#### **Overview of Scrivener for Writers**

A Writing Environment, Not a Word Processor

#### **Dave Schroeder**

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

## Who is Dave Schroeder?

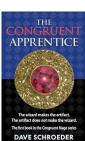


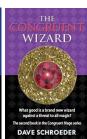
- Author of the Xenotech Support science fiction humor series and the Congruent Mage fantasy series
- Owner of Spiral Arm Press
- Former corporate Chief Information Officer
- Atlanta Radio Theatre Company member
- Scrivener Fan with No Financial Relationship











#### Scrivener



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



For Windows
For Macintosh
For iOS

https://literatureandlatte.com/scrivener/overview

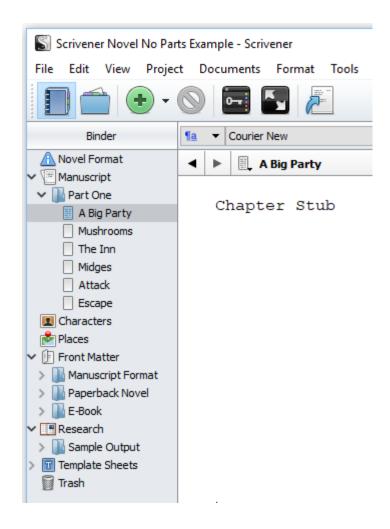
## **Pricing**

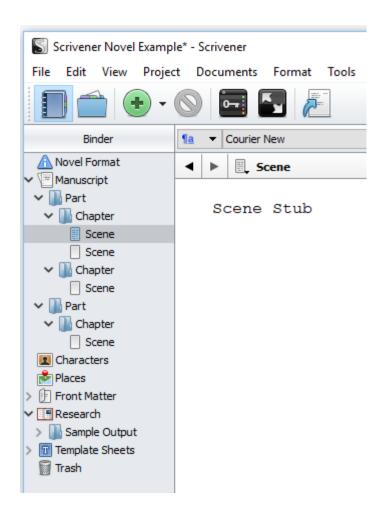
- Scrivener is \$45.00 for Macintosh (10.12+)
   or Windows (Windows 7+)
- Scrivener is \$19.99 for iOS (Version 9+)
- Licenses are good for multiple devices but separate licenses are needed for each platform
- Bundles for Mac & Windows are available at \$75.00
- Educational pricing and volume discounts

## What's the Big Deal about Scrivener?

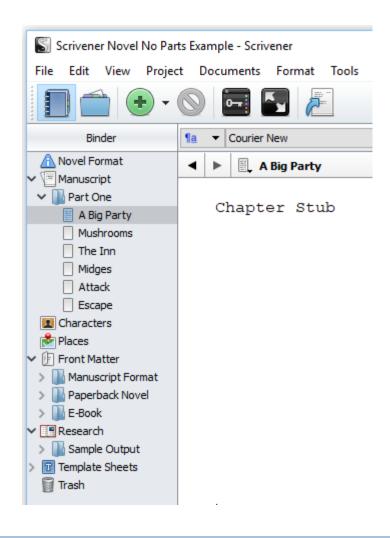
- Uses a different "metaphor" from word processors
- Fast, clean, stable and uncluttered user interface
- Chapter & scene oriented, not one big document
- Can track characters, settings, and research notes
- Exports to Kindle & ePub formats, plus many more
- Includes corkboard mode and outlining function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

