# HOW-TO GUIDE: CREATIVELY WRITING WITHAI

It's okay... Here's how to make it work

# W.D. SHIPLEY

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1. WELCOME: YES, YOU CAN STILL WRITE
- 2. WHAT IS AI (AND WHY SHOULD WRITERS CARE)?
- 3. GETTING STARTED WITH CHATGPT AND OTHER TOOLS
- 4. OUTLINES, ORGANIZATION & KEEPING TRACK OF YOUR STORY
- 5. CREATING CHARACTERS WITH HELP FROM AI
- 6. BRINGING CHARACTERS TO LIFE: VOICES & VISUALS
- 7. WRITING VIVID SCENES WITH AI (WITHOUT LOSING YOUR VOICE)
- 8.RESEARCH WITHOUT THE RABBIT HOLE
- 9. DON'T LET AI WRITE YOUR STORY
- 10. MAKING WRITING A HABIT AGAIN—WITH AI AS YOUR CO-PILOT
- 11. BONUS TOOLS, TEMPLATES & PROMPTS
  - TO KEEP YOU GOING

W.D. SHIPLEY 2025 WDSHIPLEY.COM

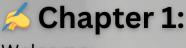
# *CREATIVELY* WRITING WITH AI



# BY: W.D. SHIPLEY

W.D. Shipley is author of dystopian thriller Manufacturing Artificial Intelligence Agency.

This guide was written by W.D. Shipley using AI as a creative tool for drafting, organizing, and formatting ideas. All rights reserved. This document may not be reproduced without permission.



Welcome:

# Yes, You Can Still Write!

So, you're here—which means at some point in your life, you thought about writing. Maybe you used to. Maybe you do, but AI discouraged you. Maybe you never really did, but you've got a story that's been sitting in your gut for years, waiting for a chance and all this talk about AI has you down or confused.

Well... here's your chance. And here's the kicker: you **don't have to do it alone.** 

Let me say this up front—using AI to write doesn't make you less creative. It makes you supported. It's boosting your creativity.

We've been told that writing is supposed to be this sacred, solo act. A quiet room. A blank page. Inspiration. Coffee. Pain. Maybe more coffee. But what if I told you that's not the only way anymore?

What if writing could actually be **fun** again? What if the scariest part—the starting—didn't have to be scary?

That's where this guide comes in.

### Why This Book Exists:

I wrote this for people like you—curious, creative folks who didn't grow up with AI but are open enough to give it a shot. Maybe you're a little skeptical. Maybe you're afraid it's cheating. Maybe you're just plain overwhelmed.

Good. That means you're thoughtful.

But I'm here to tell you, this tool can unlock things in your brain you didn't even know were still there. It can give you structure when you feel stuck, and it can help you find your rhythm before you lose momentum.

And it won't try to steal your voice—unless you let it (which we won't).

# What You'll Learn:

# This book will walk you step by step through:

- How to use AI tools like ChatGPT to brainstorm, outline, and stay organized
- How to build real, flawed, unforgettable characters
- How to describe a sunset that feels like you wrote it
- And maybe most importantly... how not to let the AI take over

This isn't about writing like a robot. It's about writing like you— the true you.

So take a deep breath. You don't need to have it all figured out. You don't need to be techy. You just need a little curiosity and a willingness to try.

Let's write something together.

# Chapter 2: What is AI?

# Should writer's even care?

## Let's keep it simple.

Al—short for Artificial Intelligence—isn't some sci-fi villain with glowing green eyes (M.A.I.A.). It's more like a supersmart assistant that's really, really good at patterns. You give it a prompt (a question, a sentence, an idea), and it gives you something back—instantly.

## That "something" could be:

- An outline for a story idea
- A character description (with pictures!)
- A vivid scene
- A suggestion when you're stuck

It's like brainstorming with a friend who's read every book, seen every movie, and never runs out of ideas. The best part? You don't have to feel embarrassed or judged. Al never rolls its eyes.

## But Is It Actually Creative?

That depends on how you define *creative*.

Al isn't imaginative the way you are. It doesn't feel. It doesn't remember the time your uncle's old truck broke down in a thunderstorm and how the smell of oil and rain made you cry. That's your story. That's your gold.

