Overview of Scrivener for Writers
A Writing Environment, Not a Word Processor

Dave Schroeder

http://www.daveschroeder.com/scrivener.pdf

Who is Dave Schroeder?
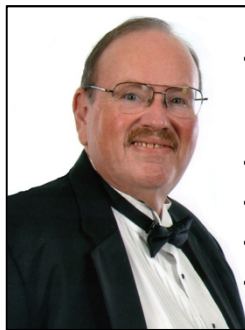
- Author of the Xenotech Support science fiction humor series and the Congruent Mage fantasy series
- Owner of Spiral Arm Press
- Former corporate Chief Information Officer
- Atlanta Radio Theatre Company member
- Scrivener Fan with No Financial Relationship

SPIRAL ARM PRESS
Science Fiction & Fantasy Publishing

Scrivener

Literature Latte

- Initially released for Macintosh in January 2007
- Based in Cornwall, United Kingdom

For Windows
For Macintosh
For iOS

Scrivener

https://literatureandlatte.com/scrivener/overview

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Pricing

- Scrivener is $45.00 for Macintosh (10.12+) or Windows (Windows 7+)

- Scrivener is $19.99 for iOS (Version 9+)

- Licenses are good for multiple devices but separate licenses are needed for each platform

- Bundles for Mac & Windows are available at $75.00

- Educational pricing and volume discounts

# Overview of Scrivener for Writers

What's the Big Deal about Scrivener?

- Uses a different "metaphor" from word processors
- Fast, clean, stable and uncluttered user interface
- Chapter & scene oriented, not one big document
- Can track characters, settings, and research notes
- Exports to Kindle & ePub formats, plus many more
- Includes corkboard mode and outlining function
- Split screen mode for viewing multiple documents
- Works well with Dropbox for backups

A Different Metaphor
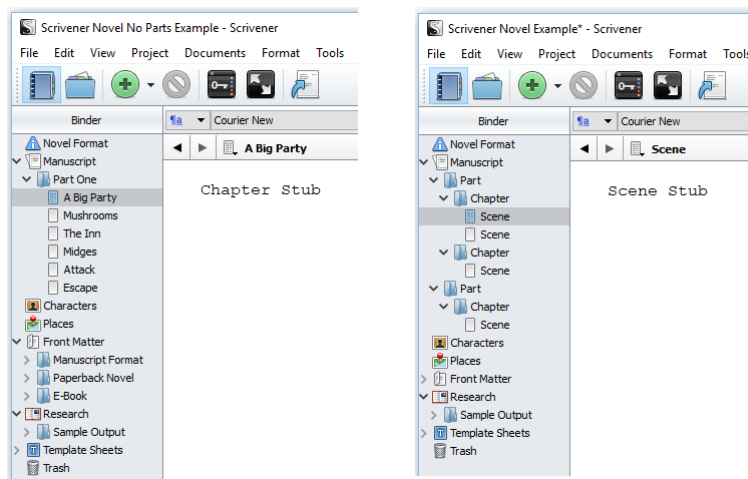
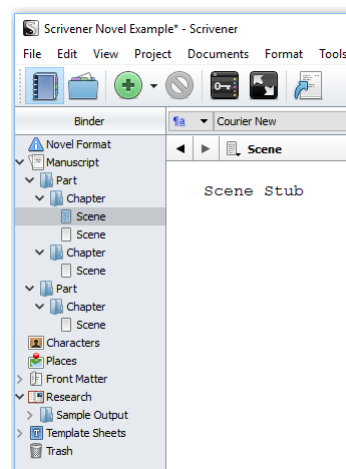# Overview of Scrivener for Writers

Folders and Chapters
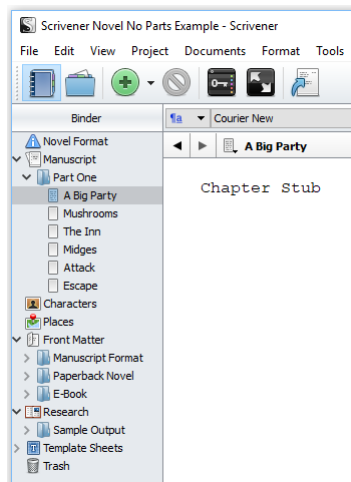
- If the primary organizing unit for your writing is the chapter, this is how your novel will be structured