## **A Different Metaphor**





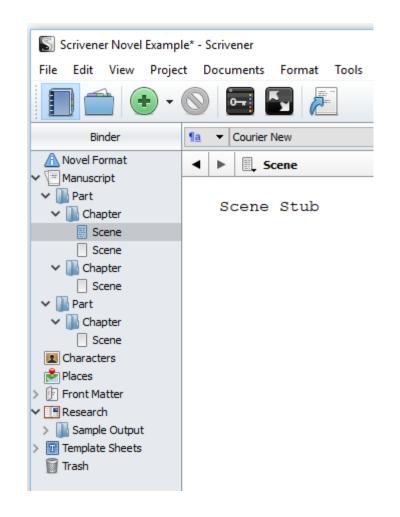
## **Folders and Chapters**



- 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**

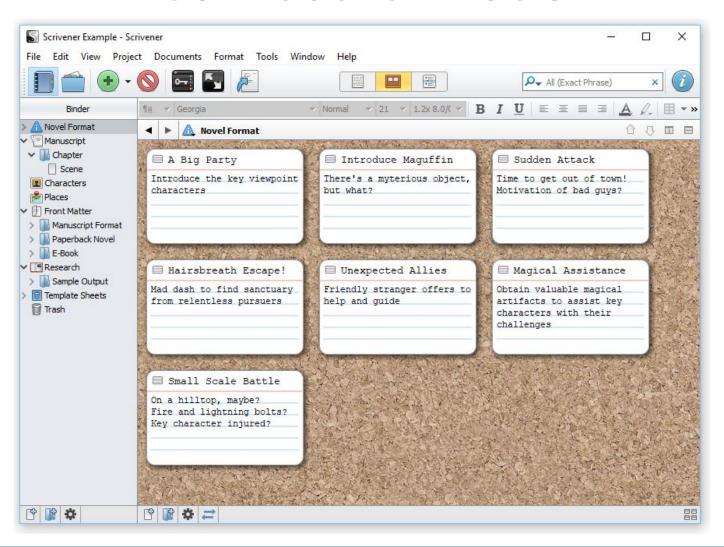
- If the primary organizing unit for your writing is the scene, this is how your novel will be structured
- The highest level of organization is the folder and chapters and scenes appear below it
- Scenes can optionally be separated by user-specified character strings like # or \* \* \*
- You can move scenes around within and between chapters



