

The process of writing *The Exiles* was much more complicated than I had originally thought. A long series of short stories needed to be made in order to truly convey the underlying world that stood its ground. In the original copy of “Dead Man Walking”, I had made use of specific formats for specifying certain characters or objects. A great example of this was the very first mention of “*The Time Manager*” in the first paragraph. In the original copy, I italicized the title to make sure the reader would recognize it as something to remember. This had not lined up the formatting specifications that Narrative required of me. Making the change, I left the new text as “The Time Manager,” making sure that all future instances of similar formatting were removed unless they absolutely needed to be there for the sake of the story.

Another issue with formatting was the line spacing and the text margins. I swapped the origin-left margin from a default document over to the full-width margin that needed to be put in place, and then I verified that the spacing was the required double-space so that my work could have space for suggested edits by Narrative.

After all the necessary formatting was put in place, I only had a few more processes I needed to go through. To start off, I put my text through the Hemingway App to search for any possible grammatical errors outside of character dialogue. There were only a total of twenty errors that genuinely needed to be fixed, so I quickly resolved every error by either replacing words with better words, or by using the suggested punctuation that Hemingway provided.

Going through text for another round of revision, I occasionally spotted improper uses of the m-dash that Hemingway had not pointed out to me. I removed those and replaced them with commas so that the sentences would still be easy to read and maintain tone in the way I had originally intended. Next, I looked for words that were too simple for the character’s tone and I replaced them with new words I had found using an application that one of my peers had suggested, OneLook.

After all edits had been made, I revisited Narrative’s website to make sure that the rest of the requirements had been met. After every general requirement was confirmed, I went through their options for submission and selected the best option, submitting my work as a “Short Short.”