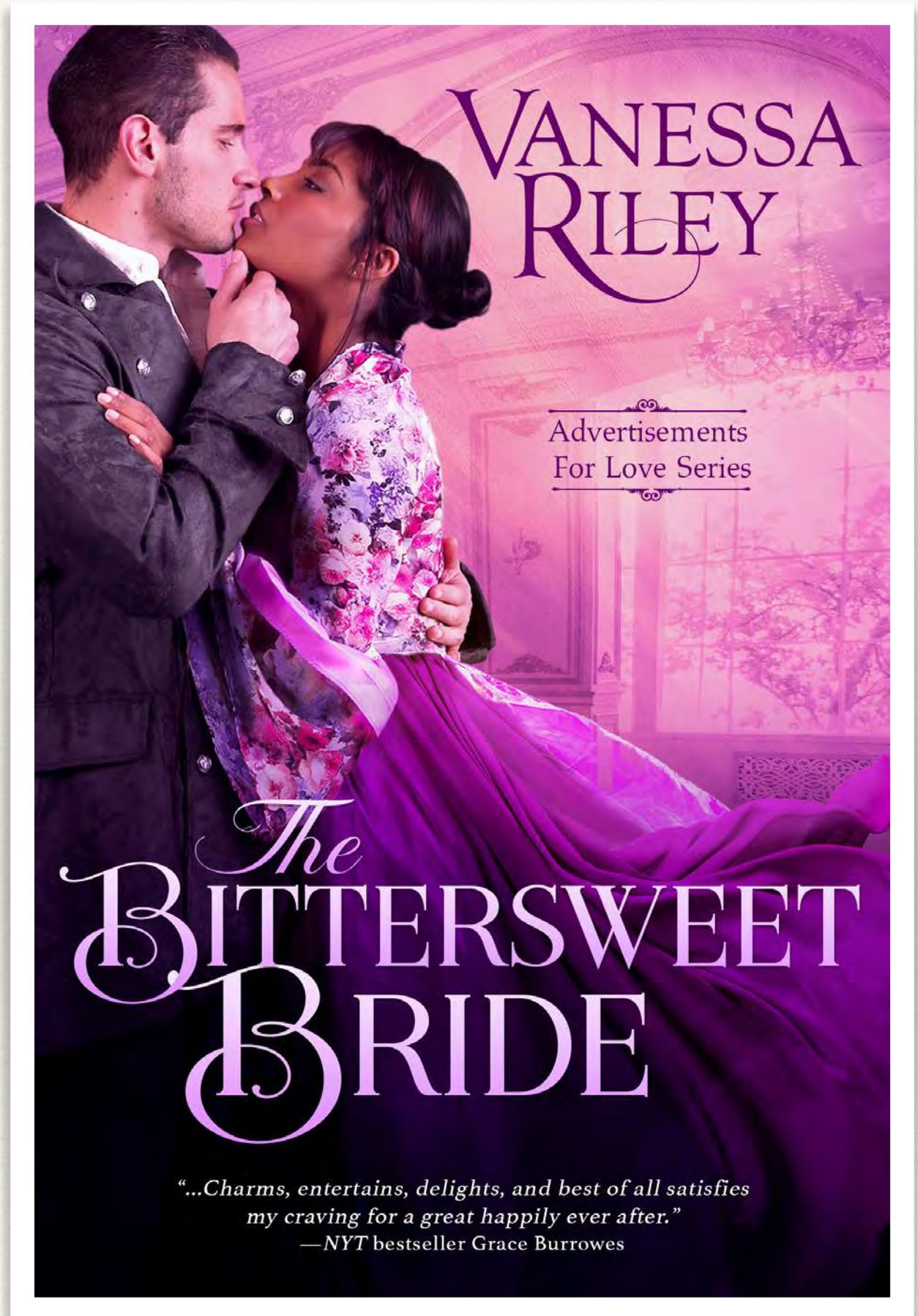
4 Questions –Beginning

- What is the character's main goal?: Ewan
 - What are they trying to do? He wants to have one of his plays bought and performed on stage.
 - Why? He wants to prove his father wrong that he is a good man and a good playwright.
 - When does it have to be done? He needs it bought in the few months. As soon as possible.
 - How do they think it should be accomplished? He has been offering his play for stage managers.
- What is the character's belief? He is bitter. He lost everything for loving Theo and his bad luck: a false report of him dying in battle. He thinks she married his cousin because he was wealthy.
- What is their relationship / family state? His mother dotes on him. His father disapproves of everything Ewan does.
- What is the lie the character believes? He needs his father's approval to prove Ewan is a good man.



