

# Don't Give Up The Dream

Probably the only thing worse than never starting to write a book is giving up on writing after that book has been started.

It's sometimes tough dreaming big dreams. It's even tougher making those dreams into reality. It's work making dreams real, hard work. You have to have the determination not to surrender. You have to have the motivation not to quit. You have to want it more than anything, everyday. That level of dedication is hard to come by, but it's the dedication needed if you want to succeed as an author. It's easy to write a book said nobody ever. If it was an easy process, we'd all be published authors and the world would be flooded with books. Except that it's not easy and, if you want to write a book, you have to face the fact that a certain level of motivation is necessary for the long haul that is authorship.

One of the best ways to remain focused on the task at hand while writing a book is to divide the work into manageable chunks. Rome wasn't built in a day and your book won't be finished in a day either. However, if you set yourself a reasonable daily word limit, brick by brick, you will build Rome. Achieving reachable goals is the best formula for continued, long term, motivation.

It is also important to prepare yourself psychologically for defeat. At first glance, this may seem counterintuitive, but is actually excellent advice for staying the course. It's only realistic to expect setbacks. There are going to be days when you fail to reach your goals. There are going to be days when you can't write. Even when finished, the manuscript for your book will likely be rejected before it's accepted by a publisher. To think otherwise is to invite delusion. Believe me, nothing will knock the wind out of your sails quicker than realizing your thinking was delusional. Reality can be cold and hard, especially when you're not prepared. Make sure you're prepared by thinking about the entire process of writing your book realistically.

Part of the process of setting realistic goals, while preparing for the worst, is to give yourself the permission to fail. No one is perfect. Everyone makes mistakes. As an author, you have to care about yourself enough to forgive yourself for errors and imperfections. As was mentioned earlier, turning a dream into reality is a

tough business. You're bound to get a few bumps and bruises along the way. Make sure you take care of those injuries and yourself.