- The highest level of organization is the folder and chapters appear below it

- You can name chapters by the titles you'd like Scrivener to use or put your chapter titles inside the body text instead

- Scrivener will generate chapter numbers automatically for you

Chapters and Scenes

- If the primary organizing unit for your writing is the scene, this is how your novel will be structured

- The highest level of organization is the folder and chapters *and scenes* appear below it

- Scenes can optionally be separated by user-specified character strings like # or * * *

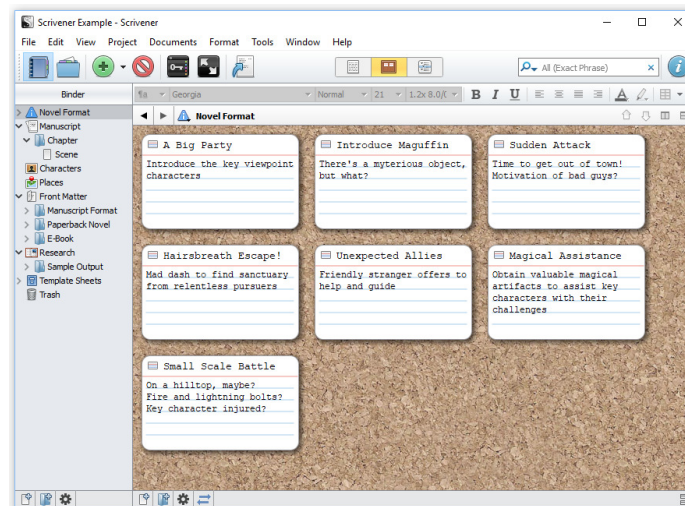- You can move scenes around within and between chapters

Overview of Scrivener for Writers
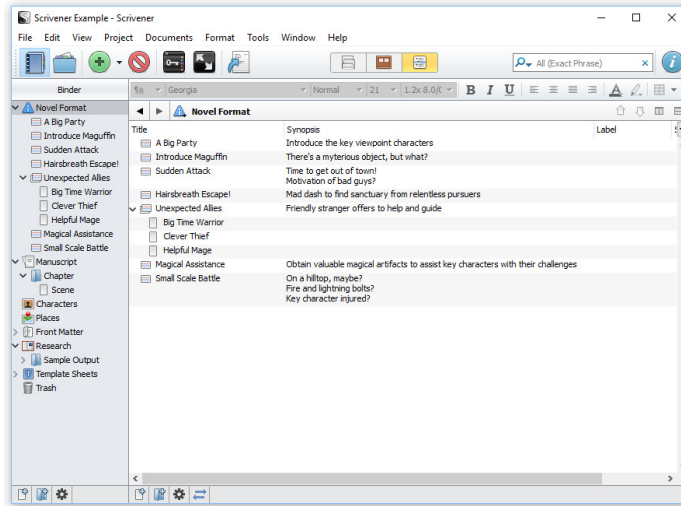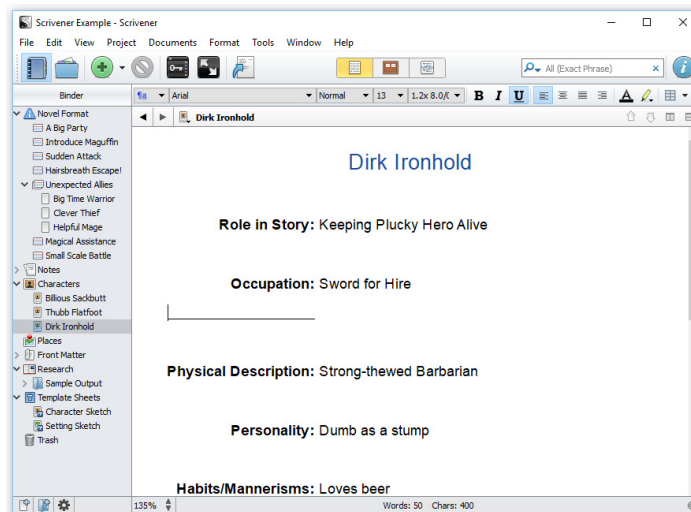
Sample Novel
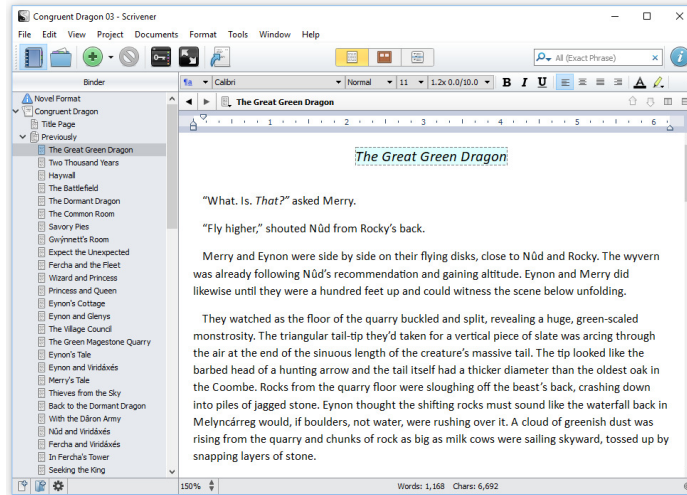
Corkboard Mode

