ESCAPE THE PLOT FOREST 2026



ABOUT THIS BOOK

Here is your practical summit handbook: in this guide, you can plan out your own novel in response to the techniques taught in the talks.

It's nice to learn new ideas. But it's great when you can apply those ideas to your own goals, projects, and concerns. That's what this book is for.

STARTING POINT

Think of a book you've always wanted to write. Or the book you're writing right now. Or the story you keep thinking about while you try to nish something else.

Let's see how far we can develop that book during the next week.

WRITING

Feel free to print this file out and write on the pages. Or type directly into the digital version. The goal is to put words down. This book is only for you to read, but if you would like to share a page, either in our community site or by emailing me, I would love to see what you wrote.

SEQUENCING

The book asks you a question based on the lessons found in the summit sessions. Try to watch related sessions so you can fill all the pages!

GOT THE ALL ACCESS PASS?

For ongoing, complete access to the summit, make sure to buy the pass. This will help you make the most of the summit as you can refer back to every talk - and read the transcript of the whole event.

Then let's begin.

LESSONS FROM THE SUMMIT

WHERE YOU ARE NOW

Q Where is your novel right now, and what problem are you trying to fix?

LESSONS FROM THE SUMMIT

PREMISE

Q How did the speakers help you sharpen your premise and work out what your story is about?

LESSONS FROM THE SUMMIT

PLOT

Q What did you learn that will help you plan or fix your plot?

LESSONS FROM THE SUMMIT

CHARACTER

Q Which tip helped you understand your main character better?

LESSONS FROM THE SUMMIT

PLOT

Q What advice will help you get past the places where your story feels stuck?

LESSONS FROM THE SUMMIT

MINDSET AND CONFIDENCE

Q How did the speakers help you feel more confident about your writing?

LESSONS FROM THE SUMMIT

MINDSET AND CONFIDENCE

Q What's one thing you'll say to yourself the next time you doubt your story?

LESSONS FROM THE SUMMIT

PROMOTING AND SHARING

Q What did you learn about promoting your book and sharing it with readers?

LESSONS FROM THE SUMMIT

YOUR BIG TAKEAWAY

Q What was your biggest "aha" moment from the summit?

LESSONS FROM THE SUMMIT

AFTER THE SUMMIT

Q What three next steps will you take after the summit?



THANK YOU!

Thank you so much for joining this year's Escape the Plot Forest Summit. It's such a joy to bring together speakers and guests from all walks of life and continue to build this community together with you.

In the first year of this summit, I worried no one would attend; now, in the fifth year, I worry how to be worthy of the special nature of this annual gathering.

Be sure to reach out to support@danieldavidwallace.com with any questions or comments on what we did right, and how we can improve the experience next year. Tips and suggested sessions / speakers are always appreciated.

I hope this experience helps to develop both your craft and sense of belonging in the writing world. Remember, you can return to this workbook any time to further develop the ideas you cultivated here.

Until we meet again,

Happy writing!

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BUY MY FLAGSHIP COURSE

DANIEL DAVID WALLACE