

Sample Editorial Feedback Letter (Redacted)

To: Client

From: Kate Earley

Date: June 12, 2026

Subject: Chapter 1 Excerpt (Sample Beta Read – 3,824 words)

Dear Client,

Thank you for sharing this sample with me. I enjoyed having the opportunity to step into the world you've created and get a sense of both the story and your writing style.

For transparency, I read the sample twice. My first pass was at my natural reading pace so I could capture my reader experience. After finishing, I reread the sample at a slower pace to determine whether moments of confusion were the result of reading pace or information being introduced in the opening pages. While the second pass clarified several details, my overall reader experience remained largely the same, which I've summarized below.

What Worked for Me

The prose is clean, easy to follow, and the action scenes flowed naturally. I never found myself stopping because of awkward wording, tense issues, or sentence construction.

I was also intrigued by the world. Larger conflicts, histories, and relationships are clearly at work beneath the surface, and by the end of the sample I found myself asking questions about several key characters, the larger conflict, the relationship between humans and magic users, and where the story might ultimately be heading.

The strongest moments for me were those showing the protagonist's emotional response to the war. That internal conflict felt like one of the most compelling threads introduced in the opening.

My Reader Experience

My biggest challenge as a reader wasn't understanding the events themselves—it was finding my footing in the world.

The opening introduces multiple forms of magic, political structures, military conflict, races, world terminology, and character relationships in a relatively short span.

Individually those concepts were easy to follow, but together they left me wanting a little more breathing room between major ideas.

The magic system especially made me curious. I could generally follow what was happening, but I still had questions about how the rules connected together. Some were answered as the chapter progressed, while others remained open by the end of the sample.

Character Connection

I became invested in the mysteries surrounding the story before I became fully invested in the protagonist. I wanted a little more opportunity to connect with the character as a person while I was learning about the world.

Final Thoughts

Overall, I found the sample intriguing and full of interesting ideas. The world feels expansive, the magic system has significant potential, and the opening successfully encouraged me to keep reading.

My biggest takeaway was that the opening asks readers to absorb a considerable amount of information very quickly. Giving a few of the strongest moments additional room to breathe could make the reader's experience even stronger.

Thank you again for trusting me with your work. I hope these observations provide a helpful snapshot of both my reading experience and feedback style. Please feel free to reach out with any questions or if you would like to discuss any aspect of the feedback further.

Best,

Kate Earley

Editor, Plot & Paper