Overview of Scrivener for Writers

Outline Mode

Character Descriptions
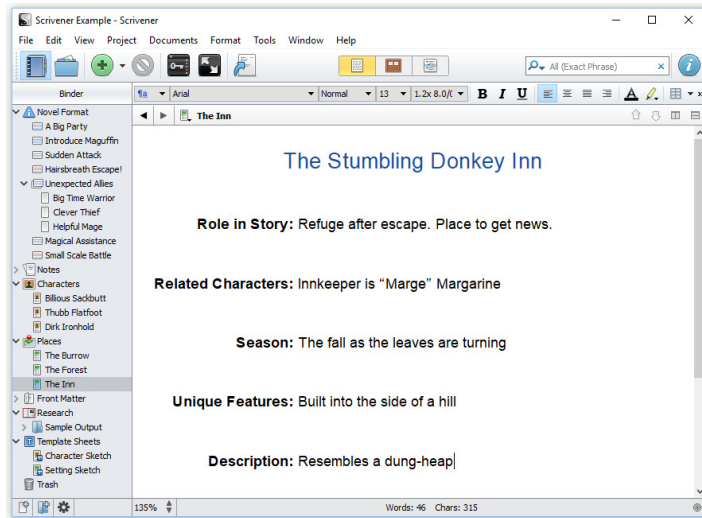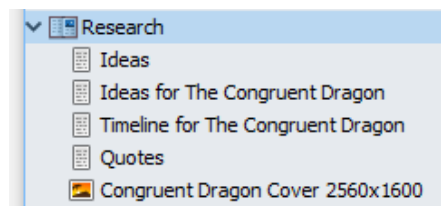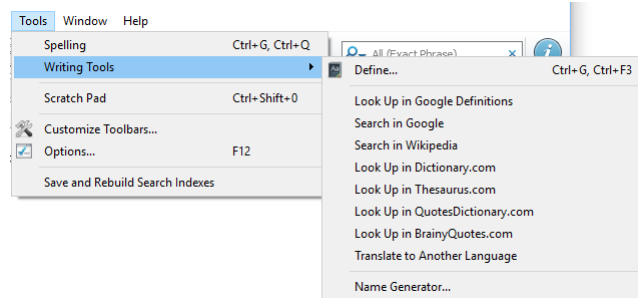
Place Descriptions

Research and Cover Art

- You can create documents in the Research section related to reference materials, diagrams, photos, etc.

