

Your Novel Blueprint

Author Mindset Question: Why are you uniquely qualified to write this novel?

What is your novel's genre (pick only one for now):

What are the conventions of that genre?

What are the obligatory scenes of that genre?

What type of plot do you want to use (again, pick only one for now):

Who is your protagonist?

What is their external object of desire?

What is their internal object of desire? (often subconscious at the start of the novel)

What is the inciting incident in your story?

Is it causal or coincidental?

How does it change everything for the protagonist and spur them into action?

What are some of the progressive complications?

What decisions does the protagonist have to make in the face of these complications?

Do you have a "best bad choice" moment?

What is the crisis in your story?

How are the stakes higher for the crisis than at any point in the novel so far?

What does your protagonist have to give up in order to face this crisis?

What is the climax in your story?

What choice does your protagonist make? **Remember the protagonist has to be the one to make the choice.*

How does your protagonist change in the moment of crisis?

What is the resolution of your story?

In what way does it “mirror” your inciting incident?

Where does your story end regarding your protagonist’s internal desire? External desire?

The Hero

The Villain (main force of opposition)

The Helper