Tip: "AI doesn't have feelings... be as SPECIFIC as possible when giving it direction. Pretend you are ordering the most complex coffee and demand AI to go get it!" But AI can help you unlock it. It can ask the right questions, spark the right idea, and help you say what you were trying to say. You're still the writer—it's just handing you the flashlight.

🚔 What Can Writers Use AI For?

#### • Idea generation:

"What if a widow finds an alien in her barn?" Boom—three plotlines, on the spot.

#### • Story structure:

Ask AI to create a flexible, editable outline—you can add or rearrange scenes as your story evolves. It's like Scrivener, but faster.

## • Character building (with visuals!):

Need a character profile? You can generate a full description and even an AI-generated face using ChatGPT or tools like DALL·E. Suddenly, your characters feel real.

#### • Dialogue suggestions

"Make this conversation sound more tense." Done—now it reads like a thriller instead of a coffee shop chat.

### • Description upgrades:

"Can you rewrite this paragraph to feel dreamier?" It'll give you three versions. You keep the one that feels most like you.

### • Overcoming writer's block

"I don't know what happens next."

Al can offer prompts, next-scene suggestions, or even just ask you good questions to jog your brain. It's like having a writing coach who never sleeps.

# 👵 "But I'm Not Tech-Savvy..."

Good. You don't need to be.

If you can type a sentence, you can use AI. If you've ever Googled something, asked Siri a question, or even texted "What's for dinner?"—you're already halfway there.

This book is written to walk you through it slowly. Step by step. You're not late to the party—you're right on time.

# So Why Should You Care?

Because the stories in your head matter. And if AI helps you get them out, that's a win.

Let's demystify the tools next—so you can see just how easy it is to get started.

# Chapter 3: Getting Started

## **Getting Started with ChatGPT and Other Tools**

So now that you know AI isn't the enemy—and might actually be your new favorite writing buddy—let's get you set up. Don't worry, this won't take long. You don't need to download anything complicated. You just need to know where to go and what to do once you're there.

## Step 1: Choose Your AI Writing Tool

There are a few good ones out there. The most popular (and the one you're probably using right now) is ChatGPT by OpenAI.

## 📎 Here's how to start:

- Go to <u>https://chat.openai.com</u>
- Click Sign Up or Log In
- You can use your Google account or email to get started
- Once inside, you'll see a simple chat box where you can start typing

✓ Tip: If you're brand new, the free plan is totally fine for most basic writing help. But if you want access to visuals, longer responses, or advanced features like memory and file uploads, upgrading to ChatGPT Plus

(\$20/month) unlocks GPT-4, which I highly recommend.

## Other Tools You Might Hear About (Optional for Now)

- Claude.ai Great for long documents or summarizing
- Gemini (by Google) Integrated with Google Docs
- Notion AI Good for outlining and tracking story

You can always explore these later. For now, let's keep it simple and stick with ChatGPT.

# 差 Step 2: Start Talking to Your AI

Here's where the magic happens. In the chat box, type something like:

"Help me come up with a story idea about a retired firefighter who opens a bakery."

Or:

"I have a story idea about XYZ and I am looking for your help in organizing my brain and being a story guide."

It will respond instantly. Like this:

"Sure! If you have any written now, copy and past or upload here, so I can remember your style and voice. I'll also start remembering your plot line to help keep it on track."

See? You're off and running.

✓ Tip: Name your AI... I named mine so it makes it more human to discuss (Flash forward... you can talk to it and it will talk back!

## 🧠 Step 3: Start a Story File (Optional but Helpful)

Create a document—Google Docs, or Word —where you copy the ideas and outlines you like from your AI chat. You can always ask AI for a summary of the chat.

I like to keep sections like:

- Character Profiles
- Chapter Outlines
- Scene Snippets

It'll keep you organized as your project grows—and help you see how far you've come.

## 🔁 Step 4: Learn by Doing

This part is key: don't overthink it. You learn AI like you learn a new friend—you talk to it. Try different prompts. Get weird. Reword your question if you don't like the first answer. Ask follow-ups. Tweak the tone. Be curious.