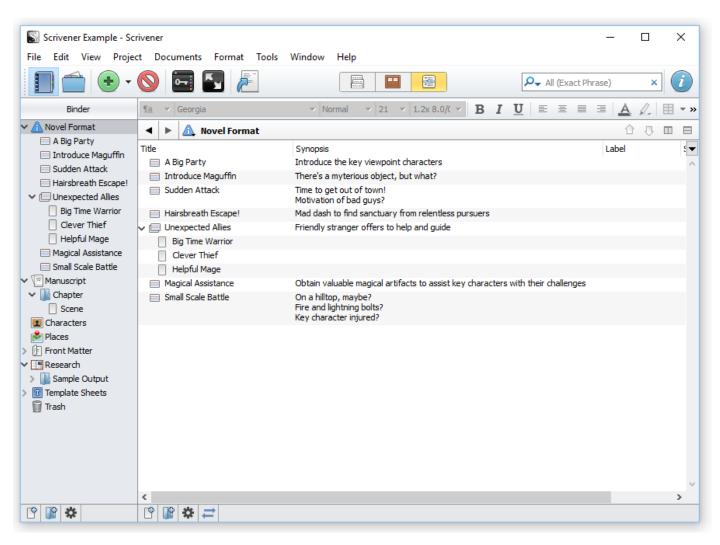
## Sample Novel



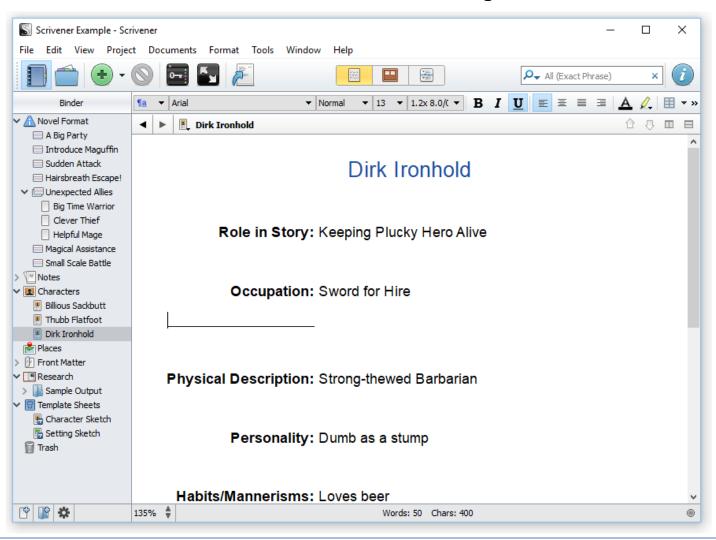
## **Corkboard Mode**



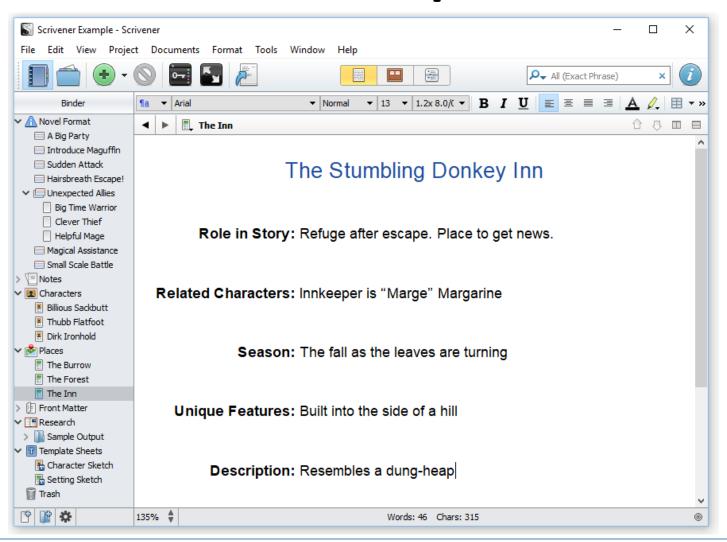
## **Outline Mode**



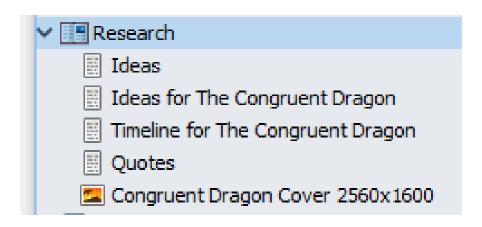
## **Character Descriptions**



## **Place Descriptions**

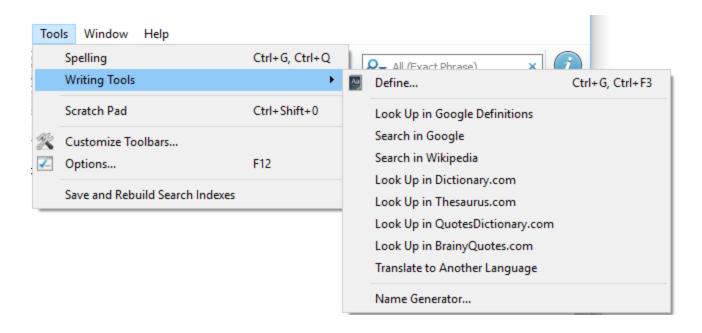


#### Research and Cover Art



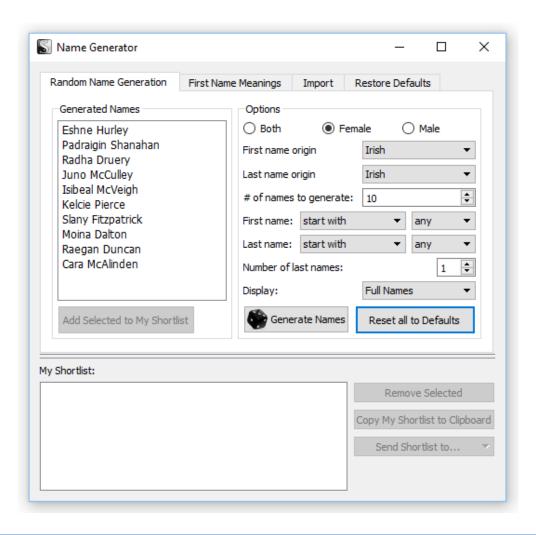
- You can create documents in the Research section related to reference materials, diagrams, photos, etc.
- This is also where you store the cover art for the Kindle and ePub versions of your book
- Recommended cover art for Kindle is a color JPEG that's 2560x1600 pixels

