LOVE AND LOGIC

♡ MAKING SCI-FI ROMANCE SUBPLOTS ADDICTIVE ♡

We have ONE goal:
Write books that readers *can't* put down.

...SO...

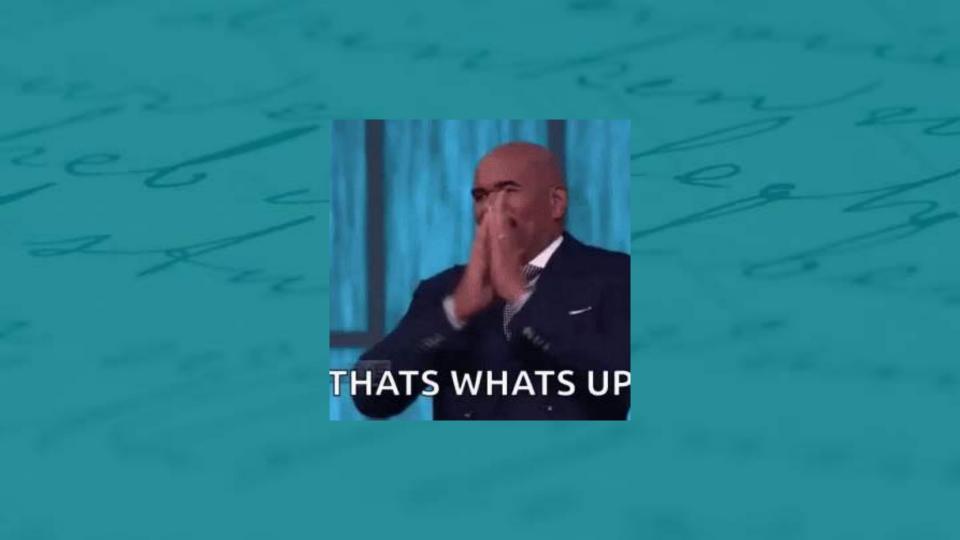It's time to learn the core techniques for blending romance into your sci-fi plots.

Do you struggle with…

- Stories that feel cold or emotionally distant
- Characters that lack the depth of real relationships.
- Grabs your attention but doesn't hit you in the feels.

Then…you're in the right place.

DANJA TALES

You'll know how to balance science fiction story elements with deep, emotional romance that captivates readers.

THATS WHATS UP

Hey! I'm Dana.

I love to make king-size quilts, knit audiobook sweaters, and food prep because we empty-nesters can't survive on takeout.

I'm a story nerd running on coffee, cotton fabric, and Kindle Unlimited. And I love helping writers become authors of addictive novels–stories your readers can't put down.

One of the ways I do this is through the Addictive Novel Mentorship program, a process I've used for myself while writing over 100 books and for clients–plotting and editing hundreds of novels by Amazon Top 100, USA Today, and New York Times bestselling authors.

This mentorship walks you through twelve modules to move from an idea to a complete draft of your novel with me beside you.

I want to help you finish your novel with confidence--conceptualize, structure, *and* write. Because *I believe your story and voice matter*.

Results

- I'm USA Today Bestselling Author.
- Authored 100+ books under several pen names.
- Developmental editor and Publishing Coach.
- Course Creator of the Addictive Novel Mentorship Program.
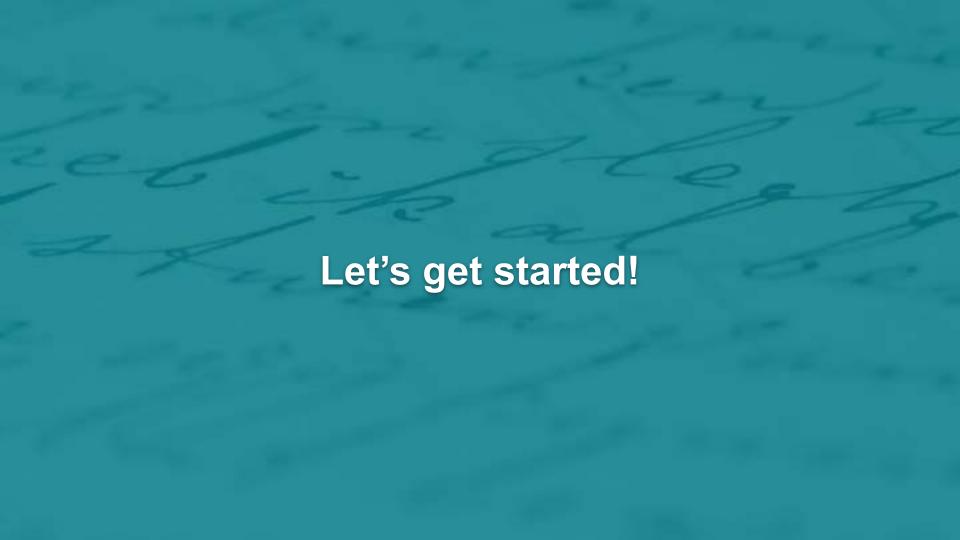- Host of Romanced by the Book.

