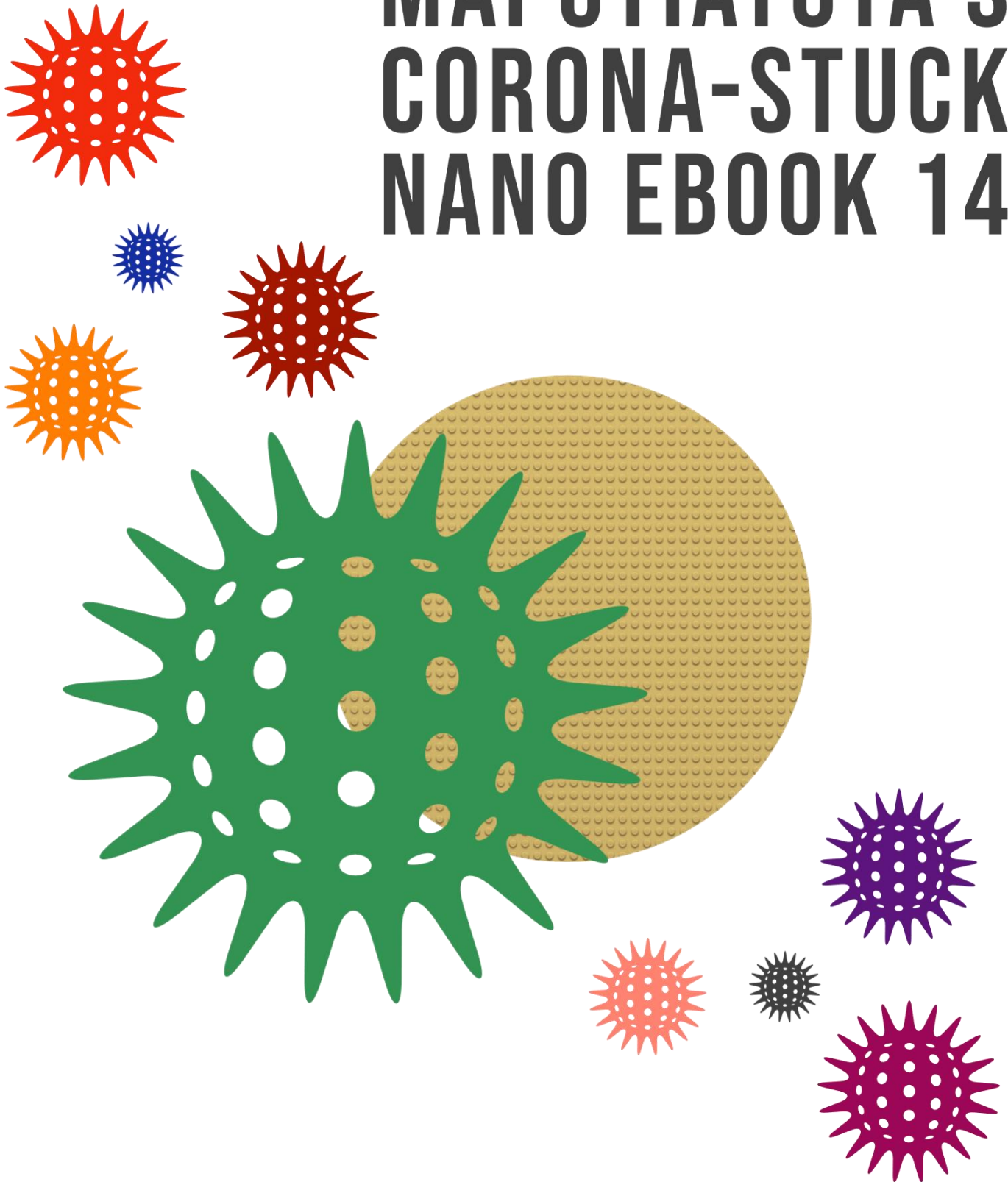# MAPUTIATOTA'S CORONA-STUCK NANO EBOOK 14

THE GRAND FINALE

Live productively during the Corona Virus lockdown!

Disclaimer

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Introduction

Welcome back dear reader. Thank you for your consistency! This is the **last** book in my nano-ebook series. By now, you know me (Maputiatota), so I won't go ahead and give myself a long introduction.

Hope you enjoy this last book!

FEEDBACK

Well, this is the last book in my nano book series. In this last book, I give feedback that I received from people during the writing of these nanobooks.

Why should I care?

Well, what I learnt that the most important thing after carrying out any sort of project is feedback. See what worked, and see what didn't. In this book, I share the positive, negative feedback, and what I got to discover through this nano series.

Positive Feedback

Consistency. When creating any type of material, there is need to be consistent, otherwise you will lose your audience. My audience liked the fact that I posted my books every single day in the morning.

