

Your First 10 Pages Presented by Laura Zats of Wise Ink

The purpose of the first 10 pages is to **hook** the reader. That means that they have:

1. Emotionally bonded to at least one protagonist
2. Gotten familiar with the world (and the status quo)
3. Started on a journey they want to finish

Newton's three laws of motion:

- 1. Every object in a state of uniform motion will remain in that state of motion unless an external force acts on it.**

Things can't stop or start without an outside force enacting a change to the status quo. This is the *emotional inciting incident* and, more broadly, *plot*.

This law, also called the law of inertia, applies to reader behavior as well.

- 2. Force equals mass times acceleration.**

How much outside force is applied will change how much and how fast something moves. This is *pacing*, your ticking time clock.

- 3. For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction.**

A choice or a decision or a movement affects everything it touches. This is *tension*, what pulls you through.