

Writing is a Commitment Device

Memory is self-serving. Beliefs mutate silently. When reality proves you wrong, your brain seamlessly rewrites your original reasoning to avoid the pain of being incorrect.



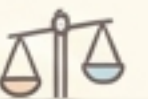
The Problem: Unwritten beliefs are unfalsifiable. You assemble them retroactively from the outcome.



The Solution: Like Odysseus tying himself to the mast to resist the Sirens, a written thesis restricts your future choices.



You cannot gaslight a written document. It forces you to contend with what you actually believed.



The Anatomy of a Written Thesis

Warren Buffett requires a written argument to buy a business. If any of these 6 elements are missing, your thesis has a gap you will unconsciously exploit later.



Catalyst (Why Now?)

The specific event that makes the timing right (e.g., product cycle, sentiment reset).



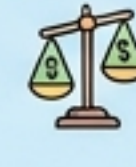
Moat (Why Won't It Decay?)

The structural advantage (network, scale, brand) that prevents competition.



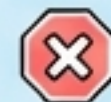
Management (Can They Execute?)

Specific evidence of capital discipline, not just good vibes.



Valuation Frame (What's Priced In?)

The gap between the market's current story and your story.



Kill Criteria (When Are You Wrong?)

Specific, observable conditions that force a reassessment.



Time Horizon (When Do You Evaluate?)

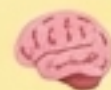
The exact clock on your bet (e.g., 3 months vs. 3 years).

Beliefs Accommodate. Theses Confront.

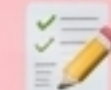
Price drops do not invalidate a thesis, but they do trigger panic. Here is how you react during a drawdown.



Scenario



The Unwritten Belief



The Written Thesis

Market Drops 20%

The market just doesn't understand. The fundamentals are fine. (Rationalization)

Checks the document: Did margins expand by 200bps as predicted? (Objectivity)

Timeline Delays

Adoption just takes more time. It's a long-term play now. (Belief Drift)

Checks the clock: Thesis failed the 18-month target. Reassess. (Discipline)

Exit Strategy

Sells winners too early (feels good), holds losers too long (avoids pain).

Triggers action strictly based on Kill Criteria, completely ignoring price movement.

AI Red-Teaming: The Agent as Short-Seller

Your written thesis feels perfect. That is the moment of maximum danger. You wrote the thesis you wanted to write.

Agent Prompt: Act as a short-seller. Read this 6-element thesis and write the 3 strongest, most specific arguments for why it will fail.

Attack & Iterate

1. Concede: The attack is valid. Adjust your position sizing or add a new Kill Criterion.

2. Counter: The attack identifies a risk, but you have **mitigating evidence**. Write it directly into the thesis.

3. Dismiss: The attack is based on generic risks or outdated data. Ignore it.

Repeat 3-4 times. When the AI has to rely on improbable edge cases, your thesis is ready.



Version Control & The 90-Day Review

Do not patch a broken thesis. Patching leads to the Ship of Theseus problem—you drift into a completely new rationale without noticing. Create new versions (v1.1, v2.0), do not edit the old ones.



Agent Memory Loop Timeline

✅ **Reaffirm:** Nothing changed materially. Thesis holds. No action required.

🔄 **Revise (Minor):** A minor update (v1.1). Note the new data and date it (e.g., margins expanded, but slower than expected).

🔄 **Revise (Minor):** A minor update (v1.1). Note the new data and date it (e.g.,).

🛑 **Retire (Major):** A Kill Criterion triggered. The thesis is broken. You must write a completely new thesis (v2.0) from scratch to justify holding the position.

Use your AI Agent to read your thesis back to you after earnings. Do not ask it to make a decision. Use it as external memory that does not rationalize.