

**THE SUCCESSFUL AUTHOR'S MORNING RITUAL**

by

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## THE SUCCESSFUL AUTHOR'S MORNING RITUAL

SETTING — A bed and a desk with computer on it.

CHARACTERS — SUCCESSFUL AUTHOR, male or female, any age. This could also be performed with a NARRATOR reading the lines and SUCCESSFUL AUTHOR pantomiming/reacting to them.

AT RISE — SUCCESSFUL AUTHOR in bed, asleep. Alarm goes off.

SUCCESSFUL AUTHOR

When you hear the alarm, do not shut it off. Do not tell yourself... that... you'll just do better tomorrow...  
(falls asleep)

Reset. Alarm.

SUCCESSFUL AUTHOR (cont.)

When the alarm goes off, don't shut it off. Don't hit snooze.  
Especially  
(hits it)  
don't  
(hits it)  
hit it  
(hits it)  
several  
(hits it)  
times...  
(falls asleep)

Reset. Alarm.

SUCCESSFUL AUTHOR (cont.)

Don't shut it off, don't hit snooze... Just get up! Don't check email or Facebook... Oh my god, she did what...?!

Reset. Alarm.

SUCCESSFUL AUTHOR (cont.)

Just get up! Don't check the phone at all! Go directly to the computer.  
(sits at desk)  
Don't check email. Don't... check Facebook... E he he he...!  
Silly kittens.

Reset. Alarm.

SUCCESSFUL AUTHOR (cont.)

Go directly to the computer. Disable internet! Open a Word doc. And... write.  
(not writing)

SUCCESSFUL AUTHOR (cont.)

And... write!

(still not writing)

Accept that writing is hard. Embrace the process.

(reaching for phone)

Absolutely do not check internet things on your phone because it's right there and so, so much easier than writing...

Reset. Alarm.

SUCCESSFUL AUTHOR (cont.)

Disable internet. Turn off the stupid phone. Engage with the blank page. Embrace the white oblivion. Rage against the void. Write something, anything. Anything at all! Write "poopy pants."

(writes)

Yesss. Poopy pants! You wrote those words. You will, I hope, delete them later, but that does not matter. This does: a moment ago you were just an aspiring writer, and now... You're an author.

(getting ready for the day)

Is that a swagger in your step? Why, I think it is! Good for you. Bask in that victorious glow—you've earned it.

(energy begins to wane over the following)

Just remember: Eat well today. Get some exercise. Don't stay out too late with friends. Spend tonight preparing for tomorrow. Get to bed by ten at the latest, and tomorrow...

(crawls into bed)

Reset. Alarm.

SUCCESSFUL AUTHOR (cont.)

...Do it all over again.

**END OF PLAY.**