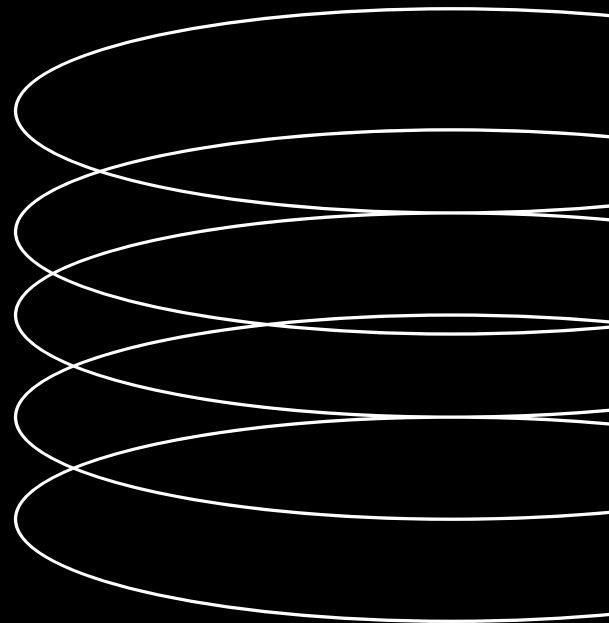


The essential tools needed to write your book



BY BETSY CHASSE
www.betsychasse.net





The Author

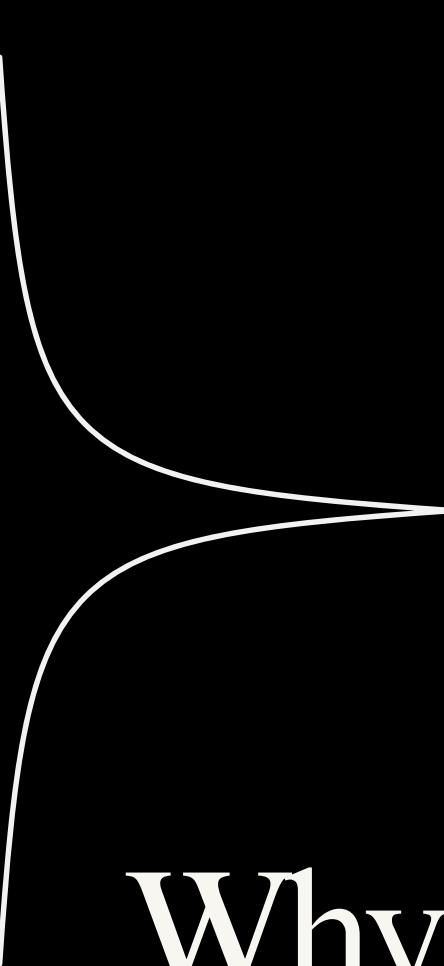
BETSY CHASSE

is an award-winning filmmaker, best-selling author, and, most importantly a mom. Her films include *What The Bleep Do We Know?!*, *Song of the New Earth*, *Pregnant in America*, and *The Empty Womb*. She is currently in production on a new doc series, *The Galileo Project*.

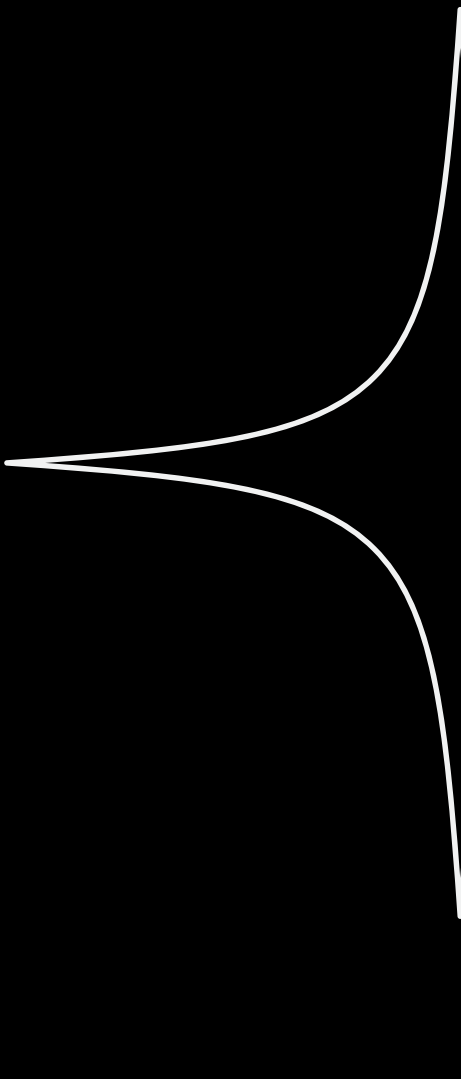
She has authored multiple books, including *Killing Buddha*, *Tipping Sacred Cows*, *The Documentary Filmmaking Master Class*, and more.