## **Tools and Resources**

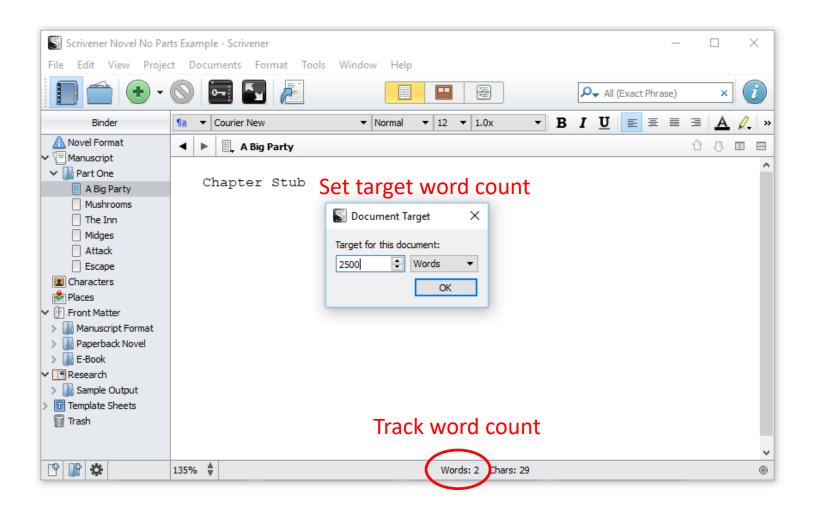


- Scrivener has integrated options for looking up words, topics, quotes, and more
- It has its own integrated dictionary and access to translation functions