Creativity. Some liked the various topics that I brought up, and were deeply engaged in my nano series.

Color. The cover page was loved by my audience. They found it quite nice.

And some people just loved my nano series. Thank YOU!

Unwavering focus and enthusiasm. Thank you for that @sunflower

Constructive Criticism

I could have called this negative feedback, but I don't see feedback as negative. This is because the person criticising you is giving you the platform to work on your mistakes in the future. In addition, I belong to the school of philosophy that believes that the cup isn't half empty but its half full.

My 5G book wasn't really good. There were very many mistakes, and it was rather hard to understand.

It is a **TWEET PDF**. One person didn't like the nano book concept, and complained that the book certainly could have been longer.

The title and the content do not match – in my first book, the title and the content really didn't match.

You are a **DATA ASSASSIN**! My first book was rather big – above 1 Megabyte, and this made people mad. I learnt that any content has to be as small as possible (whilst preserving the quality) in order for it to reach a wide audience.

Note: In the future, when your friend/co-worker/acquaintance/etc. starts a project, give them feedback. Don't say its NICE. That doesn't mean anything. Give descriptive words. Let's have an example:

[Gonesai created a video about Power Generation in Zimbabwe, and uploaded it to YouTube. Hear what Tinoongorora has to say about it.]

> *Your video is good because I can **hear you** clearly, the video has a rather **high resolution**, and the **video-editing** is good. Also, one can tell that a great deal of **research** was put into the creation of the video.*

Don't lie to them and say its ok if its not. This is the worst thing you can do because he/she will not grow. Also don't give criticism like "Its stupid!" or "Its not nice". Instead give constructive criticism like this:

[Bhorongi created a song about sand and water. The genre of the song is deathcore rock. Let's hear what Tinotaura has to say about it.]

> *The song has very **little meaning** to be derived from it. It has one person **screaming** for the greater part of it and playing a guitar in a manner that has **no rhythm** or **style**. You can do better. Try again my friend.*

Bonus Note:

Whenever you do your stuff, know that its not everybody who shares your vision. I posted my nanobooks everyday at midnight (and sometimes at 11am) on the following platforms:

- Facebook
- Twitter
- Instagram (I wasn't entirely consistent with this platform)
- LinkedIn
- WhatsApp groups
- My wordpress blog

When I started this nanobook series I was in 120 WhatsApp groups. I got kicked out of 25 at one goal, left others, and got kicked out of even more. In the end (today) I'm only left with 49. I got harsh criticism but realized that it wasn't important because I was doing something worthwhile. I would just jot down the feedback and make my content better.

On some social media platforms, I managed to get a loyal following (thanks y'all!), and on some, I'd get only one person who liked the content. Demoralizing is it? Just a little. The fact that one person found the content worthy of a thumbs up made it worthwhile.

Ideas I got from my audience

- In my book about girls not getting into engineering programs, I have been made aware about glass ceilings for women and minorities in tech.
- Learning how to rehabilitate or socialise after the lockdown since the Corona virus is still there. Socialization habits and behaviours have to

change after the lockdown as this virus might not go anywhere anytime soon.

- In my book about family trees, I was made aware that black people are afraid of making family trees because of two reasons:
  - People would want to deny paternity and;
  - "Vemumhuri vanozoona kusiri kunyanya kufiwa"
- I definitely didn't know that people thought of family trees that way.
- Gender based violence is a really really big issue. I also discovered that it not only applies to women but to men too!
- Have someone to proofread your books (I actually did have someone, but this is a good point so had to mention it)
- Engage with your audience (I mainly used the WhatsApp platform). I would just send my book in groups, and disappear from the groups until it is time to send another one. If you really want your audience to get your message, talk to them.

General questions asked

Where did the name maputiatota come from?

The answer is quite silly.

Maputi means popcorn, **atota** means its wet.

Maputi akadirwa mvura obva **atota** chii chinoitika? Anoita **Maputiatota**

English. Translation: What happens when you mix popcorn and water? It gets wet i.e. Maputiatota.

Why did you start this series?

For many reasons.

1. I, as a creative writer, asked myself what I could do with my skills during this lock down. I figured that I could create productivity books because nobody is doing that right now. If you want a productivity book, you will have to get into town and buy a book in town. After that you will need to create the right environment + make time to read the book. Then you will need the self-discipline to read the book.
   You could do that (which is hard), or you could just download my five minute read.
2. There is power in consistency. I am a student (of some sort) and I have reports (that were supposed to be written every month since last year) to write. I find writing them rather boring so I decided to make writing everyday a habit. I started with this series, and now that it's a habit, I'm going to start writing my reports. All of them.
   In addition, it will help me create material for my Maputiatota Blog.
3. I had a lot of free time on my hands.