### Here's a challenge:

Type in "Give me a first sentence for a suspense novel set in a church basement."

Then ask: "Make it scarier." Then: "Now make it funny."

You'll start to get a feel for how AI shifts gears.

# Still Nervous?

That's okay. This chapter isn't about mastering everything it's about starting. AI isn't here to impress anyone. It's here to help you get back into the rhythm of writing. **You've got this**.

# S Chapter 4: Getting Organized

If you've ever started writing and then completely forgotten where your story was going... welcome to the club. Plot holes, lost threads, characters who disappear halfway through we've all been there. The good news? AI can help you stay on track without locking you into a rigid structure that kills creativity.

## Start with a Simple Outline Prompt

You don't need to know your whole story yet. Just give AI a rough idea and let it give you a shape to start with.

Example prompt:

"Help me create a story outline about a woman who inherits a mysterious lighthouse after her grandfather passes away."

And you'll get back something like:

- 1. **Introduction**-She arrives at the lighthouse and finds it abandoned.
- 2. **Rising Action**-She hears strange noises, meets locals who warn her.
- 3. **Climax**-She discovers a hidden room with her grandfather's journals.
- 4. Falling Action-She uncovers the truth about his past.
- 5. **Conclusion**–She decides to stay and guard the lighthouse herself.

Boom-your story suddenly has bones.

✓ **Tip**: Most great writers don't know where the story is going until it gets there. AI will help you with save points along the way. Think of it this way, you are uncovering a fossil and writing is your brush. You can't always see the whole story until you uncover more and more. Not knowing is half the battle. AI helps you uncover or discover.

# 🔁 Make It Flexible

Not vibing with Act 2? Ask AI:

"Give me three alternate directions for Act 2."

## Or:

"What if I want this to be a thriller instead of a mystery?"

It adjusts instantly—without complaining. It's like having a story assistant who's always game for a rewrite.

# 🧠 Keep a Living Story File

Set up a doc (Google Docs or Word) with clear sections:

- Story Summary
- Outline (updated as you write)
- Chapter Notes
- Loose Threads to Revisit
- What Happens Next Ideas

Each time you add something, copy it into that doc. When AI helps with structure or plot development, paste that into your running outline. Over time, it becomes your writing map.

# Tracking Scenes, Subplots & Character Arcs

## Ask AI:

"Remind me what happened in Chapter 3." "Which subplots are unresolved right now?" "What emotional arc should this character go through?"

## Feeling Overwhelmed?

Here's a quick-start prompt to organize what you already have:

## "Here's what I've written so far: [paste rough notes]. Can you help me create a simple outline based on this?"

It will return a clean summary and outline that gives you structure without starting from scratch.

# The Real Power?

You get to stay creative and feel in **control**. Al helps you zoom out and see the bigger picture, which means fewer plot holes, better pacing, and a lot less second-guessing halfway through.

Tip: "Tell to AI to remember style composition and voice, so that it can recall YOUR personality when providing possible data back. It's like another digital you!"

# **Chapter 5:** Creating Characters with Help from AI

Characters are the heart of your story. They're the reason readers keep turning pages—not just to see what happens, but to see how it happens to them. And if you've ever struggled to make your characters feel real, don't worry—AI is surprisingly good at helping you build people who walk off the page.

## Start with a Prompt

You can start vague or specific. Try:

"Create a character who's a single dad, ex-Marine, now running a flower shop."

#### Or even:

"Give me a flawed but lovable teenage girl with ADHD who wants to be a pilot."

### Or:

"Provide ten 16<sup>th</sup> century german female names of royalty servants that would likely have anger issues."

The AI will give you:

- Name / Age
- Backstory
- Personality traits
- Motivations
- Fears & Quirks

Suddenly, you've got more than a name—you've got a person.

## 🚔 Use a Character Builder Prompt

Here's a starter prompt to keep handy:

"Help me create a character profile. Include name, physical description, personality, backstory, goals, and what keeps them up at night."

## 👏 Add Visuals (Yes, You Can See Them)

If you want to see your character, tools like DALL·E, Midjourney, or Artbreeder can generate realistic faces based on your description as well as Chatgpt.