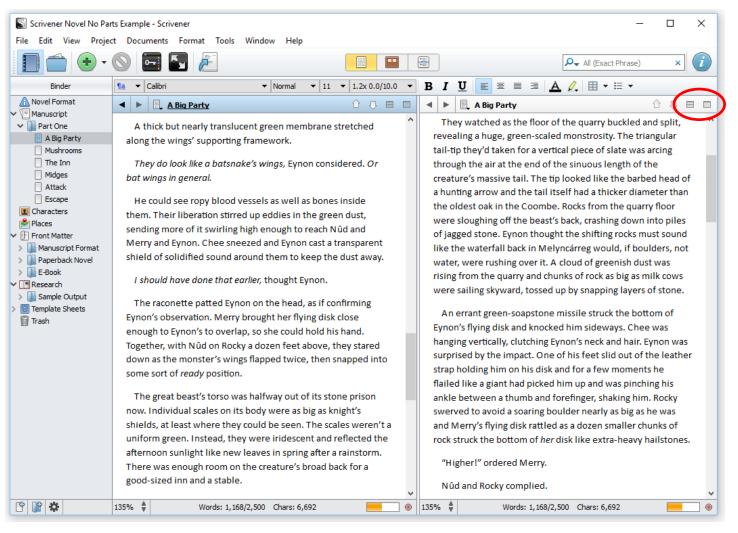
#### Name Generator



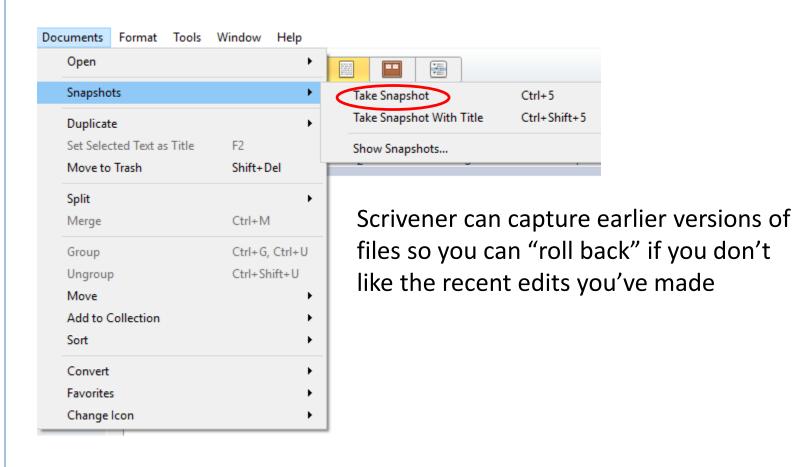
## **Word Count and Target**



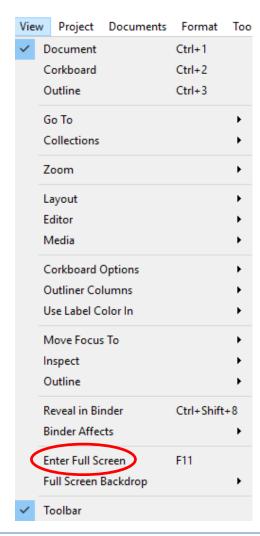
## **Split Screen**



# **Snapshots**



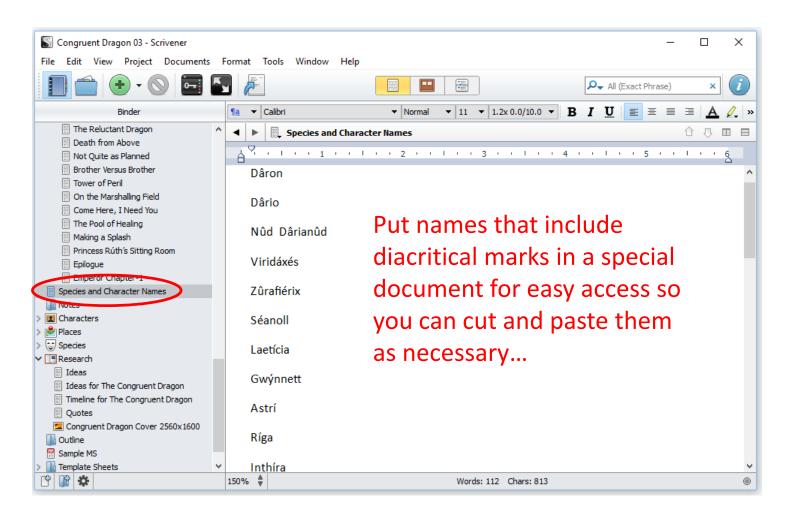
#### **Full Screen Mode**



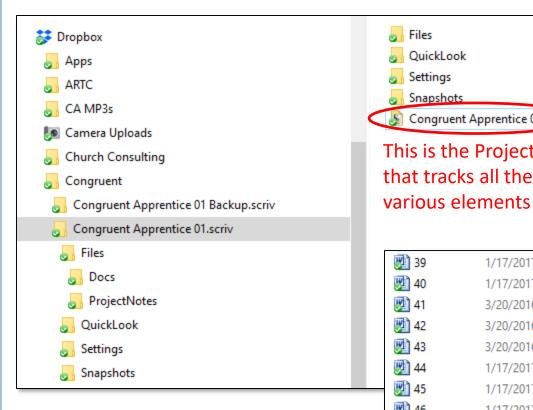
# In full screen mode Scrivener even locks out distractions from other programs...

