

BETA READING

GUIDE

70 questions to give your beta readers!
Get a good review for each chapter,
book, and series!



When choosing beta readers, make sure that you:

1. Make expectations clear. What do you want them to look for? What questions do you want them to answer? How soon do you want them to finish reading?

*Note: 2-4 weeks is an acceptable time frame.

2. Choose both new and experienced readers. New betas may have a less critical approach to reading your book compared to experienced readers. While having new betas can be a good gauge on how your audience may react, make sure you have betas that will analyze the minor details and provide honest feedback.

3. Choose beta readers you can trust. For protecting your work, be careful with who you share your book with and keep paper trails if necessary.

4. Define your goals. Are you planning to have multiple stages of beta reading? Do you need opinions on the story itself or do you need to filter out the minor mistakes? Do not choose betas who can't meet your goals.

QUESTIONS FOR EACH CHAPTER

Questions	Response
What are 3 things that you loved about this chapter?	
Did you have any favorite dialogue?	
Did you skim any sections?	
Did you find any descriptions lacking or confusing?	
Were there any parts that made you lose interest?	
Was the dialogue believable? Did any of it seem out of character?	
Were there any inconsistencies in the time and place of the scenes?	

QUESTIONS FOR EACH CHAPTER

Questions	Response
Were there any inconsistencies with how characters acted? With how they were physically described?	
Did you like the beginning of the chapter? Why or why not?	
Did you like the end of the chapter? Why or why not?	
Was there enough conflict in this chapter?	
Did any parts of this chapter make you uncomfortable? Did you skip any scenes because of this? If possible, please explain why.	
Did you feel that this chapter was too long or too short?	
Were there any scenes that felt unnecessary?	

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QUESTIONS FOR BOOK REVIEW

Questions	Response
Which character do you relate to the most?	
Which character, if any, do you think needs more descriptions or action?	
Who was your favorite and least favorite character? Why?	
Which chapter was your favorite?	
Was there a chapter you did not like and why?	
Did the plot make sense to you?	
Is there anything in particular that you want to be expanded on?	

QUESTIONS FOR BOOK REVIEW

Questions	Response
Does the book begin in the right place?	
Are the characters compelling? Do they seem real with distinct flaws and strengths?	
Are the goals of the characters clear to you? Which ones aren't?	
Do the secondary characters enhance the story? Should any be cut?	
If you had to choose five characters to keep, who would they be?	
If you had to choose a character to remove, who would it be?	

QUESTIONS FOR BOOK REVIEW

Questions	Response
Are the internal conflicts well defined for each character?	
Are the external conflicts well defined for each character?	
Are there enough high stakes throughout the book?	
Are the plot twists believable but still unexpected?	
Do the characters act or react in realistic ways?	
Were there any information dumps that made you skip ahead?	
Are descriptions vivid? Can you picture the scene?	

QUESTIONS FOR BOOK REVIEW

Questions	Response
Would you keep reading after the first 5 pages?	
Would you keep reading after the first chapter?	
Is there anything in particular that you want to be expanded on in the next book?	
Did the book seem too long or too short?	
Did you like the main character?	
Did you like the ending?	

QUESTIONS FOR BOOK REVIEW

Questions	Response
Did the story move at a good pace? Was it too fast or too slow?	
Did you like the POV of the book?	
What audience would like this book?	
Would you label this book YA, new adult, or adult?	
Was the genre of the book clear to you?	
Did you notice any glaring mistakes?	
Were there any factual errors? If possible, please provide good sources for revisions	

QUESTIONS FOR BOOK REVIEW

Questions	Response
Do you want more comedy, dialogue, romance, or action in the overall book?	
Did anything seem offensive?	
Are there any characters that may upset readers?	
Are there any traumatic scenes that may upset readers?	
Is there anything you wish I had included in this book?	
What would you rate this book out of 5 stars?	
What books, TV shows, or movies would you compare this book to?	

QUESTIONS FOR BOOK REVIEW

Questions	Response
Are the characters' voices consistent and distinct from one another?	
Is there an appropriate mix of dialogue and narrative?	
Is the story unique? Does it bring a new perspective?	
Is the story a good fit for the stated genre? If not, why?	

