

How Do I Know When The Right Time Is To Submit My Manuscript For Publishing Consideration?

Great question! And this is one that I have been asked by authors on more than one occasion. The simple answer is: once you have read and reread your manuscript and you are feeling very confident about it.

You see, we don't often suggest to authors that they should get another person to read their manuscript. Why? Because some people will like their manuscript and some won't. And that's not the determining factor on whether WE will like it. We want to hear YOUR voice, YOUR ideas, YOUR character analysis if it's a fiction piece, YOUR take or interpretation if it's a non-fiction piece. We don't want you to be influenced by others because that won't then be YOUR voice. When we publish a person, it is because we found something attractive in YOUR voice and YOUR style, and when you get your book published, you are going to be needing to do plenty of self-promotion and plenty of self-marketing for your book. Which means that you are going to be needing to show people who YOU really are (and that is really good). People like to buy the books of people they like, or at least, whom they perceive to be interesting and worthy to listen to. Those are the people whose books they will be happy to part with their hard-earned dollars to purchase. So this means that we are looking for your authentic, genuine voice. So if you do get someone or more than one person to read your work and evaluate it or give you some feedback, be very careful that you aren't losing your voice in the process. We are, after all, publishing you....not that other person.

Reading Your Work Over....With a Positively Critical Eye

This is important. When we say reading your work over with a positively critical eye, we mean that you are supposed to check your work over and make changes by being critical of the content but in a kind and positive way. Being overly critical

of your work is not a good idea, especially when it changes the entire tone and feel of your work. There is a reason you felt compelled to write this and when you write about something, you are considering yourself to be a little bit of an expert in that arena. So when you are checking over your work, remember that we are still looking for your voice and you are just checking your work to make sure that your voice and your teachings (and your take) are what are coming through.