

## **The Authors Corner** by Dutch Rhudy

Welcome to The Authors Corner.

When I sat around procrastinating long enough, my mother would say, “You've fooled around long enough.” Once I got the kinks worked out of the new computer system, I dove right in to work on the Roaring Falls Series.

To refresh my memory, I reread the history book mentioned in the August issue. Built from my world building sessions and rewritten several times, it became my overarching outline for the series. Without looking back at my existing individual working outline, I made a new storyboard, and compared it to existing outlines and my works in progress.

An author is never happy with how they open a story, and in my case, each time I do, I step further back in time. At long last I finally found the perfect starting place, and tried several different approaches.

In the process of writing we forget to let the reader know what is already well engraved in our brain. We think we covered everything, until it gets cold and we reread our work. In my last rewrite of what I intended to be the first book in the series, I failed once again to include pertinent information the reader needs to understand the story.

In a sense, this turned out to be a good thing, because it forced me to reconsider my opening once again. The new storyboard brought out these missing details, and set the stage for a new opening book. Not a whole new book, but a new beginning incorporating some of the ideas I used previously, but following a different main plot line.

I spent the last week of October writing a fresh new outline to open the series. Some of the information used in the outline came from other story opening attempts, and the first of three novels already in rough draft form. If this works the way I plan, I will have to carry it through, and rewrite all the books once again.

Rather than work on something unrelated to Roaring Falls, I chose to use this new storyboard and outline for NaNoWriMo. Since it uses a different plotline, and I did not start writing the rough draft until November 1st, it is all new work. I'm drawing on existing knowledge from my world building sessions, but using new ideas to create the opening story.

I see no conflict with NaNo's rules since it is fresh material, and written in a different style. I did bog down the first couple of days, rewriting a few lines to pull things together better. But now I'm sailing along, and should reach twenty-five thousand words this weekend. I'm looking forward to publishing the opening books of the series in early 2015, if nothing else goes wrong around here.

Respectfully submitted  
Dutch Rhudy