# Example prompt for a character:

"Generate a portrait of a 45year-old man with salt-andpepper hair, a military jawline, and soft eyes, wearing a flannel shirt in a small-town flower shop."



You'll be shocked how motivating it is to see your characters staring back at you.

**√***Tip*: Don't be afraid to **overwrite**. Something you, ai, and your editor know will be cut is essential for you to experience to understand what the character has been through or how he or she feels. It won't make the final cut, but go there anyway to get to know them better for you.

Al can help with this if you add the scene into the prompt, but tell it that the added material is for character development purposes only and won't be in the final draft of the story.

## 🗣 Give Them a Voice

Want to make your character sound real too? You can create or sample voices using tools like:

- ElevenLabs Text-to-speech in natural tones
- Descript Add narration to your writing

But either way ask AI:

"What does this character sound like when they're nervous?"

#### Or:

"Write a monologue where this character explains why they hate birthdays."

Use that voice in your dialogue scenes. It'll help keep tone consistent—and make every conversation feel unique. Again what better way to meet your characters than to chat with them?

## 🔁 Refine as You Go

Characters evolve. Just like real people, they grow, break, rebuild.

✓ ProTip: Not all characters are all good, just like not all characters are all bad. Good people make mistakes and bad people do good sometimes. I like to bring this up, because we need to remember characters are people too and most people are in the gray.

# 💬 Bonus Trick: Let Them Talk to You

Try this just for fun (or insight):

## Put in the chat:

"Based on what you know of character X and all thier relationships, pretend you are this character for a moment. I'm going to ask you some interview questions."

Then ask:

- "What was your biggest regret?"
- "Who do you trust most?"
- "What's something you've never told anyone?"

It gets weirdly personal. And that's where the best stories begin.

**ProTip**: If you press the speaker icon **WW** You can actually talk to your AI companion and have this discussion.

# Solution Chapter 6: Bringing Characters to Life: Voices & Visuals

Now that you've got a name, a backstory, maybe even a few quirks and fears—it's time to breathe life into your characters. This chapter is about turning them from a list of traits into people you can see, hear, and feel in your scenes.

## Siving Your Character a Voice

Real people don't all speak the same—and neither should your characters. AI can help you give each one a unique voice by analyzing tone, pacing, and emotion.

Try prompts like:

"Rewrite this paragraph as if my character is sarcastic and emotionally closed off." <- (That will save you some time)

"How would a 12-year-old prodigy explain this in her own words?"

# "Turn this sentence into something a Brooklyn cab driver might say."

You'll get variations that reflect personality—not just grammar.

**Quick Tip**: Once you get the tone you love, ask AI to save it. You can ask AI to mimic it later for future scenes or edits. Remember that AI is good at providing you options for inspiration. It is NOT writing for you. This is no different morally than using a dictionary or googling something.

## Let Them Talk (Even When You're Stuck)

You can ask AI to help write character dialogue:

## "Write a short scene between this character and their ex, where they're trying to stay polite but clearly resent each other."

You don't have to keep it word-for-word. Use it to get unstuck or discover a twist you didn't see coming. Remember, some of what you write or hear won't make the final edit, but YOU needed to see or hear it to develop the story.

## Seeing Is Believing

There's something powerful about seeing your character for the first time. It makes them feel real. Luckily, with tools like ChatGPT, DALL·E, Midjourney, or Artbreeder, you can generate images based on text prompts.

Example prompt for character art:

"A 17-year-old girl with wild curly red hair, aviator goggles pushed up on her head, freckles, and a bomber jacket, standing on a windblown cliff at sunset."



Within seconds, you've got concept art that could inspire your next scene—or even your cover or be used for marketing later.

## Bonus: Give Them a Voice You Can Hear

Tools like ElevenLabs or Descript let you upload text and hear it spoken aloud in different voices.

You can:

- Create a synthetic voice for your narrator
- Give your main character their own voice tone
- Hear how dialogue sounds out loud (great for revision)

It's also a fun way to bring your scenes to life during the editing phase.

## Keep the Energy Moving

Try this when you're bored or blocked:

## "Give me a short monologue from my main character explaining why they believe they always ruin things—even when they don't want to."