- This is also where you store the cover art for the Kindle and ePub versions of your book

- Recommended cover art for Kindle is a color JPEG that's 2560x1600 pixels
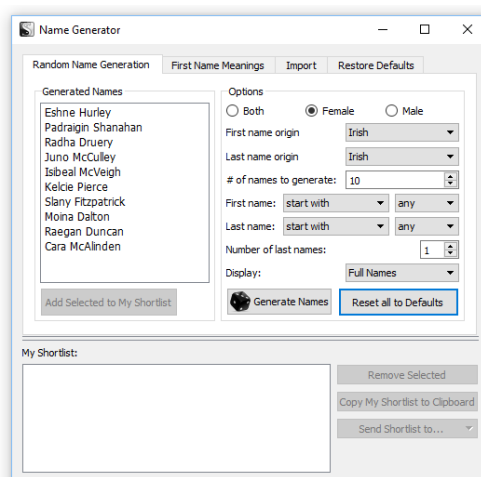
Tools and Resources

- Scrivener has integrated options for looking up words, topics, quotes, and more
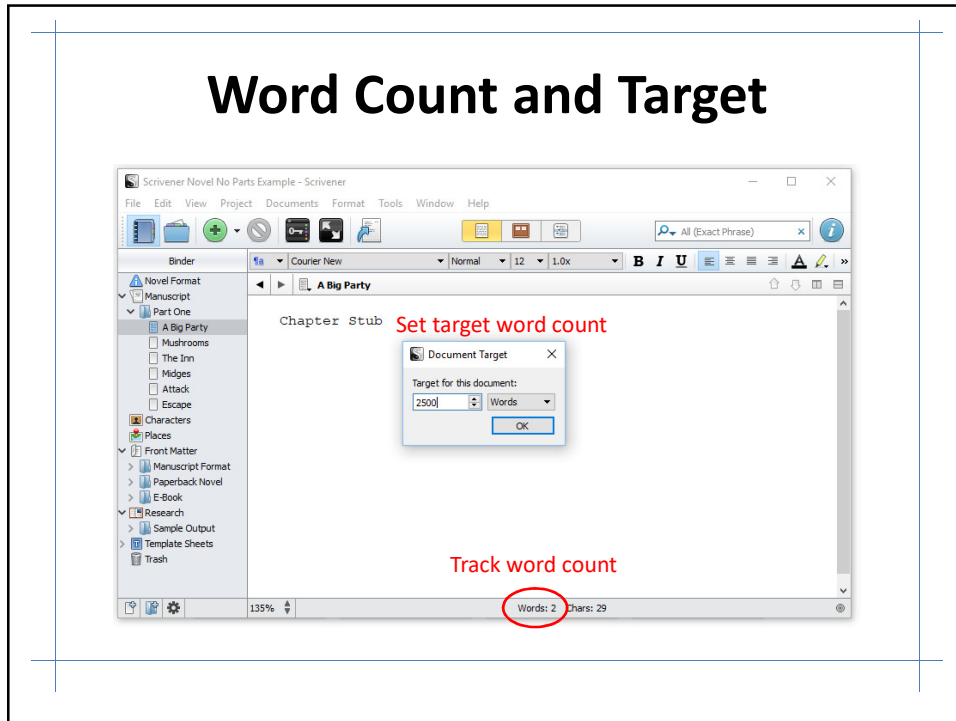- It has its own integrated dictionary and access to translation functions
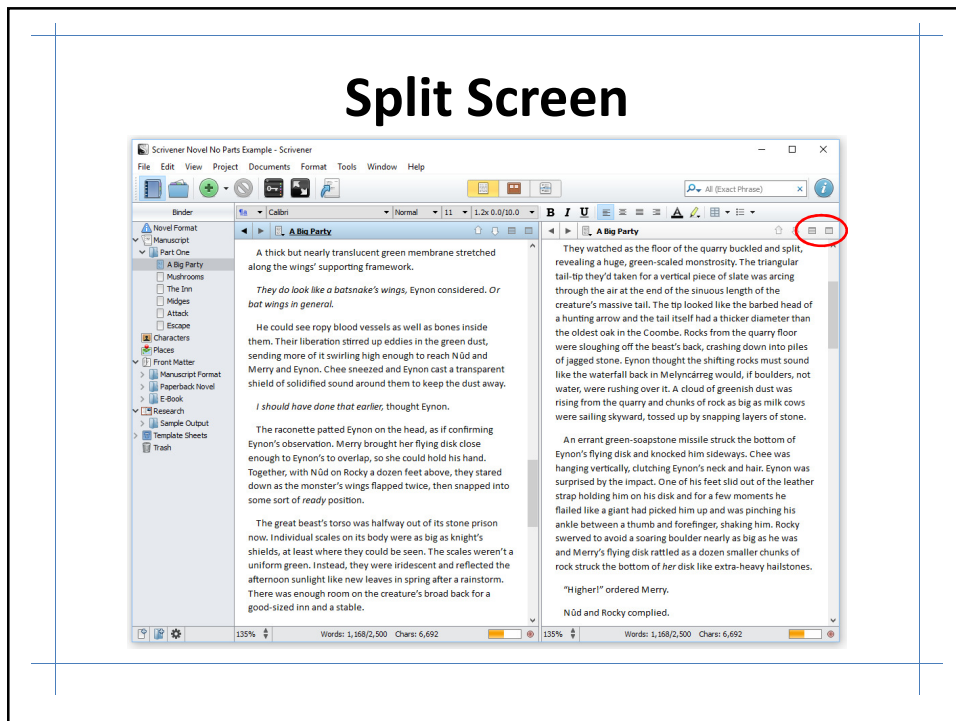
Name Generator

