How I Designed My Book Cover Using AI: **A Visual Evolution**



Inspiration. Where It All Started



The journey began with gathering inspiration. I shared minimalist book covers with ChatGPT to establish the aesthetic direction I was looking for: clean designs with strong colors and simple, impactful graphics.



First Iteration. **The Initial Design**

My initial prompt to ChatGPT described a minimalist cover for Dwelling in a Place of Yes. The first iteration featured a simple door icon against a pale yellow background with traditional serif typography.

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Exploring Pathways. **From Door to Path**

For the second iteration, I asked ChatGPT to explore the concept of a path or journey instead of a door. This version introduced a winding path leading from the word "Yes," creating a more dynamic visual metaphor.

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Adding Destination. Evoking a Goal

In the third iteration, I requested that the path lead somewhere specific. ChatGPT added a doorway at the end of the path, bringing together both the journey and destination concepts. I also requested a sans serif font for the subtitle and a warmer yellow with a color gradient to make the cover look less flat.



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Color Evolution. **Playing with Hues**

For the fourth iteration, I asked ChatGPT to experiment with color by making "Yes" stand out in orange while keeping the path in green. This created a stronger visual focal point, though I felt that the serif at its bottom visually disrupted the flow of the path and that this typographic detail needed refinement in the next version.

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Further Refinements. Fine-Tuning the Imagery

In the fifth iteration, I was able to prompt the AI to remove the serif, but I now had a new problem: the "Y" strongly resemed a "J." I knew I needed to move the color gradient transition on the stem of the "Y" up a bit so that it read more clearly.

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The Final Cover. Landing in the Right Place

After six iterations and refinement, here's the final cover for my book, a design that perfectly captures the journey from fear to opportunity through the power of affirmation and positive choice.

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Lessons in AI Collaboration. What I Learned

This process taught me that AI collaboration is a conversation. Each iteration improved with specific feedback from concept (door \rightarrow path), to symbolism (adding destination), to visual hierarchy (highlighting "Yes").

The most powerful results come from human direction combined with Al capabilities.

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