She has coached writers who have become bestselling authors in both fiction and nonfiction, as well as award-winning screenplays. Her publishing imprint, Rampant Feline Media, has published multiple bestselling books by her and others.

I created this course using materials from teaching Master students at Universities across the US, and working with amazing authors through coaching and masterminds.



Why you should
write a book.



Why you should write a book.

Many people wonder why they should write a book. There are several reasons why writing a book is important. For instance, writing a memoir can be one of the most powerful and transformative experiences you will ever have. Additionally, by sharing your story, you can give the world a unique perspective that only comes from you and your experience. The world needs more people sharing their authentic and vulnerable stories, especially right now.

Writing a book is also a great way to market and publicize yourself, as it helps people learn more about you and your work. It builds brand awareness and creates marketing and publicity opportunities you might not currently have available to you.

However, many people struggle with finishing their books. They may have been working on it for years and still haven't completed it. The reason for this may not be what you think. It's not necessarily fear holding you back, but rather a lack of understanding of how to write a good story. Even if you know how to tell a good story, there is a specific structure to writing a successful book. Story structure is the foundation for any good book, whether it's fiction or non-fiction.

Think of building a house. You can't paint the walls and hang the curtains until you lay the foundation. Similarly, you can't write a good book until you have a solid outline. While it may not be the most exciting part of writing, it's essential to be organized and have a plan before you start writing. By doing so, you'll create space for your creativity to flow. When you follow the process that I'll be teaching you, you'll see that you're opening up a whole new world of ideas and possibilities. So, let's get started!



The 5 W's



Get to know your reader.

When an idea strikes for a book, I answer a few critical questions about my book as I develop the story. I call them the 5 W's – Who, What, When, Where, and Why.

- Who is the ideal reader for this book? What are their interests, their struggles, their dreams?
- What do they want/need/desire from reading this book?
- Why do they want it?
- When do they want it, and when do they need it most? (i.e., a significant life event or transition, seeking transformation, needing an escape...
- Where do they want... where are they most going to need it... Business, home, relationships, personal...

Developing a connection with your reader is crucial to becoming an effective storyteller. Writing is not just about expressing oneself; it's also about ensuring that the reader understands and can relate to the story. As a public speaker or someone who works with clients, it's important to know how your audience perceives information. This doesn't mean that you have to compromise your style of writing, but understanding your audience and their interests will help you convey the story in a more effective way.