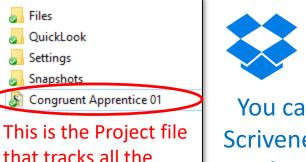
| The Great Green Dragon   |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| "What. Is. That?" asked Merry.   |  |  |  |
| "Fly higher," shouted Núd from Rocky's back.   |  |  |  |
| Merry and Eynon were side by side on their flying disks, close to Nûd and Rocky. The wyvern was already following Nûd's recommendation and gaining altitude. Eynon and Merry did likewise until they were a hundred feet up and could witness the scene below unfolding.   |  |  |  |
| They watched as the floor of the quarry buckled and split, revealing a huge, green-scaled monstrosity. The triangular tail-tip they'd taken for a vertical piece of slate was arcing through the air at the end of the sinuous length of the creature's massive tail. The tip looked like the barbed head of a hunting arrow and the tail Itself had a thicker diameter than the oldest oak in the Coombe. Rocks from the quarry floor were sloughing off the beast's back, crashing down into piles of jages done. Eyron thought the shifting rocks must sound like the waterflab ack in Melyncárreg would, if boulders, not water, were rushing over it. A cloud of greenish dust was rising from the quarry and chunks of rock as big as milk cows were sailing skyward, tossed up by snapping layers of stone. |  |  |  |
| An errant green-soapstone missile struck the bottom of Eynon's flying disk and knocked him sideways. Chee was hanging vertically, clutching Eynon's neck and hair. Eynon was surprised by the impact. One of his feet slid out of the leather strap holding him on his disk and for a few moments he flailed like a giant had picked him up and was pinching his ankle between a thumb and forefinger, shaking him. Rocky swerved to avoid a soaring boulder nearly as big as he was and Merry's flying disk rattled as a dozen smaller chunks of rock struck the bottom of her disk like extra-heavy hailstones.  |  |  |  |
| "Higher!" ordered Merry.   |  |  |  |
| Nûd and Rocky complied.  |  |  |  |
| "I'm trying," said Eynon. He maneuvered his flying disk underneath him again and stuck both feet securely into its straps. Chee still gripped Eynon's hair and his legs were wrapped around his neck. The raconette's long tail was flicking back and forth under Eynon's nose, distracting him. Eynon stroked Chee's back with one hand and disengaged his familiar's feet from his neck with the other. Then he ascended to join Nûd and Merry.  |  |  |  |
| More of the monster was visible now. Vast wings, like a batsnake's, but oh-so-much larger, were now exposed. They were a lighter shade of green than the beast's tail and tucked against the creature's broad back. The part of the beast they could see shook like a dog tossing drops of water from its back, if the water was blocks of fractured stone big enough to build cottages. The monster's scaled tail snapped back and forth, cutting through the cloud of green dust and making Eynon, Merry, and Núd very glad they were out of its range.  |  |  |  |
| "What do you think it is?" Eynon asked Nûd. "You've read through the library at Damon's A cademy."   |  |  |  |
| "You should be able to tell us the name of this sort of beast, even if you only looked at the pictures," said Merry.   |  |  |  |
| Nûd gave her a hurt look that turned to a smile when he saw her eyes dancing and realized Merry was teasing.   |  |  |  |
| "You mean you don't know?" Nûd teased back.  |  |  |  |
| "I think / do," said Eynon. "They're in all the best stories."   |  |  |  |
| "And on the prows and sterns of the Bifurlanders' longships," said Nûd.  |  |  |  |
| "Except those have gold scales," said Eynon.   |  |  |  |
| "And they're a lot smaller," said Merry, who had met the young Bifurlanders, Sigrun and Rannveigr and their friends, a few hours earlier on the battlefield along the Brenavon.  |  |  |  |
| "Look!" shouted Núd. "The wings are unfurling!"  |  |  |  |
| Like a flutterby emerging from its chrysalis or a ship preparing its sails, the monster's wings slowly extended and snapped out to their full length.  |  |  |  |
| You could fit Haywall's milking barn under one of them, thought Eynon.   |  |  |  |
| A thick but nearly translucent green membrane stretched along the wings' supporting framework.   |  |  |  |
| They do look like a batsnake's wings, Eynon considered. Or bot wings in general.   |  |  |  |
| He could see ropy blood vessels as well as bones inside them. Their liberation stirred up eddies in the green dust, sending more of it swirling high enough to reach Nûd and Merry and Eynon. Chee sneezed and Eynon cast a transparent shield of solidified sound around them to keep the dust away.  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