This kind of emotional freewriting can give your story new depth—and make you fall in love with your characters all over again.

# Chapter 7: Writing Vivid Scenes with Al (Without Losing Your Voice)

You know that moment when you picture a scene in your head but the words just... don't come out right? The forest looks amazing in your mind, but on the page it reads like "some trees, I guess."

This is where AI shines—not by replacing your voice, but by helping you find the right words to match your imagination.

## Scene Description, Upgraded

Let's say you want to describe a mountain lake at dawn. You could ask:

# "Describe a mountain lake at sunrise in a quiet, poetic tone."

And AI might give you:

The surface of the lake was a sheet of molten glass, blushing with the first hints of sunlight. Pines stood like sentinels around its edges, their shadows stretching long and still across the water.

Not bad, right?

Now here's the secret:

## Don't copy it. Rewrite it. Make it yours.

Use it as a **springboard**, not a shortcut.

# 差 Ask for Style Changes

One of the coolest features of AI is its ability to adapt its tone.

## You can say:

"Now rewrite that as if Hemingway wrote it."

"Make it more dreamlike."

"Simplify it for a middle-grade reader."

The structure, the pacing, the rhythm—it all shifts. And it helps you figure out what feels right for your voice.

## **O Use AI to Fill In the Gaps**

You don't need AI to write your entire scene. But when you get stuck, try breaking the problem down:

- For action scenes: "What might a character notice during a high-speed chase in an old truck through the desert?"
- For emotional moments: "How would a parent react when seeing their adult child after a 10-year absence?"
- For transitions: "Give me three ways to move a character from a quiet morning to a sudden storm without using the phrase 'suddenly'."

It's like a writing assistant whispering options over your shoulder-quietly, and only when you need them.

# 💡 Dialogue as Description

Sometimes the best description comes through what characters say.

Ask your AI:

"Write a short scene where a character describes a battlefield not with narration, but while talking to someone who wasn't there."

You'll get lines like:

"You think it was loud? It wasn't. It was the silence between the blasts that I still hear when I close my eyes."

Now that's texture.

## Keep Your Voice Front and Center

This is your story. Your memories. Your weird little phrasings and poetic turns.

Al can offer the words—but you decide which ones stay. You're the filter.

Sometimes the best move is to say:

# "I like where this is going. Let me rewrite it in my own words."

And that, right there, is how AI becomes a tool-not a crutch.

## 📌 Quick Prompt Bank: Scene Helpers

- "Describe a candlelit room in a cozy but eerie way."
- "What sounds would someone hear while hiding in a forest during a rainstorm?"
- "Turn this paragraph into a sensory-rich description using smell and touch."

Tip: "Give me 10 examples of what XYZ would say if ZYX.."

# **Chapter 8:** Research Without the Rabbit Hole

## Research can be a black hole for writers.

You go in to find out what kind of flower blooms in October... and two hours later you're reading about rare Icelandic mosses and wondering what happened to your word count. Good news: AI can help you research faster, smarter, and with a lot less stress.

# 듣 Ask, Don't Google

Google gives you a thousand links. AI gives you an answer in plain English.

## Example prompt:

# *"What was the most common type of pistol used by detectives in the 1940s?"*

Instead of sorting through five Wikipedia tabs and a gun collector's forum, AI gives you a summary like:

"In the 1940s, detectives often carried snub-nosed revolvers, such as the Smith & Wesson Model 10. They were compact, easy to conceal, and reliable for close-range defense."

Quick, clean, useful.

Prompt Tip: "Give me 10 examples of common day items that would differ from today in this setting that a character would pick up or notice."

# Summarize the Complex Stuff

If you're writing about a topic with real-world depth—like medical issues, legal systems, or historical events—AI can simplify it for you.

# Try:

*"Explain how probate law works in a way that a 10-year-old could understand."* 

*"Summarize the events of the Cuban Missile Crisis in under 200 words."* 

And boom—you've got research that serves your story instead of slowing it down.

# 📌 Stay On Theme

Need your facts wrapped in tone?

"Explain how a black hole works as if it's being described by a nervous college student in a sci-fi novel."