It's always a story



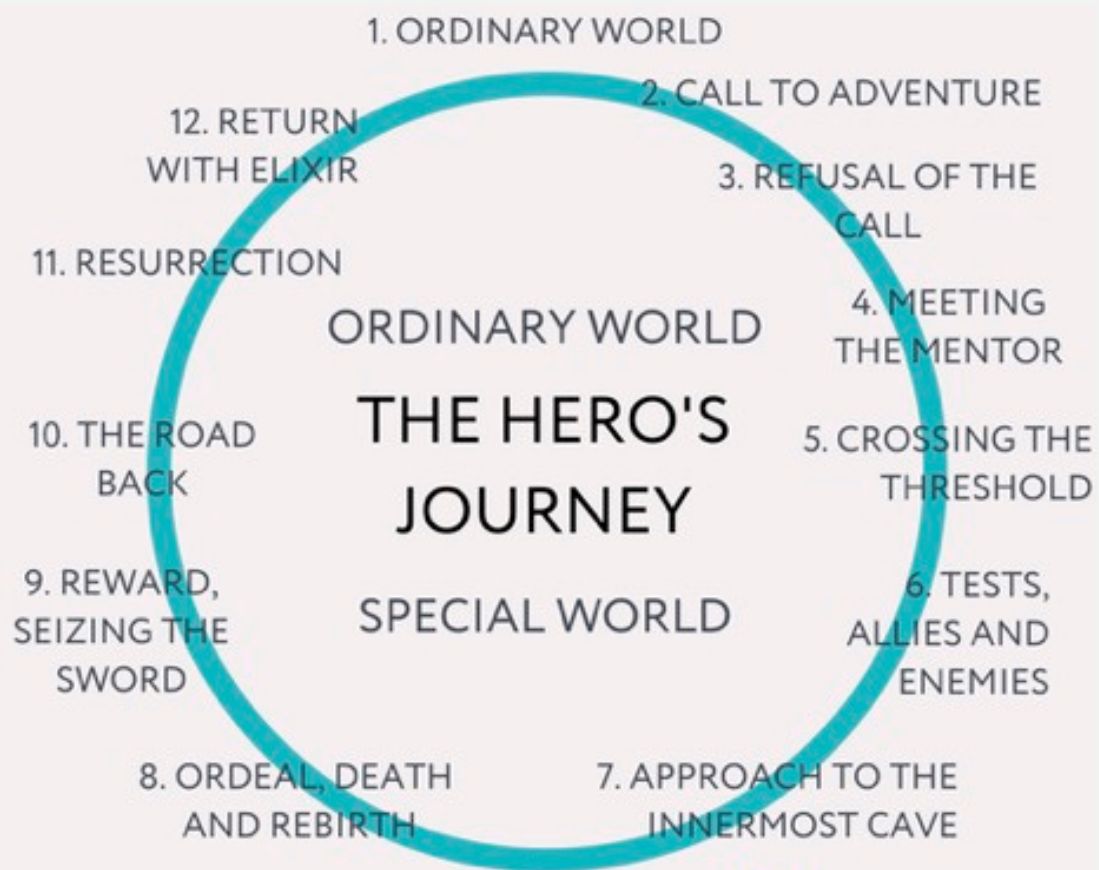
The rules apply to both Fiction and Non-Fiction

Regardless of whether you're writing a fictional or non-fictional book or even marketing copy, these tools apply to all. The truth is, that readers are not interested in having a guru dictate to them how to fix themselves, but rather, they want to feel connected, relatable, and authentic. They want to feel safe and vulnerable while reading your work. Therefore, as you write your non-fictional book, it is crucial to create a container for them to receive what you want to share with them. Using anecdotes or telling your own story is an excellent way to weave them into your book to help your readers stay engaged.