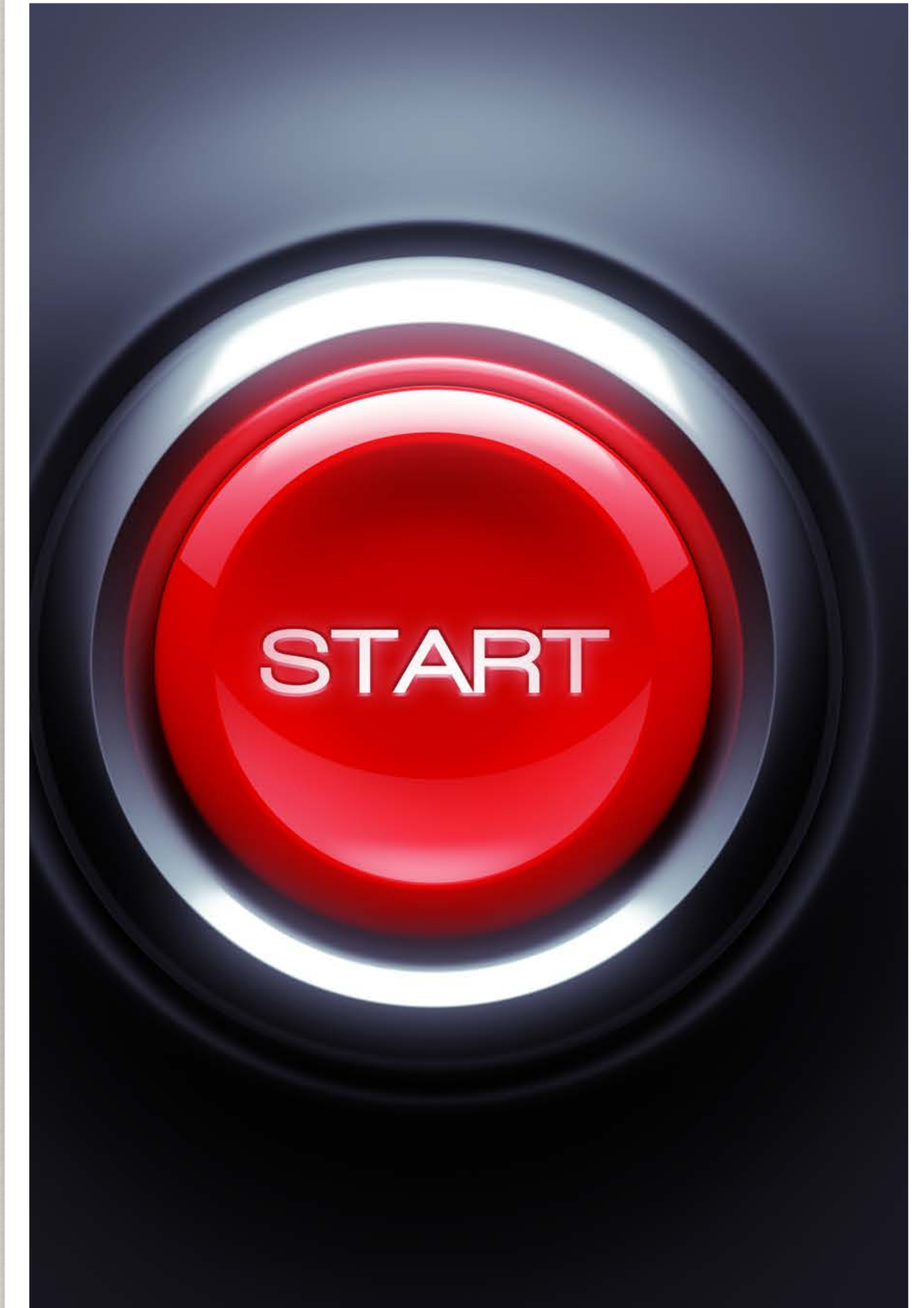
Bullet Points

- What is the character's main goal?
 - What are they trying to do?
 - Why?
 - When does it have to be done?
 - How do they think it should be accomplished?
- What is the character's belief?
- What is their relationship / family state?
- What is the lie the character believes?



