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Spring 2019

The Reason: A Young Adult Novel Exploring Efficiency and Artificial Intelligence

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The Reason: A Young Adult Novel Exploring Efficiency and Artificial Intelligence

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By Kira Stussy

Genesis

-HNRS 350-- Information Dystopia

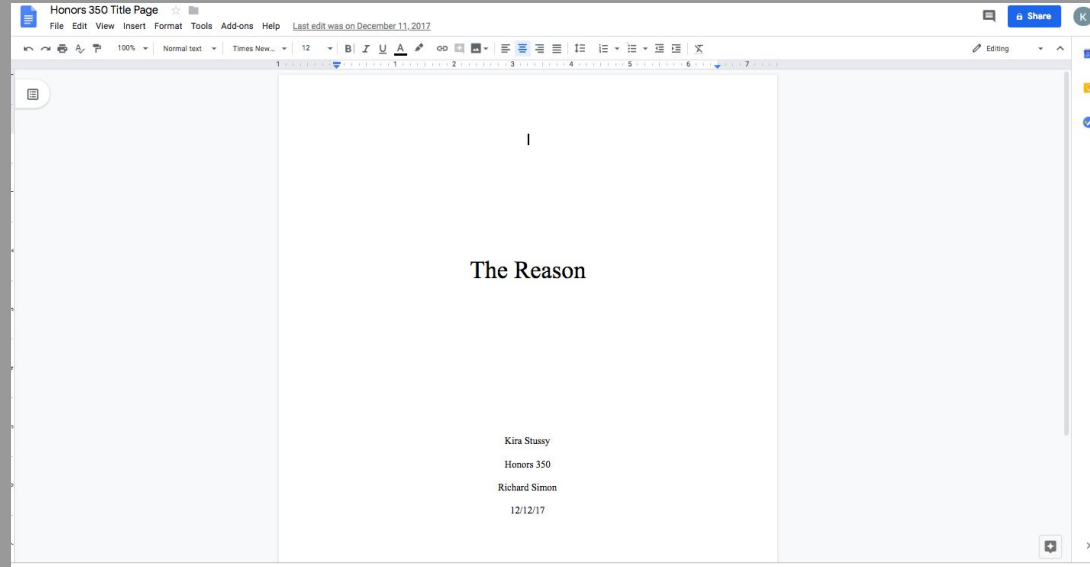
-My cousins

-CSD minor

-love of youth literature: dystopias

-BIG question: What would a society that is entirely focused on “efficiency” look like?
Who would be most impacted?

-Sounds like a book!



The Process: Phase 1

-Planning

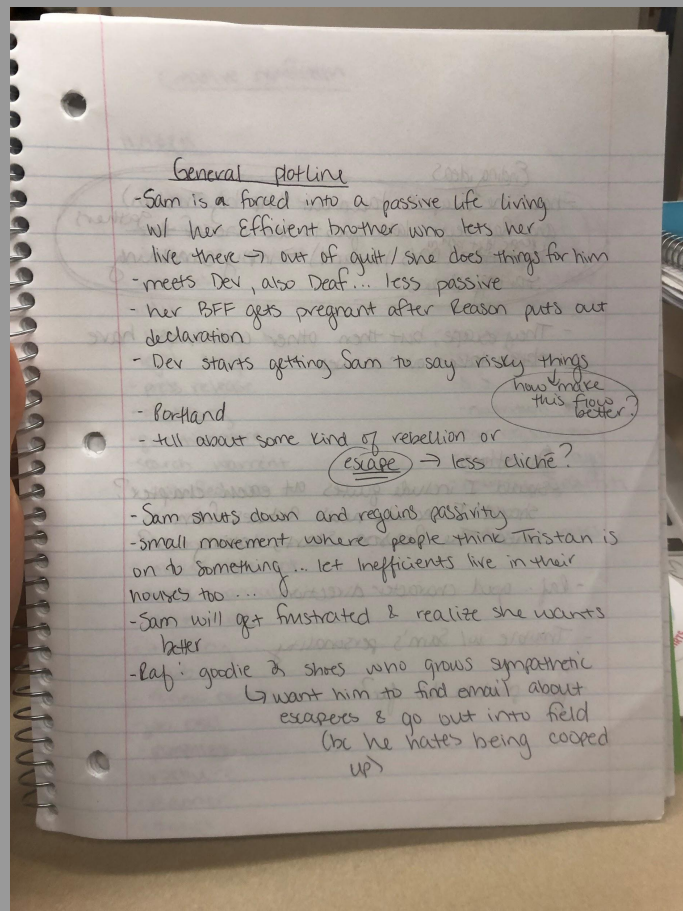
-how to transform a 10 pg paper into 200 pg book

