

EDITORIAL LETTER EXTRACT

[1]

In a nutshell, the work needed, which you'll find outlined across either this letter or in the tracked changes document, is:

- First 60 pages should be cut down to more like the first 40 pages, to keep the pace up and get us to the holiday sooner
- Sowing more seeds of suspicion and conflict in the first third to help carry the action and payoff later
- More time spent with Claire to get a stronger sense of who she is
- Much more page time for Scarlett and Posey – absolutely crucial, and getting this right could make this book huge, I think
- Greater sense of the chronology and order of the holiday and activities – possibly using structural devices like an itinerary or part-titles pages for days/dates
- Filling in certain scenes which feel undercooked or skipped entirely – mainly a symptom of early draft sketchiness, but ‘colouring things in’ in this way will make a big difference
- A more emotionally punchy ending – very important to have a sense of closure, satisfaction, and a sense of what we've learnt, how we've grown up and grown closer by the end of the story