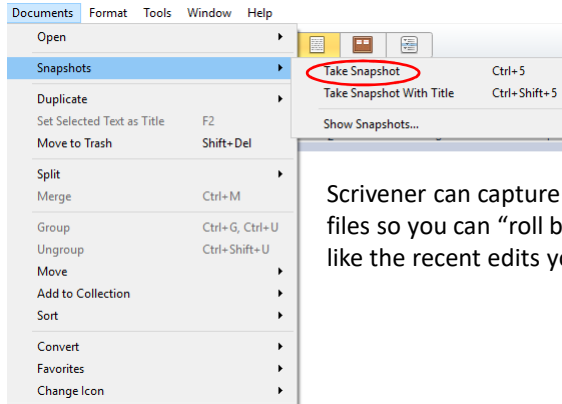# Overview of Scrivener for Writers

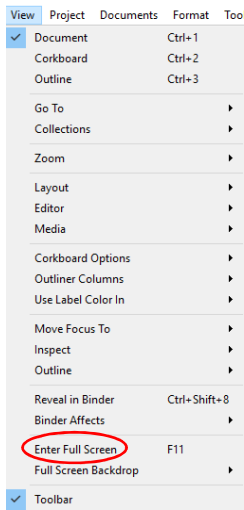## Word Count and Target

Split Screen

Overview of Scrivener for Writers
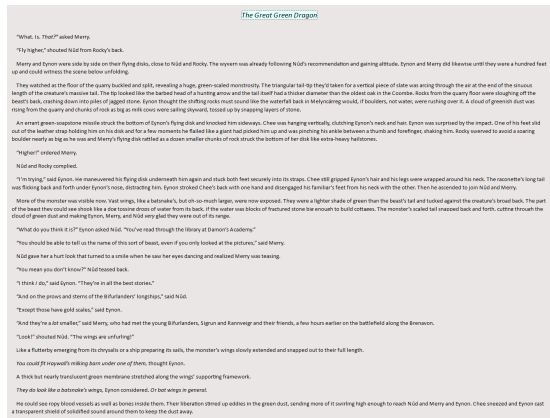
Snapshots

Scrivener can capture earlier versions of files so you can "roll back" if you don't like the recent edits you've made
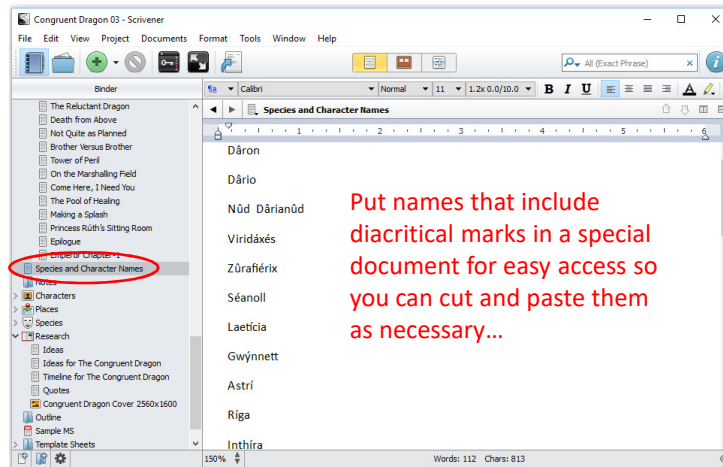
Full Screen Mode

