Chapter map

Reverse-outline the draft you have. Record each chapter's actual work before deciding what to change, and continue on another sheet for a longer manuscript.

Project / manuscript

Draft / date

Brief book promise

One sentence on the book's central question, story or promise to its reader.

Read the manuscript in its current order

Record what exists. Use stable chapter or scene labels so you can find the pages again.

CHAPTER	ACTUAL JOB OR EVENT	WHAT CHANGES	QUESTION TO INSPECT

Next structural test

Choose one pattern to test in a separate draft: keep, combine, move, expand or cut.