## A Tip for SF & Fantasy Writers



## **Working with Dropbox**





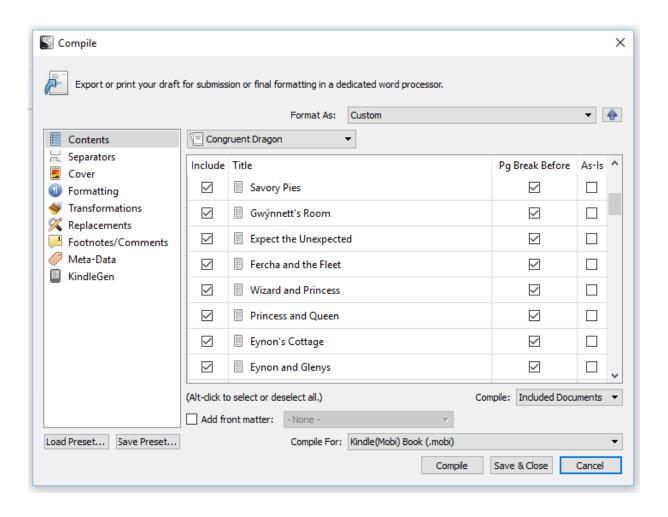


You can access your Scrivener Project from multiple devices but only one at a time

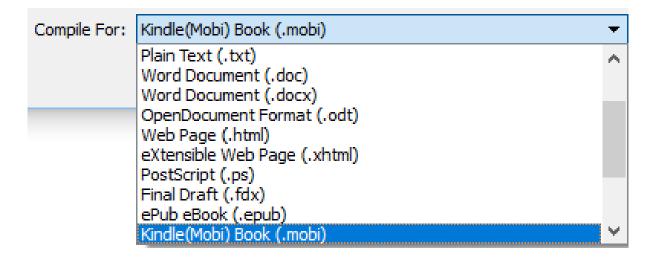
| <b>29</b>   | 1/17/2017 10:20 AM | Rich Text Format | 4 KB |
|-------------|--------------------|------------------|------|
| <b>2</b> 40 | 1/17/2017 10:04 AM | Rich Text Format | 3 KB |
| <b>)</b> 41 | 3/20/2016 12:25 AM | Rich Text Format | 3 KB |
| <b>#</b> 42 | 3/20/2016 12:25 AM | Rich Text Format | 3 KB |
| <b>2</b> 43 | 3/20/2016 12:25 AM | Rich Text Format | 3 KB |
| <b>#</b> 44 | 1/17/2017 10:10 AM | Rich Text Format | 3 KB |
| <b>2</b> 45 | 1/17/2017 10:10 AM | Rich Text Format | 3 KB |
| <b>2</b> 46 | 1/17/2017 10:11 AM | Rich Text Format | 3 KB |
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Scrivener stores its Project elements as small RTF files