## Or:

"Describe how a viral outbreak would spread in a small town with lots of personality and slang."

You're not just gathering **facts**—you're gathering story-ready ingredients.

Prompt Tip:"Provide me examples of how provided information directly impacts my story / character."

# Save Your Research in a Running File

This tip can't be stressed enough: Copy any useful AI answers into a doc.

Create sections like:

- Real-world references
- Historical accuracy
- Legal/medical/sci-fi tech
- Story world rules (even if fictional)

This way, you don't have to keep asking the same thing twice. Plus, it becomes your writer's bible as the project grows.

## ! A Note About Accuracy

AI is fast—but it's not always perfect. It's trained on tons of data, but it doesn't "know" things the way we do. So if it's something important (medical, legal, historical), do a quick cross-check from a reliable source.

Think of AI like a very smart intern—it can help you draft and dig, but you still need to check its work.

# Avoid the Rabbit Hole

Use timers if you have to. Set a 10-minute limit for background research before jumping back into writing. You can always ask:

## "What are the three most important things I need to know about [topic] to write a scene about it?"

Let AI trim the fat so you don't get lost.

# **Chapter 9:** Don't Let Al Write Your Story

By now, you've seen how powerful AI can be. It can brainstorm, outline, describe, suggest, summarize, and even speak in different tones. It's tempting—really tempting—to just let it take the wheel and start cranking out whole chapters for you.

But here's the **truth**:

If you let AI write your story, it won't really be yours.

## 🕾 Al Is a Machine. You're the Magic.

AI can help you write a character who sounds angry.

But it doesn't know what you sound like when you're angry.

It can describe a sunset.

But it's never seen the one you watched with your grandmother the day before she passed.

It can string together a beautiful sentence.

But it doesn't know how it felt to have your heart broken when you were 14, or what it smelled like in the hospital hallway when your child was born.

That's your voice. That's your soul. That's the difference between writing and generating.

## **Newrite What AI Gives You**

When you get a description from AI, try this process:

- 1. Read it aloud.
- 2. Ask, "Does this sound like me?"
- 3. Keep what you like.
- 4. Rewrite the rest with your flavor.

Even better:

"How would I describe this scene if I was telling it to a friend?"

You'll start to hear your own rhythm again.

## 💡 Real Example:

#### Al says:

"The rain fell like tears from the sky, soaking the empty streets in sorrow."

You say:

"It rained like someone let go of a grief they'd been holding too long. It hit the pavement soft at first, then angry. Just like her."

See the difference?

That second one is you. That's your lived experience, your style, your fingerprints.

# 🕂 The Slippery Slope

The danger isn't that AI will take over—it's that it'll quiet your voice if you stop using it.

Don't let that happen.

- Don't ask AI to finish your chapter.
- Don't let it write dialogue without your guidance.
- Don't publish something you didn't rewrite or deeply shape.

Think of it like GPS: helpful, yes—but you still have to drive.

## 🚫 Own Your Weirdness

Your odd phrasing? Your made-up metaphors? Your sentence that starts with "and"?

That's the good stuff. Don't edit it out in the name of "better writing." Keep it.

Let AI help you be **more** you, not less.

# Á You Are the Writer

If you've made it this far in this book, then congratulations you're already doing the thing. You're learning. You're exploring. You're writing.

Al didn't make you creative. It didn't give you the story. It just reminded you that you already had one.

# Chapter 10: Making Writing A Habit Again With AI As Your Co-Pilot

So you've got the tools. You've got the confidence. You've even got a few scenes, outlines, or characters sketched out. But here's the real trick: making it stick.

Writing isn't just about inspiration—it's about rhythm. The more you do it, the easier it gets. And with AI by your side, staying consistent doesn't have to be a grind.

## 🗂 Start Small, Start Daily

You don't need to write a novel this week. Just get back into the habit of writing. Try this:

- 5 minutes a day of idea prompts
- One scene per week
- Short character monologues between laundry loads
- A "what happens next?" AI session after dinner

It's not about writing a lot. It's about not stopping.