In full screen mode Scrivener even locks out distractions from other programs…

Overview of Scrivener for Writers

A Tip for SF & Fantasy Writers

Put names that include diacritical marks in a special document for easy access so you can cut and paste them as necessary…

Working with Dropbox

This is the Project file that tracks all the various elements

You can access your Scrivener Project from multiple devices but only one at a time
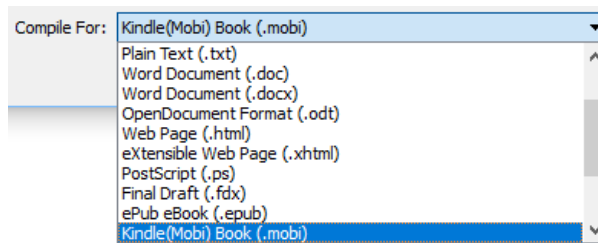
Scrivener stores its Project elements as small RTF files

Compiling for Export
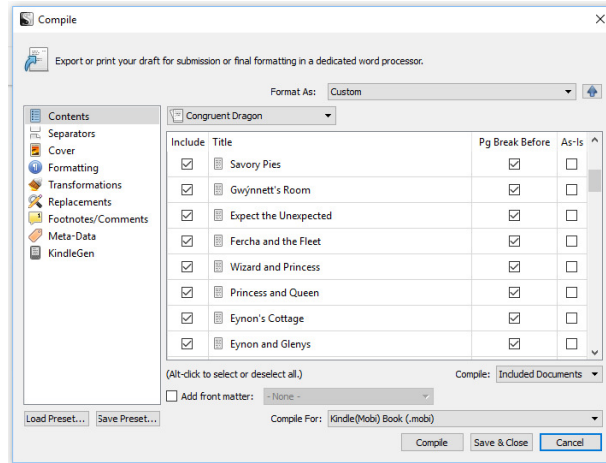
Export Formats

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Meta-Data for eBooks
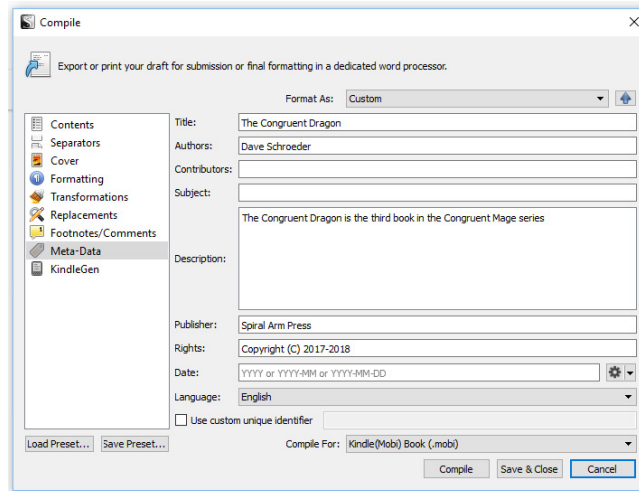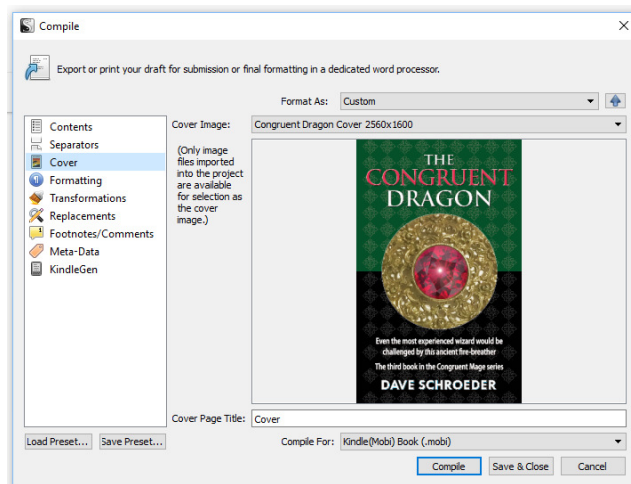
Cover for eBooks

