

## Sastrugi Press

www.sastrugipress.com

### Manuscript tools

Scrivener

<http://editminion.com/>

<https://www.grammarly.com/>

<http://www.hemingwayapp.com/>

<http://prowritingaid.com/>

<http://www.writewords.org.uk/>

### **Weak word checklist**

#### **Use these at your peril**

#### Weak words kill your writing

amazing

a lot

bad

good

got / get / gotten [19 meanings]

just [poor filler word]

maybe

might

stuff

thing(s)

try

very [delete completely]

well

went

#### Semi-weak words

actually

around

going

great

like

literally

make

maybe

nice

perhaps

pretty

quite

really

#### Other weak words

all

almost

believe

big

came/come

can't

every

feel/felt (regret, etc)

fine

important

make

move

need

never

often

perhaps

quite

said

seem

small

think

try

used to

up

walk

want

were ...

#### Unsure words

kinda

possibly

sorta

"I dunno"...

"we'll see"...

"I guess"...

#### Words & phrases to retool

a bit

all of the sudden...

almost

are ...

nearly

began [...] - instead of "began

changing", say "changed" X

could see

created

has been = was

had gone down

had a desire

had to ...

have been...

I'm

it's

interesting

there are/is/were

#### Loose timing/approximation

about

around

earlier

eventually

later

soon

roughly

sometime

someday

#### Vague verbs

acknowledge

appreciate

appear(s)

be aware of

be familiar with

be informed of

comprehend

create

describe

experience

feel

generate

illustrate

know

make

participate in

rely

recognize

undergo

understand

undertake

#### Passive construction

Weak: The door was slammed by the angry teenager.

Stronger: The angry teenager slammed the door.

#### Weak constructions

There are...

It is...

... the fact that...

...had had...

I think

I believe

I feel

was/is/are/am

#### Vague geographic perspectives

up

down

#### Other words & phrases

came

got out of

might be able to

were able

were flying

would