Why didn't you create a single looong book instead of "Tweet PDFs"

For many reasons

1. There was no guarantee that I was going to finish it – I could've abandoned the project midway.
2. According to official sources, the lockdown in Zimbabwe was scheduled to end on Monday 20 April. It was very easy for me to miss that deadline and publish material when everyone is back at work.
3. To get a loyal audience. If you post one book before creating an audience, then its very easy for them to ignore the book.
4. The book would've been long and I didn't want to be a data assassin.

Do you create websites?

There is a market for people who want websites made. I learnt that they first have a look at your material, and if they feel confident that you will design something nice, they will surely get in touch with you. Unfortunately, I don't make professional websites yet. I can easily do social media marketing, but as for building websites…I only have basic skills on how to create basic free wordpress websites.

When I eventually venture into the commercial website creating business, I will certainly tell you on my blog, https://maputiatotablog.wordpress.com/

And for the last question.

They say save the best for last.

Have a look at my chat with DeeCee

Key:

Green = DeeCee

Brown = Me

Good evening ma'am

I have always wanted to write but I don't have an inspiration. I don't know what to specialize in. But all my closest friends say that I can do it I just need some time alone somewhere quiet, but I'm just totally blank.

I kindly ask you to mentor me please

It's actually sir

Anyways I believe that I can give you guidelines . Mentorship 😊 sounds like quite a dedication but as for assisting with guidelines… That I can definitely do

And I'll get back to you with a detailed answer tomorrow.

Good morning

I'll share my thoughts and I hope you will get your answer from that.

Once upon a time lived a student, Bhorongi Bharangizha let's call him BB. This student was so passionate about writing but didn't know what to write about. He knew that he wanted to write but finding the motivation, time and material proved to be a nightmare. He kept saying I'll think of something tomorrow. Years passed by with nothing having being done until he came up with the bold decision to start. He got himself a counter book and started to write to himself - like a person with a diary would. Through that he learnt how to transfer conversations in his mind to black and white ink. His first diary entries were really bad. They didn't make much sense but hey-that's a start.

After that BB decided to get into poetry. That was the greatest challenge in his eyes as poetry is the gateway to one's soul. Haungosvike Ku soul zvekumhanya so you need to write good poems. The first poem was as horrible as kutenga romi woiisa pachingwa❌❌❌. It was bad. From then, he kept writing until he got to the point where his colleagues said he was good and started envying him

Then he decided that it's time to move onto writing. Writing requires a lot of self discipline because you have to come up with ideas. Write down the ideas to create a storyline for your book. Then you need to create an amazing intro, make the content great, and have an epic ending. He learnt to do so by writing very many books which he failed to finish, creating new ideas, trying what works, and listening to people who talk about book writing.

What key concepts did BB learn during his writing journey?

Brainstorm. Research. Iterate.

When coming up with any content of any sort - science fiction, finance, science research, poetry... Anything, the first step is to brainstorm. How do you do this?

First look for a good environment. Then relax your mind. Think of ideas. Any ideas. Let your mind run wild. Let each idea lead onto the next crazy idea until you have very many crazy ideas. At the end write down the ideas.

<div align="center">Sleep!</div>

When you wake up, do your **research.** Find out the best way to deliver your message. The best infographics to use. The best language combinations to use. In my nano book research I found out that people like nice colours and that's

why each of my books has a different colour. If it's a scientific research paper, find out the facts.

Step **3 – Iterate**

To iterate means to do over and over and over. Create version 1. Be amazed with it. Break it down, find flaws with version 1 and find the bright spots. Amplify the bright spots (without over doing it) and eliminate your weaknesses. Keep doing this until you have an acceptable version. A version that you feel content with. If you are a perfectionist, then don't go beyond version 5.

That is what I think

Remember. Start now. Learn to express your thoughts in writing. Make really horrible diary entries

Then make that first poem/article

It will be complete *garbage* [word changed] that's the process ✓

Then follow people who teach you self-discipline. Waking up early, etc. Download my 4th nano book in the group. It has all the resources you will need for this

Then follow people who tell you how to publish a book. Amy Landino has a few videos about this. [Check her out on YouTube]

That's about it✊

Wooooow this is an insightful piece. Thank you so much for your amazing counsel🙌🙏

Bhoo baba

It's actually amai

Lesson to be learnt:

Don't promise things that you can't deliver. I am not currently in a position to be a mentor – because of very many constraints, including the fact that I don't feel that it is my season for mentorship yet. I promised what I could deliver – guidelines.

Bonus tip: Ask a person's gender before calling them Baba (Sir) or Amai (Madam).

Conclusion

Well, this is it. My last words to you – a quote from one of my favourite childhood actors, Buzz Lightyear:

To infinity and beyond!