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QUESTIONS FOR BOOK SERIES

Questions	Response
Does the writing style match my previous work?	
Have my writing skills improved from the previous book?	
Do the characters seem different or the same?	
Did any of the characters change in a way that you liked or disliked?	
Do you like how the series has progressed?	
Do you like the way the characters have grown?	
Would you read the next book in the series?	

QUESTIONS FOR BOOK SERIES

Questions	Response
Has your opinion of your favorite character changed?	
Has your opinion of your least favorite character changed?	
Did you love something in the previous books that was missing in this book?	
Was there anything you expected in this book that did not happen?	
Do you like this book more than the previous ones? Why or why not?	

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REVIEW OF RESPONSES

Use this chart to compare the overall responses of your beta readers and create a plan for revisions

Based on Beta Reader Responses....	Answer	Was the Response What You Wanted?	What changes, if any, will you make?
Who was the most liked character?			
Who was the least liked character?			
Which chapter was the best?			
Which chapter needs the most revision and why?			
Were there any plot holes?			

REVIEW OF RESPONSES

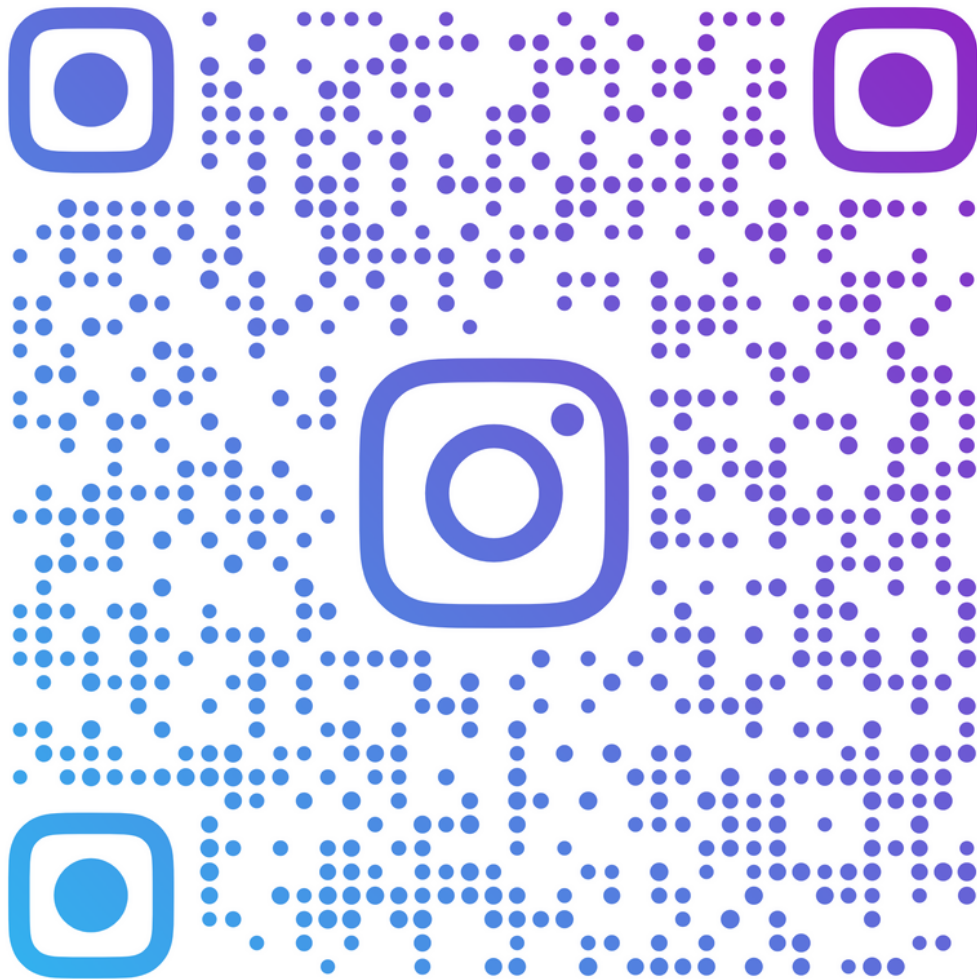
Based on Beta Reader Responses....	Answer	Was the Response What You Wanted?	What changes, if any, will you make?
Was there a lack of conflict in any chapters?			
Were there any glaring mistakes in time or place for your chapters?			
What was the overall rating for your book?			
Did they like the first chapter?			
Did they like the ending?			

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