-world building

-character development

-what to add and what should be left out

August 2018

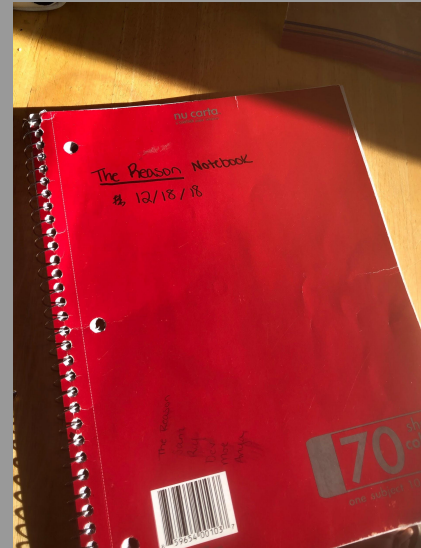
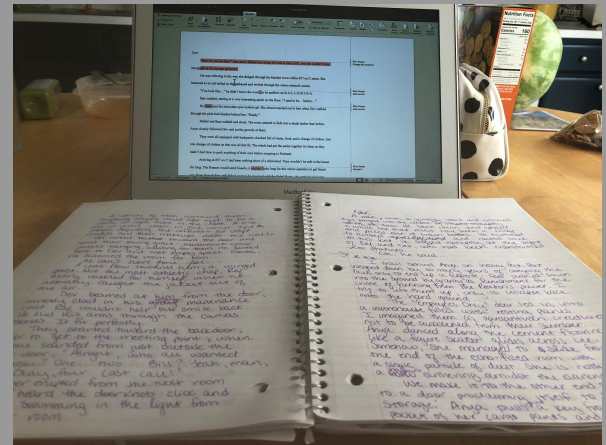


Process: Phase 2

First Draft:

- half typed, half handwritten
- word “vomit”
- still in planning stage, but aiming to move on

February 2019

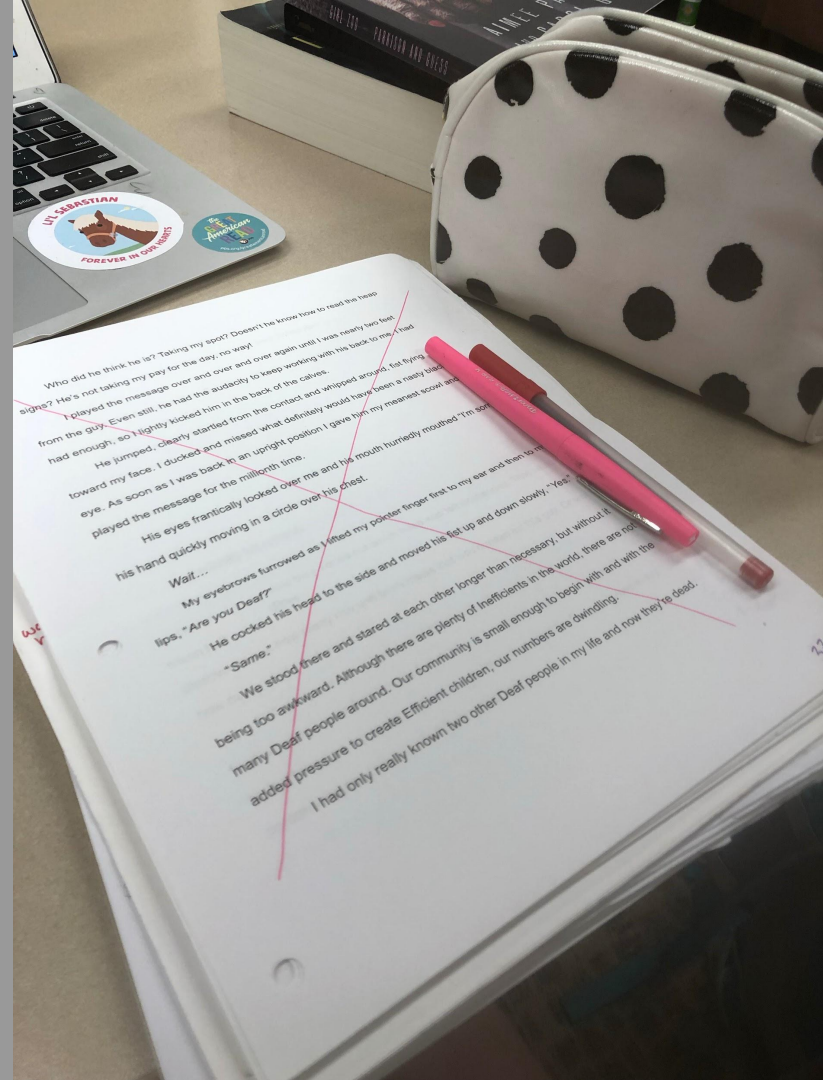


Process: Phase 3

Second Draft:

- printed out
- heavy revisions and minimal line edits
- mostly about organization of sections
- making sure plot flows
- identifying and filling plot holes

April 2019



Process: Phase 4

Third Draft

-retyping the manuscript

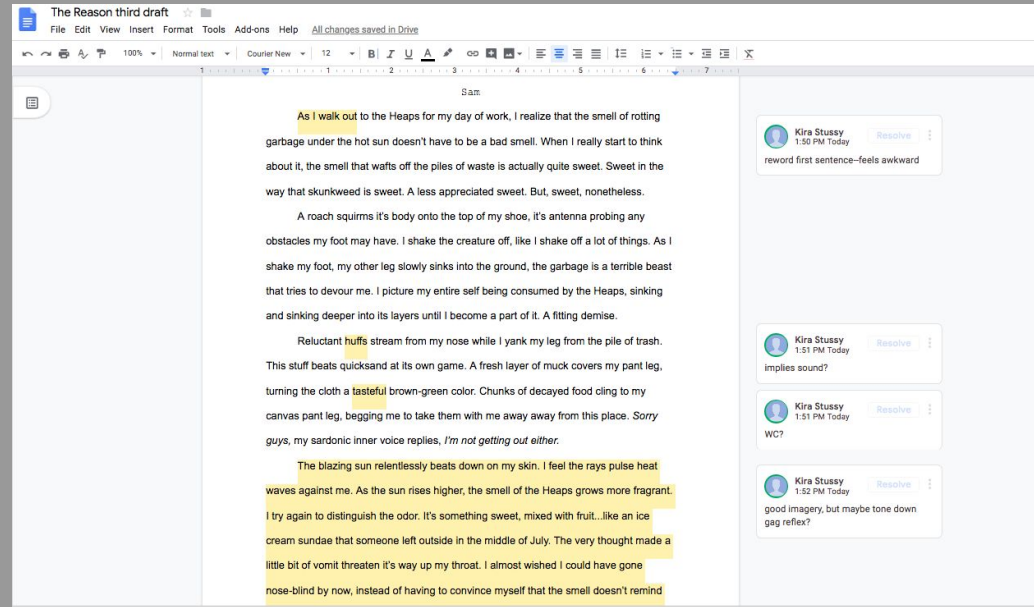
-line edits

~sentence fluency, typos

-adding more figurative language

-also making sure overall themes, motifs, and symbolism are consistent throughout

May 2019



Process: Phase 5

Fourth draft:

-changed POV -- 1st to 3rd singular

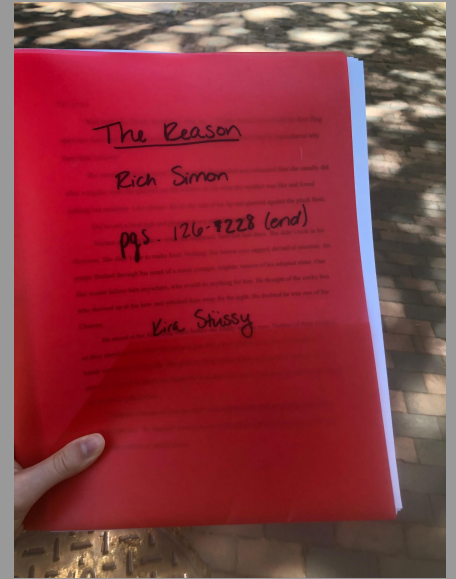
-another run-through of line edits and filling in inconsistencies