The Hero's Journey

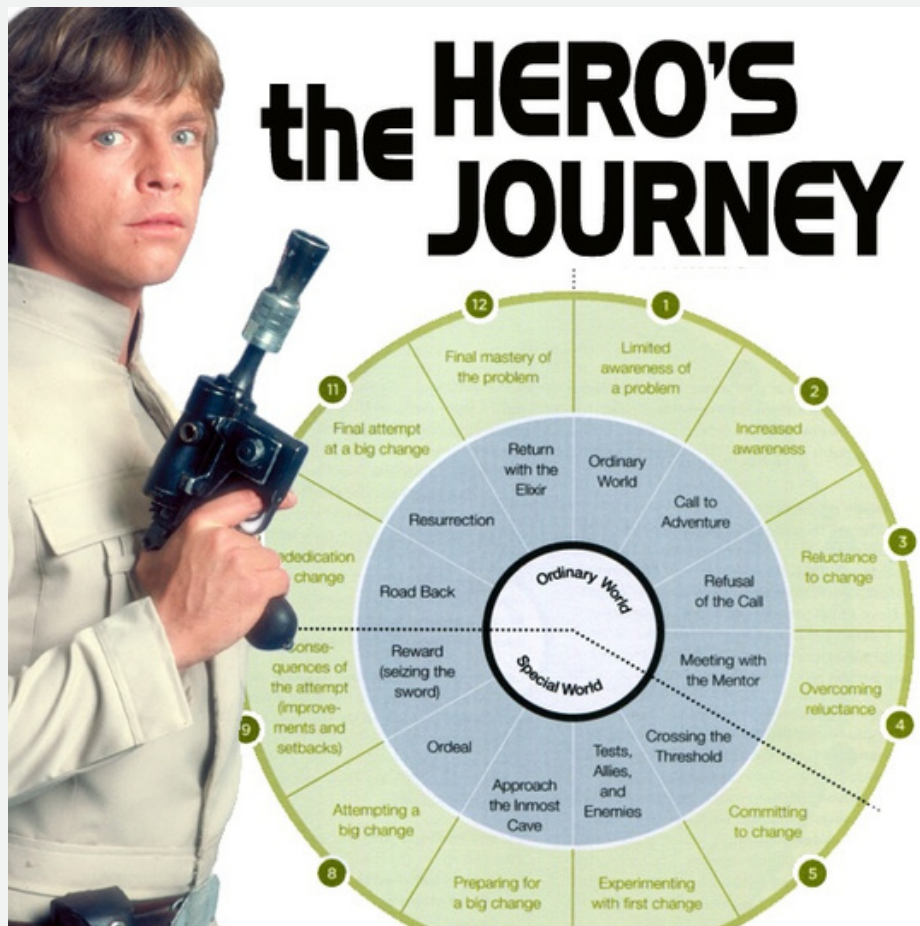




The Hero's Journey is a popular method used to structure life stories. It was first introduced by Joseph Campbell in his book, "The Hero With A Thousand Faces," and then adapted by Hollywood executive Christopher Vogler. The journey consists of 12 stages.

The ordinary world introduces the hero, closely followed by the call to adventure – a challenge or problem. The hero, probably scared of dangers ahead, is reluctant to accept the adventure in the refusal of the call. Meeting a mentor gives the hero confidence to cross the threshold, committing wholeheartedly to the adventure of the special world.

The hero faces tests, allies, and enemies as they draw closer to the “elixir” in the approach to the innermost cave. The ordeal sees the hero pushed to their limits in pursuit of reward, before the road back. Consequently, in the resurrection, the now-changed hero returns with the elixir, commonly knowledge, back to the ordinary world.



Star Wars, directed by George Lucas, is a great example of the Hero's Journey structure. In the beginning, Luke Skywalker lives on a moisture farm on Tatooine. R2:D2 gives Luke a message from Princess Leia, who asks Obi-Wan Kenobi to help her in her call to adventure. Obi-Wan offers to train Luke to become a Jedi, and gives him his father's lightsaber. Initially, Luke is reluctant to accept the offer in the refusal to call. However, he eventually agrees to go with Obi-Wan to Alderaan to deliver the plans for the Death Star to Leia's father, thus crossing the first threshold.

Luke, along with his allies Han Solo and Chewbacca, sets out to Alderaan. However, on their way, the Death Star destroys Alderaan, leading to the approach to the innermost cave. They manage to invade the Death Star and rescue Princess Leia, but Darth Vader kills Obi-Wan Kenobi in the ordeal. Nevertheless, Luke joins the Rebels to destroy the Death Star, refusing Han Solo's offer to leave. In the road back, he chooses to help overcome the Galactic Empire.

In the resurrection, Luke remembers Obi-Wan's advice and uses the Force to destroy the Death Star, winning a medal and finally taking his first steps towards becoming a Jedi in the return with the elixir.



The 3 Act Structure



BASIC THREE ACTS



Aristotle said that the perfect story structure is a three-act affair

The Basic Three Act structure is a way to divide a narrative into three parts: the setup, confrontation, and resolution. It's an easy way to structure your life story.

The setup introduces the characters, their relationships, and the environment they live in. Additionally, it presents a strong hook, which is an exciting incident that provokes a change in the protagonist's routine.

The second act, the confrontation, is the main part of the story. The stakes are raised throughout the act, until a major twist, usually a moment of crisis, initiates the start of act three, the resolution.

The resolution presents the final showdown and draws together and explains all the different strands of the plot.

If your timeline can be divided into three clear sections along the lines of these themes, then this could be the structure for you. Often, a "Three Act" book will be written chronologically, but it doesn't have to be.

A great example of the Basic Three Act structure is *The Titanic* by James Cameron. The setup introduces Rose, an unhappy woman engaged to a man she detests. Jack rescues her, following her attempt to commit suicide. The confrontation sees the stakes raised when Rose's fiancé begins to suspect their affair. In a moment of crisis, the famously unsinkable ship hits an iceberg. The resolution follows Rose and Jack as they try to escape the sinking Titanic, ultimately ending in Jack's death and Rose's survival. Rose recounts the series of events as an old woman as the story ends.

Act One: The Setup

Some people refer to the moment when the story is set in motion as the 'inciting incident'.

Act Two: The Conflict

Where your characters start going through big changes (the pros call it character arc) as a result of what's happening.

Act Three: The Climax

The resolution is where our characters face the central problem, the story starts to make sense, and we tie up any loose ends (also known as the 'denouement'). According to Aristotle, it's important that all the events in the story are interconnected and that the plot elicits an emotional response from the audience. We agree with Aristotle on this point.