Exercise #3

- Pull Out Some Paper
- Think of a Character
- Give them a Name
- Define 1 Goal (Object/Deadline)
- Define Relationship Status
- Define Belief System
- Define a Lie



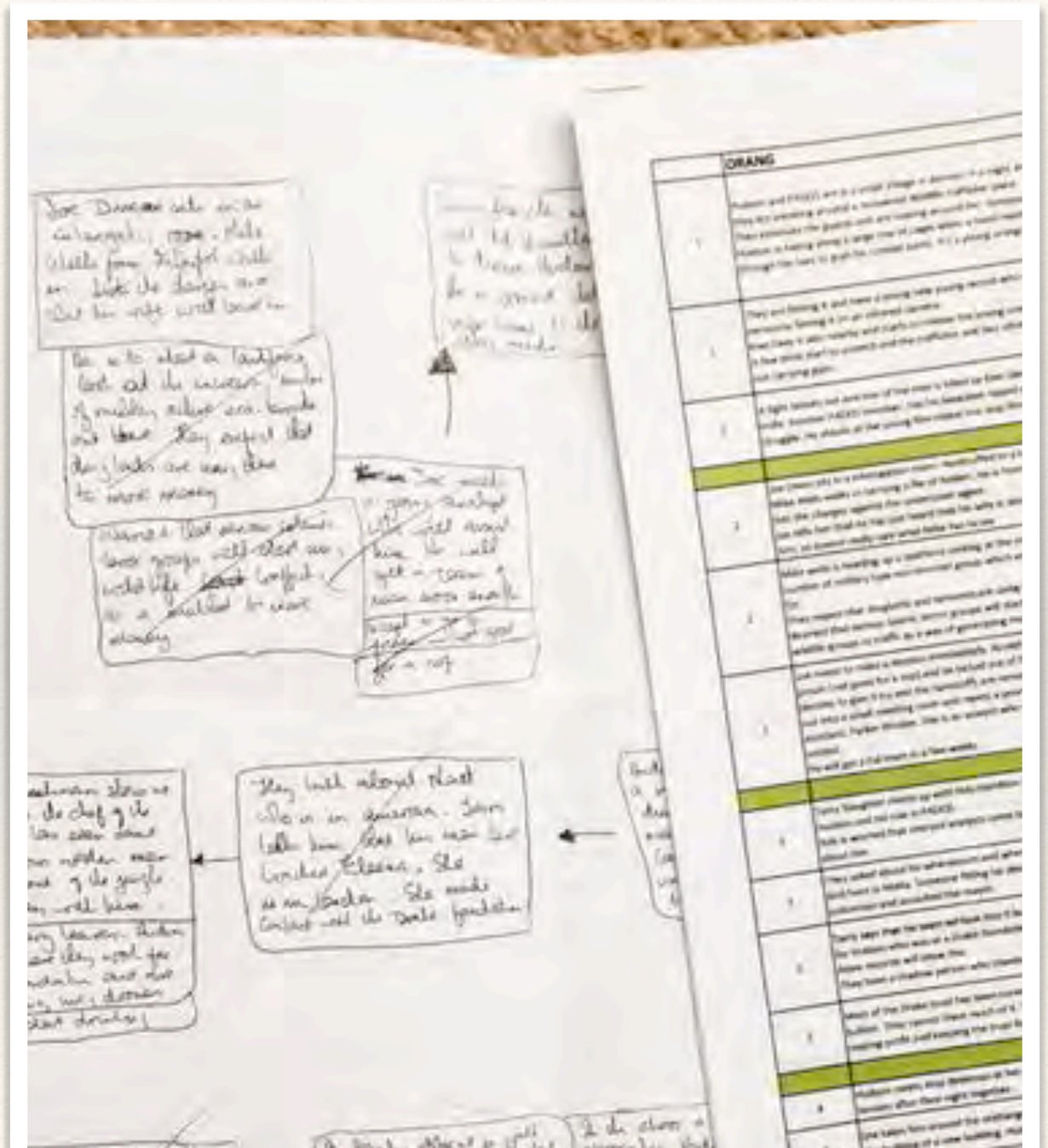
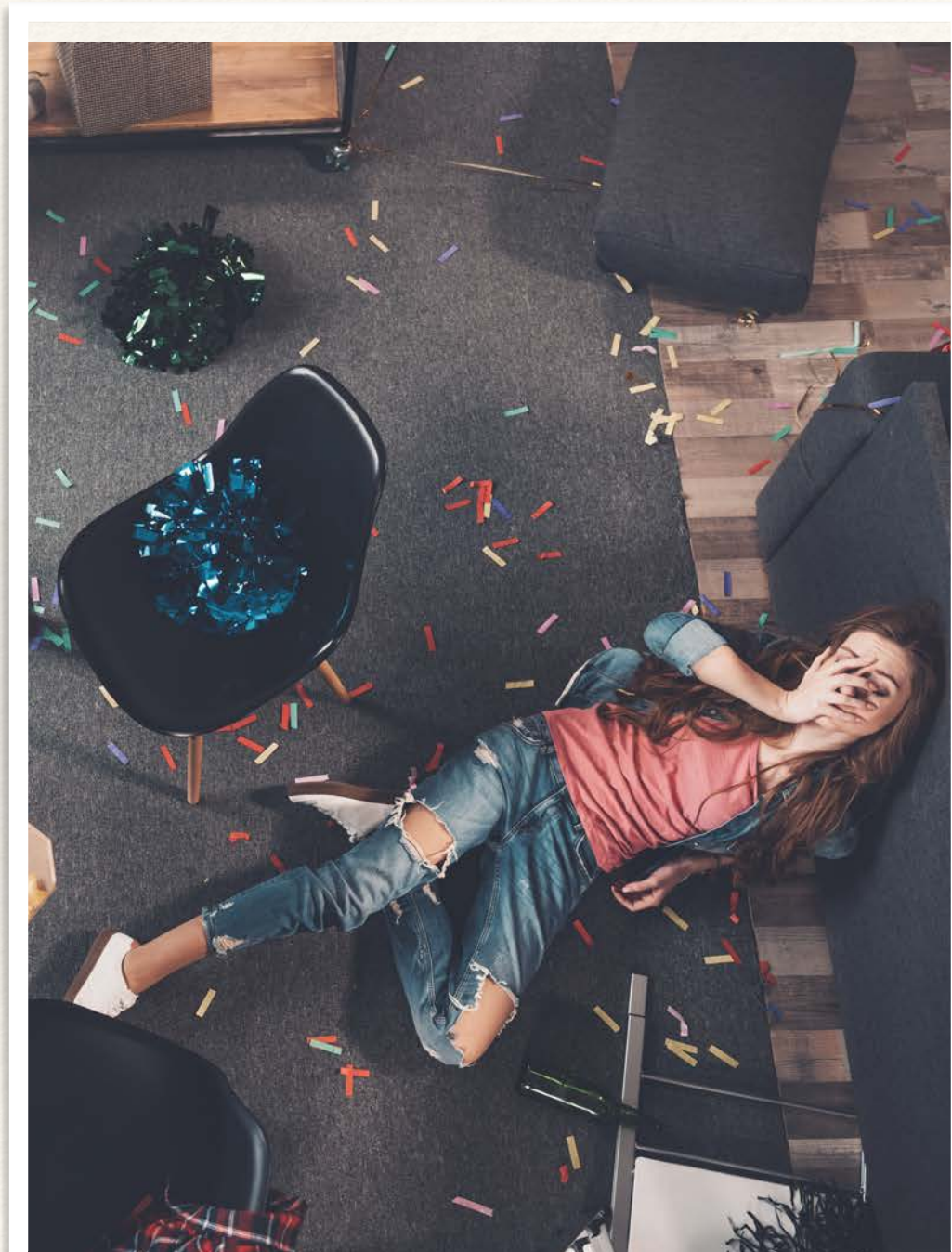
Bullet Points