Let's get started!

My BIG discovery…

A romantic subplot…

Gives your characters *personal stakes*

beyond survival or victory.

A romantic subplot…

Enhances your ***story's themes***, whether they're about identity, freedom, or survival.

DANJA TALES

A romantic subplot…

Creates *tension*, forcing your characters to make

hard choices between love and duty.

We'll focus on:

3 Steps to Blend Romance
(*without* losing the sci-fi edge)

Step 1: Ground the Romance in Human Emotion

Love is Universal

- Make the love story relatable, whether your characters are on a distant planet or in a parallel universe.
- Use romance to connect your readers to your characters on a personal level.
- Example: *The Adjustment Bureau* – David's love for Elise keeps him grounded in a world controlled by fate.

EXAMPLE

Step 2: Balance Action and Intimacy

Romance and Action Aren't Mutually Exclusive

- Intimacy can break up action, allowing your readers to catch their breath while deepening character relationships.
- Don't be afraid to slow down the pace for a heartfelt moment.
- Example: *Battleship* – Alex's relationship with Samantha adds personal stakes and motivates his character arc.

EXAMPLE

Step 3: Raise the Stakes

Romance Makes *Every* Conflict Personal

- Personal stakes make the larger conflict more impactful.
- Your characters must choose between their heart and their mission, adding tension.
- Example: *World War Z* – Gerry's love for his family drives his mission to save the world.
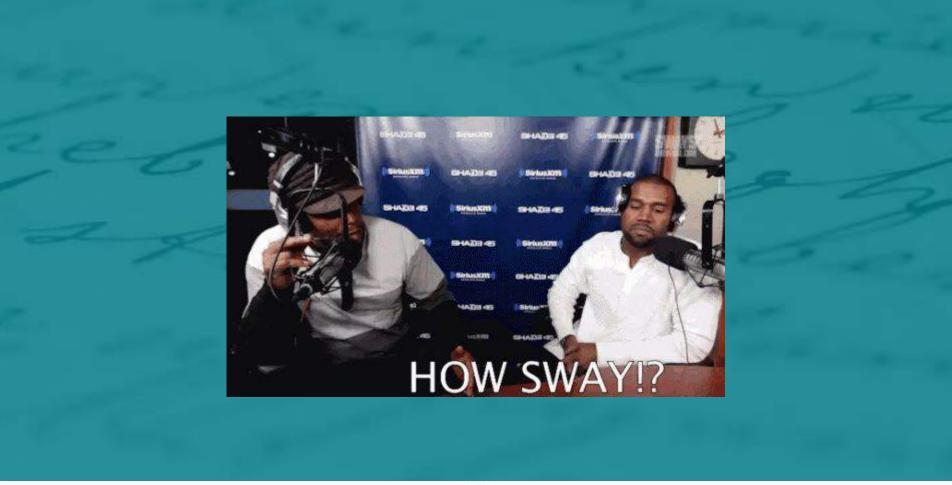
EXAMPLE

Recap

- Step 1: Ground the Romance in Human Emotion – Make the love story relatable, no matter how futuristic the world is.

- Step 2: Balance Action and Intimacy – Use romance as a breather between high-octane scenes to deepen emotional engagement.

- Step 3: Raise the Stakes – Love adds personal risk, forcing your characters to face dilemmas that make them human.

Does the romance enhance the main character's arc?

- How does the romantic subplot influence or complement the protagonist's development?

- Does the romance challenge the protagonist to grow, change, or confront their internal struggles?

What conflict or tension does the romance create?

- What internal or external obstacles stand in the way of the characters' romantic relationship?

- How does the romantic tension affect the main plot? Does it complicate the protagonist's primary goals?

Is the romance subplot integral to the main plot, or tacked on?

- Does the romantic relationship meaningfully impact the direction or outcome of the main plot?

- Would the story remain largely the same if the romance subplot were removed? If so, how can it be more integrated?

"The most powerful stories are those where the heart and the stakes are intertwined, where the romance fuels the tension and drives the characters to fight for more than just survival."

Coach Dana 🧑🏽‍💻

Q&A

Thank you!