

Novel

▼ 1. Overview

▼ a. Title

• i.

▼ b. Author

• i.

▼ c. Synopsis:

• i.

▼ d. Central Question: Will (fill in protagonist's name) defeat (fill in the antagonist's name) and get (fill in the protagonist's concrete, specific, external goal)?

• i.

▼ e. One Sentence Story Idea: What If? or This is the story of X who . . . "

• i.

▼ f. What POV (1st, 3rd limited, 3rd omniscient) and who is the POV character(s)?

• i.

▼ 2. Plot

▼ a. What is your main plot (protagonist vs. antagonist)?

• i.

▼ b. What are the beginning and ending scenes? Do they bookend and echo each other?

• i.

▼ c. What is your first turning point (if you're using linear structure)? That is, what is the point where the trouble gets worse?

• i.

▼ d. What is your second turning point? That is, what is the mid point where the protag has changed so much she can't go back to where she was before?

• i.

▼ e. What is your third turning point? That is, what is the third point or dark moment when the protag goes to hell, literally or figuratively?

• i.

▼ f. What expectations does each turning point set up in the reader?

• i.

▼ g. How does each turning point escalate the main conflict?

• i.

▼ h. If you're not using linear structure, how does the structure you've chosen fit your story, create meaning and order?

• i.

▼ i. What is your romance plot?

• i.

▼ j. How does each turning point escalate the romance?

• i.

▼ k. What is your first subplot?

• i.

▼ l. How does each turning point escalate it?

• i.

▼ m. What is your second subplot?

• i.

▼ n. How does each turning point escalate it?

• i.

▼ o. What is your third subplot?

• i.

▼ p. How does each turning point escalate it?

• i.

▼ 3. Characters

▼ a. Who is your protagonist? External, concrete goal? Internal, emotional goal? Motivation? Profession?

• i.

▼ b. What are the three turning points for her character arc?

• i.

Who is your antagonist? External, concrete goal? Internal, emotional goal? Motivation? Profession?

What does your antagonist do to escalate the conflict at the three turning points?

Who is the love interest? Goal? Motivation? Profession?

What are the three turning points for his character arc?

Who are the supporting characters for your protagonist?

Who are the supporting characters for your antagonist?

What other characters are there? Why are they necessary? What do they do for your story?

Setting

What are the key locations in your story?

What time does your story take place (past, present, future)?

How does the setting heighten the conflict?

What does the setting symbolize?

What is the community in your story and how does it form part of the setting?

Theme

What images, colors, textures, etc. do you see when you think about your story?

What concrete symbols or metaphors are part of your story?

What things (images, words, phrases, objects, actions, etc.) repeat and become motifs in your story?

How does your title fit not only the genre but also the mood and theme of your story?

What's your theme?