Act 1: The Setup

The first act sets the stage at the beginning of the story. It introduces the main character, their life and their challenges. This act is important as it shows what the character cares about and what they want to achieve. It also needs a catalyst or an 'inciting incident' to start the protagonist on a journey of character development and achieve their goals.

In the movie, Rocky is a working-class guy living in Philadelphia, working as a meat packer and loan shark collector. In his free time, he fights in sleazy clubs. We see how much he cares about Adrian, a woman he starts dating, and how much he wants to make boxing his career.

The hero's journey starts when Rocky gets the chance to fight the world boxing champ, Apollo Creed. This fight is an opportunity for Rocky to prove himself, to show that he can compete with the best and fight for his self-respect, and naturally, Adrian's love.

Act 2: The Conflict

Adrian moves in with Rocky and their love continues to grow. Rocky enlists the help of Mickey, a trainer who previously didn't believe in him, to prepare for his upcoming match. In a world-renowned training montage, we see Rocky crushing his fitness schedule, culminating in him running up the same set of steps that he couldn't manage at the beginning of his training. This plot point is guaranteed to make you shed a tear or punch the air in celebration. Despite the challenges, there is some good news for Rocky and his loved ones.

Act 3: The Climax

In the third act of a story, the narrative arc reaches its climax, and we witness the final showdown between the protagonist and the antagonist. This is usually the point where we see the true strength of the antagonist, which can surprise the protagonist and the viewers. While the audience may assume that the main character will triumph, it's more thrilling to keep them in suspense for as long as possible.

In the movie Rocky, the protagonist finally faces off against Apollo Creed in the ring. Despite enduring a brutal onslaught of punches, Rocky displays enough grit to stay in the fight and even trades blows with Creed. Although Rocky doesn't win the match, he manages to go all 15 rounds with Creed, a feat that no one had ever accomplished before. This unexpected outcome is a testament to the strength of Stallone's creative writing.

As for Rocky's romantic interest, Adrian, the story's denouement stage will wrap up all the loose ends. As the final bell rings and the cameras surround Rocky, he can only utter one word through his battered and bloodied face: "Adrian!" And thus, the greatest story of all time comes to an end.



How to outline your book.



The Hero's Journey

Before diving into a detailed beat sheet, utilize the table below to outline the main events of your book in alignment with the hero's journey. Keep these as straightforward bullet points. Keep in mind that each stage of the hero's journey may span multiple chapters, as you will discover when you elaborate on the beat sheet later on.

WRITING YOUR OWN HERO'S JOURNEY

1 The Ordinary World	2 The Call of Adventure
3 Refusal of the Call	4 Meeting the Mentor
5 Crossing the First Threshold	6 Tests, Allies, and Enemies
7 Approach to the Inmost Cave	8 The Ordeal
9 Reward (Seizing the Sword)	10 The Road Back
11 Resurrection	12 Return with the Elixir

The Beat Sheet

When crafting a story, having a plan is crucial. Without a proper structure, it's easy to get lost in a maze of subplots and characters with no clear direction. Fortunately, there's a simple solution called a beat sheet. This helpful tool aids you in identifying story beats and guides you through the writing process. A beat sheet is an essential tool for screenwriting, novel writing or filmmaking, helping you craft a compelling narrative. By breaking down your story to its most crucial elements, a beat sheet ensures that you cover all the critical emotional and plot points. It's like a narrative map that keeps your story on track, helping you navigate through the complexities of theme, character development, and dramatic tension with ease.

What is a beat sheet?

A beat sheet is a simple document that outlines the entire story, starting from the first act to the final image. It lists out the key plot points and important frames, making the writing process much easier. It is a valuable tool used by Hollywood's finest screenwriters.

Unlike other outlining techniques like film treatments, beat sheets break down the story into bullet points. These bullet points represent the crucial moments in the screenplay, and the goal of the beat sheet is to collect all the beats in one document and organize them in a way that serves as a guide as you structure and write your storyline.

Different screenwriters have varying opinions on the number and type of beats to include in a beat sheet, but most agree that around 15 major beats spread across your story acts (as popularized by the Blake Snyder beat sheet) can produce excellent results.

Navigating the narrative waters with a beat sheet in hand, you can ensure your tale doesn't lose its course. It allows you to see the forest for the trees, to step back from the intricate web of your story and view the larger shape it's forming. This bird's-eye view is invaluable, not only for maintaining pacing but also for weaving in themes and ensuring character arcs are fully realized. The beat sheet, then, becomes a living document, a reflection of the story's soul, evolving with each draft as your screenplay or novel moves closer to its final form.