- Logical Way to Start
- My Personal Favorite
- Who Doesn't Like A List



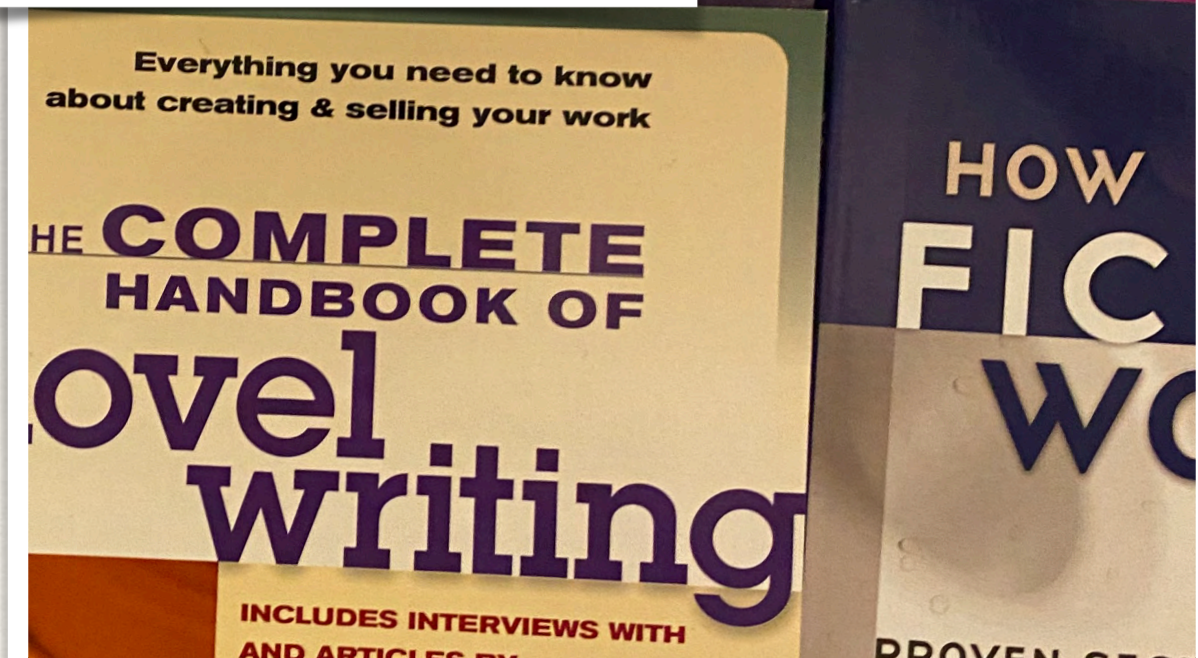
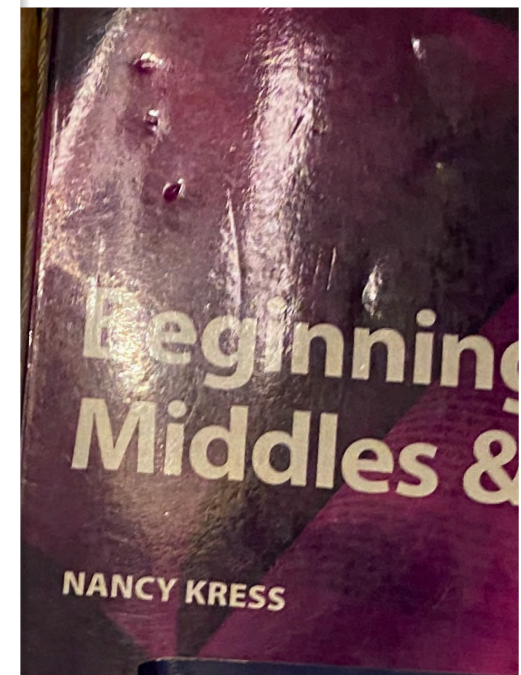
PARTING THOUGHTS

It's Your Process



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- ❖ A Duke, The Lady, and A Baby
- ❖ The Bittersweet Bride



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Q & A Time

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