Character Outline

How This Outline Fleshes Out Your Characters

This outline asks gives you space to write out the typical character traits as well as asking four big questions regarding your characters psyche and limitations. You'll then plot out your character in three acts to understand how they'll move within your story. With these questions answered, your character(s) will be more well-rounded and lifelike, providing memorable characters and a better reading experience. Answering these questions will give your characters conflict, drama, and goals that will drive your story and instill excitement in your readers.

Main vs. Side Characters

Characters with lots of screen time in your novel should have these pages fleshed out. Since your readers are spending the most time with them, you'll want these characters to feel like real people.

You'll want to answer at least some of these questions for your side characters, but, depending on their impact in your novel, may not need to be fully answered.

Character Name: *Mallory*

Physical Traits

Age: 15   **Eye Color:** *Green*   **Height:** *5'5"*

Gender: *Female*   **Hair Color:** *Light Brown*   **Weight:** *115 lbs*

Notable Features: *Crooked nose, pointy chin, heart-shaped face*

Other Features: *Dresses modestly, slender hands*

Personality Traits

Strengths:
- Kind
- Empathetic
- Curious
- Creative
- Friendly

Weaknesses:
- Pushover
- Nervous
- Too quiet

Likes:
- Animals
- Reading
- Art - drawing/painting
- School

Dislikes:
- Mean-spirited people
- Loud noises
- Parties

Quirks:
- Flicks her fingers when nervous or upset

Other:
- Would do anything for her friends

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Character Name:

Physical Traits

Age: _____   **Eye Color:** _____   **Height:** _____

Gender: _____   **Hair Color:** _____   **Weight:** _____

Notable Features: _____

Other Features: _____

Personality Traits

Strengths:	**Weaknesses:**
Likes:	**Dislikes:**
Quirks:	**Other:**

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Understanding Your Character

What do they want?	This want determines what their personal aim is within the story. What are they hoping to accomplish before the end of the novel?
What is their fatal flaw?	This flaw is what gets in the way of what they want. Could be a physical flaw or an interpersonal one.
What is their secret?	Their secret would ruin them if it came out, creating conflict and excitement. Will it come out? How?
Do they redeem themselves? If so, how?	This character will either overcome their fatal flaw, partially overcome it, or fail to overcome it. Will they achieve their goal?

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Plotting Your Character in Three Acts

Act I:	How does your character react to the inciting incident?

Act II:	How does your character become proactive to the ongoing conflict?

Act III:	How does your character tie up the loose ends? Where do they end up physically and mentally?

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Your Character Visualized

Use this space create a vision board for your character. You can draw, post pictures, or add any other media that inspires your character's vibe.