Why is a beat sheet important?

When you create a beat sheet for your story, you dive deep into the world you have created and start to understand it intimately. The beat sheet also helps you to get to know the story arcs of your protagonist and other main characters, making them fully realized and complex individuals.

Creating a beat sheet can help you identify potential plot holes or inconsistencies before they become part of your final draft. It also enables you to strategically place emotional highs and lows throughout the story, ensuring that the story's rhythm captivates the audience's attention. With each beat, you can fine-tune the narrative, adjusting the tension and stakes to serve the story's dramatic needs.

By providing a detailed plan, the beat sheet makes the complex process of writing more manageable and focused. It is an indispensable tool for storytelling, turning the abstract idea of a story into a concrete universe that can be shaped and refined to create a compelling narrative.

BEAT SHEET OUTLINE

Beat 1.

Your opening image should aim to evoke an immediate emotional response that aligns with the protagonist's journey. It is about presenting a problem and eliciting a feeling, a mood that will stay with the audience and make them read as the story unfolds. This beat should introduce the world of the narrative seamlessly, hinting at the larger backdrop against which the story will play out and foreshadowing the personal growth that the character will undergo.

Beat 2. Set-up

"Where and when does your story take place? What is the culture like? What are the people like? Is it set in the past, present, or future, and is it the same reality as we know it or a different one? These early details are significant because they establish the protagonist's 'normal world,' setting a baseline for the extraordinary events that will soon shake up their life. It is essential to fill the opening pages with specific and evocative details that describe not only the physical surroundings but the societal and emotional landscapes too.

In the set-up, it is vital to plant the seeds of change subtly. These can be small details or interactions hinting at the internal and external conflicts driving the story forward. The supporting cast of secondary characters should also be introduced, including friends, family, mentors, and antagonists. Each character will play a crucial role in the protagonist's journey, providing depth and stakes as the narrative progresses. Remember that every element introduced in this section should be intentional, serving the story and hinting at the transformation that is to come.

Beat 3. Theme stated

While laying the groundwork, you need to explain your story (usually during the set-up). This is often spoken to the main character, or at least in their presence. However, they might not understand this message or truth until they have the experience and context to support it. This theme must be woven organically into the story, providing a lens through which the audience will view the character's actions and decisions. In this beat, it's crucial to give your audience the main character's name, a bit of their story, and set out any defining character traits they have.

Beat 4. Catalyst / inciting incident

The inciting incident is a crucial moment in a story where the main character is faced with a situation that changes their life forever. It could be anything from discovering that their spouse is cheating on them to meeting someone who alters their perspective on life. This beat comes after the setup and acts as a catalyst that sets the plot in motion. It disrupts the protagonist's routine and challenges their initial desires or needs. It also piques the audience's curiosity and draws them into the story. The catalyst marks the end of the old world and the start of a new journey for the protagonist.

Beat 5. Debate

Once the inciting incident takes place, it becomes evident that things cannot remain the same. However, change can be intimidating, and the main character is likely to question the journey ahead. Do they have the courage to undertake the hero's journey? Is it something they are capable of doing?

This is a great opportunity to establish both the internal and external conflicts that your character faces. What is holding them back from taking on the journey? What attitudes or experiences will help or hinder them in moving forward, and how will these impact their choices?

Within the structure of a beat sheet, this is where you ramp up the tension by questioning the way forward and diving deep into the character's psyche. This is where you flesh out the stakes and lay the emotional groundwork for the transformation that the journey promises. As the reader teeters on the edge of commitment with the protagonist, this beat ensures that they're invested in the character's decision-making process. It tests the protagonist's resolve and, in doing so, invites the audience to reflect on their own reactions to such crossroads.

Beat 6. Break into two

This is the point in your book where the story starts to heat up, as your main character makes a decision and begins their journey. It's crucial to explain why your protagonist is making this choice.

Are they searching for something?

Do they want to save something or someone, or just themselves?

Are they hoping to change the world, or just their own life?

Is their motivation coming from within, or is it external?

Writing down answers to these questions on your beat sheet will be incredibly helpful as you continue with the screenwriting process.

