Story Sketch

Setting – Let’s write about the overall settings of our short stories (the battlefield, the hospital, the cockpit, etc.)

1. Answer:
   1. Fill out a timeline for your story. Include exact dates of historical events that will drive your story (Beginning of WWI? End? Battle?

1. Answer:
   1. What season is it?
   2. What color is the sky?
   3. What does the air taste like?
   4. How do the clothes smell?
   5. What sound is the ground making?
2. Freewrite:

Round Character – Now, let’s write about our main characters.

A Round Character encounters a conflict, which changes her for better or worse. Thus, she is dynamic and complex, not static nor flat. She is gray, not black and white.

1. **MOTIVATION**- *List 2-3 elements for each.*

Passions-

Fears-

Regrets-

Desires-

**2) PERSONALITY TRAITS** Use the Sample Traits List if you get stuck.

Positive

1)

2)

3)

4)

5)

Negative

1)

2)

3)

4)

5)

**3) BODY LANGUAGE**

1. Head:
2. Shoulders:
3. Feet:
4. Hands:
5. Write a sentence explaining how your character has changed through the story. What is the truth of war from your character’s perspective at last?
6. Why are we rooting for your character? Why do we want them to “win?” Write a sentence or two explaining your reasoning.

Plot Arc – Describe each major event along the plot arc line to outline **AQotWF.**

Climax – Character goes through some essential change as through an event that brings the plot driving conflict to a head.

Introduction / Setting

Rising Action Events

Conflict that drives the plot –

Character Desire VS Why they can’t fulfill their desire

Conclusion – Resolution of essential conflict and reflection on character change.

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Begin with the End

In order to craft a compelling narrative, it is essential that you weave together a vivd setting, a round character, and a tight plot structure.

**SYNTHESIZING SETTING, CHARACTER, AND PLOT**

Imagine that you are the main character in your story. Place yourself at the climax or final scene of your story. Then, answer these questions:

1. Where are you?
2. What are you doing?
3. What time of day does it seem to be?
4. What season?
5. About how old are you?
6. Why are you there?
7. Is there anyone else there? If so, who?
8. Is there anyone else who just left or who may be coming?
9. What kind of mood are you in?
10. What do you look like?
11. How have the events of the story changed you?
12. Why would the audience care?

Stay Inside the Perspective