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THE PUBLISHING LANDSCAPE

A Free Busybird Publishing Resource for Authors

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Every story has a beginning, middle and end, even a non-fiction book.

There are no rules to the structure except that there needs to be some logic to it for the reader. A book can be 10,000 or 40,000 words. It doesn't matter so long as you get your story out and you are solving a problem. There are also no rules about how many chapters there needs to be. This will most likely fall into place organically.

1. Find a whiteboard or large piece of paper to brain dump what you want your book to be about.
2. What problem are you solving for your reader? Or what wisdom are you writing about?
3. Write down fifteen pieces of wisdom, or steps to get to your solution that you want to share with your ideal reader.
4. Are any of those similar to each other? Do some of them need to be broken up?
5. Create a heading for each one.
6. This becomes the structure of your book. There needs to be logic to the order. Move some around if there isn't a logical flow.
7. Under each heading, jot down some dot points to explain what they mean. These dot points become the content for each chapter.
8. You now have a rough outline for your book. When broken up into chapters, just concentrate on each chapter on its own, then it won't feel like a huge task to write a whole book.