Specifying Chapter Formats
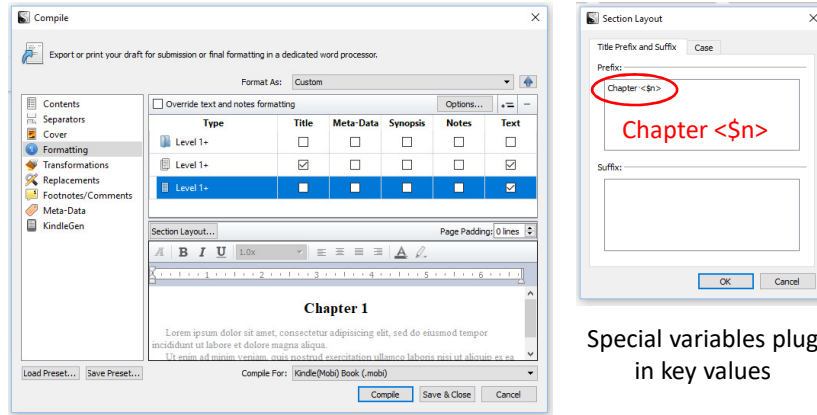
Special variables plug in key values

Sending Docs to Amazon

Once you've created a Kindle .mobi file you can email it to your Kindle using the steps in the link at the bottom of this slide.

You need to find the email address of the Kindle device you want to send to AND authorize the email address you're sending from first!

https://www.amazon.com/gp/sendtokindle/email

Overview of Scrivener for Writers

Scrivener Challenges
What's the Downside?

- It takes a while to "get" the metaphor
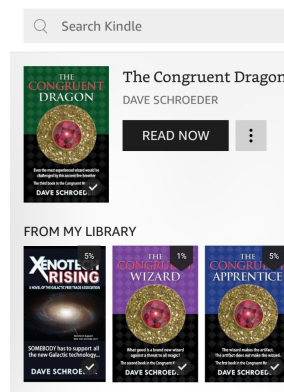
- The Compile function is complicated

- You have to export to Word or RTF to import into Adobe InDesign for printed books

- There are lots of functions you're not likely to use, but fewer than in Word

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- Scrivener's Kindle export function is very helpful for seeing how your novel will look on readers' screens while you're writing. That helps identify typos and problems, too.

Scrivener

Mastering Scrivener

The top resource for mastering Scrivener is Karen Prince.
You can find her courses at: **karen-prince.com**

Scrivener 3 | Comprehensive Course for Mac

Master all the Major Features of Your Scrivener 3 Writing Software to write eBooks and Paperback books for only US$20

Scrivener 2 | Comprehensive Course for Mac and Windows

Master all the Major Features of Your Scrivener 2 Writing Software to write eBooks and Paperback books for only US$20

Compiling for Export in Scrivener 2 (Mac and Windows)

Self-Publishing? Create Your own Professional Looking EPUB and MOBI Files Right Inside Your Scrivener Software for only US$10

If you sign up for her mailing list you'll get free reference guides and updates about discounted courses.

Before You Start

Sign up for my newsletter and my Scrivener quick reference guides to remind you where everything is on the user interface and what all the tools do

Name

Email

Yes! I Need Reference Guides

Free Scrivener Resources

The are also several free resources to help learn Scrivener.

Emily Fox has a page referencing **The Best Free Scrivener Resources**

https://medium.com/@EmilyFox/the-best-free-scrivener-resources-f4d32fb47c0c

There are lots of helpful links at **How To Scrivener**

http://howtoscrivener.com/

And you can find lots more by searching for
Scrivener Resources

Including templates, guides for compile settings and other advanced features

Q&A