

TIPS FOR MAKING YOUR **SCENES** STAND OUT IN A GOOD WAY



1. Every scene that is set down/written by the author has to have a reason to be. Why are you writing this scene? It must move the story forward.
2. Every scene should capture a sharply defined turning point and reveal its meaning to the reader. What is happening that will advance the story and inform your reader's understanding of the story as a whole?
3. Dialogue in a scene should be taunt and pointed. Not just conversation for conversations sake.
4. Rescue your saggy middle by inserting pertinent dialogue rather than a lot of exposition that may move your story forward but your reader will skip to get to the heart of the message.
5. Decide the scene goal for the POV (Point of View) character before you write the scene – why is s/he there, what are they going to accomplish that will move the story forward. Don't be afraid to examine the hard stuff, the inner rational.