As I walk out to the Heaps for my day of work, I

Walking out to the Heaps for her day of work,

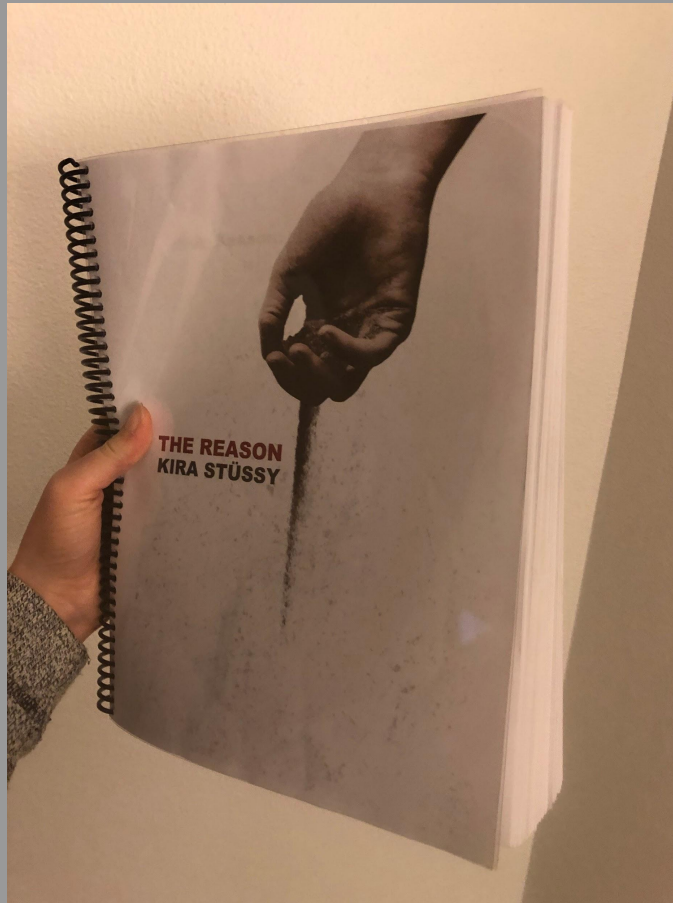
Process: Phase 6

- Other editors go through the entire manuscript
- point out sections that don't make sense, inconsistencies, ingenuine character traits, etc.
- final round of edits before this presentation



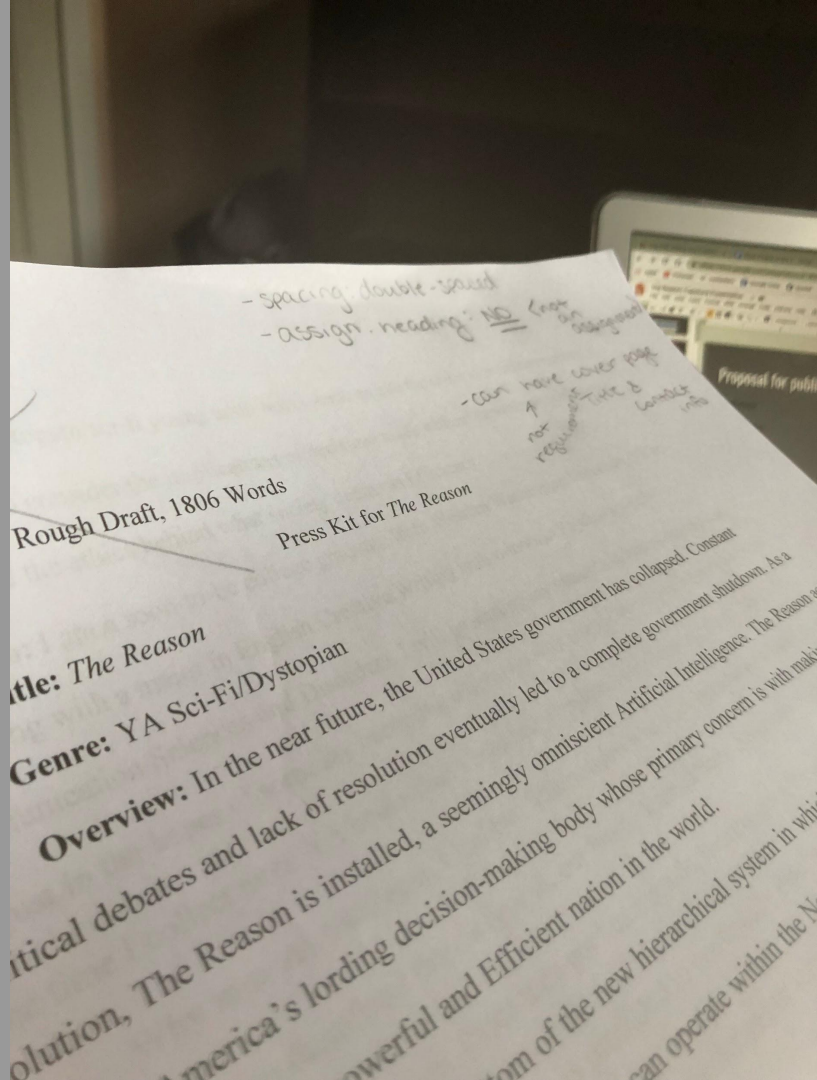
Pitch/Synopsis

Pg 48-52



Proposal for publication

- Audience
- Comp titles
- Marketing
- Why unique?
- Trilogy -- The Judgement, The Root



Challenges

- Writers = Perfectionists = Inefficient
- Time limit
- Editorial decisions
- Writing toward sequels --who to fully develop and who to finish later?



What next?

- Continue editing this book
- Submit to publishers
- Continue on to the next two in the series
- Write more books in the future

My Drive > Novels ▾

Why did this project matter to me?

-love of writing

-interest in disability scholarship

-passion for young adult literature

-wanting to bring my Honors, CSD, Psychology, and Creative Writing education together

-continuing to learn about the YA field-- soon to be starting MLIS emphasis in Youth Services

THANK YOU!

Questions?