## Use AI for Warmups

When you don't feel like writing, start with a warmup prompt. Something low-stakes. Fun. Weird. Like:

- "Write a breakup letter from a haunted house to its owner."
- "Describe a cup of coffee from the point of view of the mug."
- "Create a dialogue between a grumpy cat and a motivational goldfish."

These short exercises loosen you up—and often spark ideas for something bigger.

# Create a Routine That Feels Good

You don't need to write at 5AM or in a cabin in the woods. Your routine could look like:

- 10 minutes before bed with a journal
- Saturday mornings with coffee and a character sketch
- Lunchtime check-ins with your AI assistant: "What should I explore next in my story?"

Find what works for you. Then repeat it.

## Track Your Progress (And Celebrate It)

Keep a little "Writing Wins" list in your notes or planner:

- Outlined a new story
- Wrote a single scene
- Named a character
- Asked AI for help instead of quitting

Small wins build momentum. Momentum builds books.

# Don't Wait for the Laptop

Use your phone. Seriously.

You can use ChatGPT or another AI app to:

- Draft ideas on your commute
- Jot notes in the grocery store line
- Rewrite a paragraph in the parking lot waiting for soccer pickup

Writing doesn't have to be sacred. It just has to be happening.

# 🔒 Be Kind to Yourself

Some days will flow. Some days won't. That's okay.

Al is here when you need a push, a spark, or just a reminder that you're not alone in the process.

The goal isn't perfection. The goal is to keep showing up.

Never give up. Keep fighting. You're worth it.

# Chapter 11: The After Party: Bonus Content & Tips

You've made it through the guide. You've learned how to use AI to kickstart ideas, build characters, organize scenes, and even beat writer's block. Now it's time to fill your creative backpack with everything you need to keep writing—today, tomorrow, and a year from now.

# 🚔 AI Tools Worth Exploring

Here are a few you might want to try as your writing expands:

## 差 Writing & Brainstorming

- ChatGPT Your all-purpose creative assistant
- Claude.ai Great for long-form scene breakdowns or revisions
- Poe.com Lets you try multiple AI models in one place

## 🞑 Visual Tools

- DALL·E Generates artwork or character portraits based on text
- Artbreeder Mix and evolve facial features for character design
- Canva For ebook formatting, mood boards, and cover design

## Voice Tools

- ElevenLabs Generate natural-sounding voices for characters or narration
- Descript Podcast-style editing and voiceover capabilities

## 🗂 Organizers

- Notion Visual story maps, character sheets, timeline tracking
- Google Docs + Folders Still powerful, still free

## 🧠 Reusable Prompts Library

Here's a stash of versatile, evergreen writing prompts to drop into AI whenever you need a boost:

## **Story Starters**

- "Give me a story idea where someone finds something they weren't supposed to in a relative's attic."
- "What's a 'what if' scenario I can write that mixes romance and science fiction?"

## 🛉 Character Deepeners

- "What lie does this character believe about themselves?"
- "Write a letter this character would write but never send."

## 😚 Worldbuilding

- "Describe a town that feels welcoming but hides a secret."
- "What are three sensory details you'd experience in a neon-lit market in a floating city?"

## 🕹 When You're Stuck

- "Give me a new direction for my story that doesn't kill the current tone."
- "Offer five unexpected questions this character might be asked at the worst moment possible."

## 🗾 Templates You Can Build (or Ask Me to Help With)

- Story Outline: Act I, II, III breakdowns with midpoint tension
- Character Sheets: Name, age, background, personality, fears, motivation
- Scene Tracker: Chapter-by-chapter status + POV
- Emotional Arc Map: How your protagonist changes over time

You can store all of these in one Notion board or Google Doc and revisit them for every new project.

## Want to Keep Going with Me?

This is just the beginning. If this book helped you get started or helped you come back to writing after a long time away—I'd love to hear from you.

You can find more at: www.wdshipley.com or at <u>https://www.linkedin.com/in/wdshipley/</u>

Sign up for future freebies, author insights, or just to say hi.

## 🎉 Final Words

Al didn't write this book.

I did-with help.

And that's the point: AI isn't here to replace writers. It's here to remind us how powerful we already are when we start again.

Now go write your story. The world's been waiting long enough.