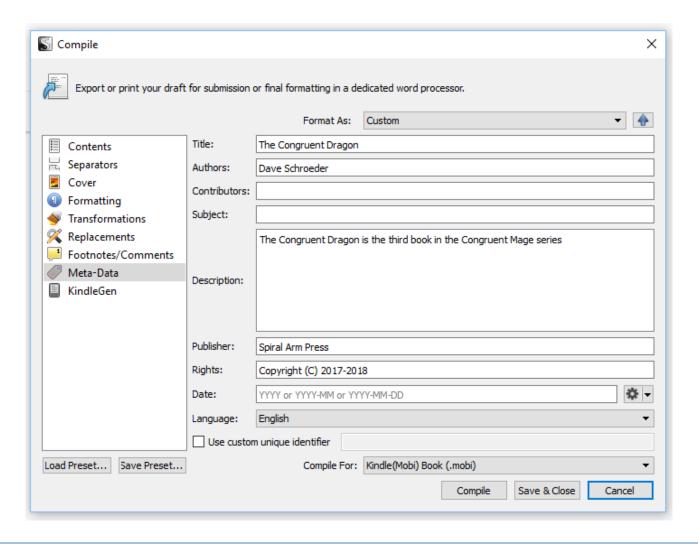
## **Compiling for Export**



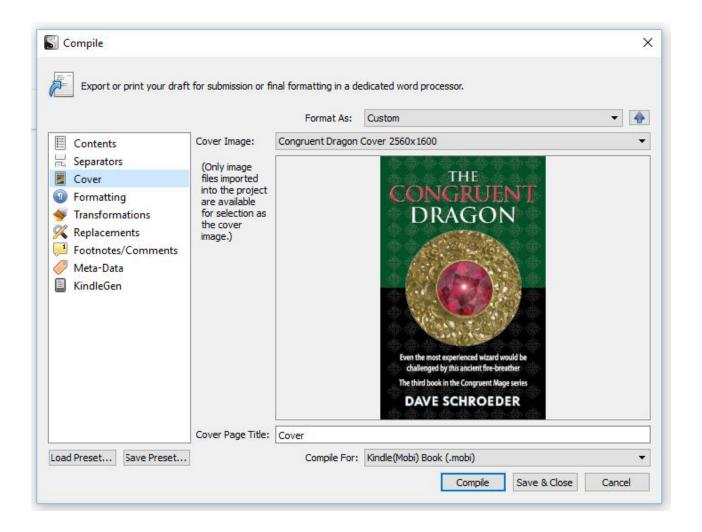
## **Export Formats**



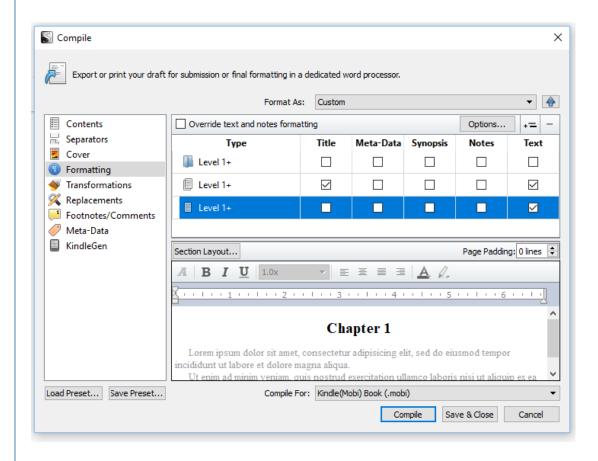
## Meta-Data for eBooks

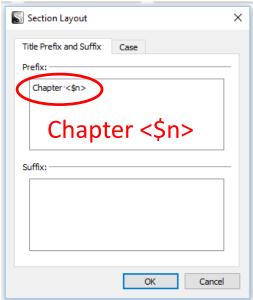


#### **Cover for eBooks**



## **Specifying Chapter Formats**



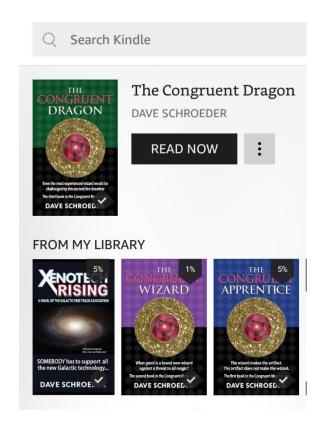


Special variables plug in key values

## **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

# 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



 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.

## **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

There 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