This moment is where you distinctly mark the beginning of a transition - it's not just a physical shift in action, but an emotional commitment as well. The protagonist's decision should be a direct response to the inciting incident and the debate that followed, providing a clear motivation for their actions that will drive the rest of the book. On your beat sheet, this beat serves as a pivot point for the narrative, a bridge between the old world and the new challenges and experiences that will transform your main character.

Beat 7. B story / subplot

When crafting a story, it's essential to have a theme that ties everything together. If your story features a love interest, the protagonist usually discusses the theme with them. This is why the subplot is often referred to as the love story.

The B story adds depth to the main plot by offering an alternative perspective on the theme. It explores secondary relationships and subplots that ultimately tie back into the main storyline. By mirroring or contradicting the protagonist's journey, the B story enhances the overall narrative.

The B story is where these threads start to intertwine, creating a richer tapestry for your book and deeper engagement for your audience. It also ensures that the book feels layered and complex. Carefully plotting this beat on your beat sheet interlaces the subplot with the main storyline, enriching it without derailing it.

Some writers worry about their B story overshadowing their main story, but this won't happen as long as the main plot is strong. Instead, the B story should complement the main plot and weave together at the end.

The B story also marks the protagonist's entry into the second act of your book.

Beat 8. Promise of the premise / fun and games

In storytelling, the "promise of the premise" refers to the exciting and entertaining moments that occur in between important plot points. These moments often include action sequences, comedic scenes, dramatic events, and other elements that would look great in a movie trailer.

"Beat 8" is a crucial part of the story where the central premise that was promised earlier in the setup and logline must be delivered. This is the moment where the audience gets to experience the full potential of the story's concept. It's a time when the protagonist's reactions to the challenges of their new world are on full display. Whether through thrilling chase scenes, budding romance, or heart-wrenching drama, these moments are often the most memorable for audiences.

As the protagonist becomes more involved in their new world, they may experience some victories and gain confidence. However, this will likely be short-lived, as challenges and obstacles will soon arise.

Beat 9. Midpoint

As you approach the midpoint of your book, your main character will either experience a great triumph or endure a devastating defeat. In some stories, the protagonist will attain everything they desire, but it is often a false victory as greater challenges lie ahead. In other stories, they will hit rock bottom, where a glimmer of hope or a crucial discovery is introduced to rejuvenate their willpower. This is a critical point in your book, where the stakes are raised higher than before and the transformation arc of your main character is evaluated. It is a moment that either ups the ante or provides a new direction or deeper motivation, setting the tone for the second half of the book.

Naturally, this situation creates a turning point in your main character's life. It is a now-or-never moment where their best and worst traits are revealed, and we learn how they'll deal with the consequences of their actions.

Beat 10. Bad guys close in

When it comes to storytelling, the "second act" can be the most challenging part. It involves creating conflict and making sure that the story stays interesting. This is where the main character faces significant obstacles and experiences doubt about their ability to achieve their goals. As the writer, you need to document the protagonist's reaction to these challenges and set the stage for the final push towards the story's climax. The obstacles they face during this section of the story will often lead to a moment of crisis, which highlights the importance of carefully planning this part of your story. When the antagonists start gaining the upper hand, the hero's journey becomes even more difficult.

Beat 11. All is lost

This particular moment is crucial in any story. It is called the "dark night of the soul" and is where the protagonist, and by extension the audience, feels the full weight of the narrative's lowest point. At this point, the protagonist has lost something they had gained, or they realize that something they had still has no meaning. It is when the stakes are personal and the defeat seemingly absolute. This moment is pivotal in the sheet as it sets up the emotional payoff that will come with the eventual resurgence. It underscores the magnitude of the protagonist's journey and shapes the narrative arc toward its climax. This is where the writer must ensure that the protagonist feels the full weight of the narrative's lowest point before beginning the ascent towards resolution. The sense of loss must be palpable and the defeat seemingly absolute to provide the necessary contrast for the upcoming turnaround. This is an exercise in tension and an essential component of a compelling beat sheet. Although it may seem like a false defeat, it is important that the character remains in this loss for this beat. This physical or emotional death opens up a space for something new to come to life.

Beat 12. Dark night of the soul)

Sometimes things have to fall apart before they can be put back together. That's exactly what happens for your protagonist at this point in your book.

As everything crumbles around them, your main character hits rock bottom and mourns what they've lost, whether it's a dream, goal, mentor, lover, or something else.

Beat 13. Break into three

With the help of a fresh idea, new discovery, or timely advice from the B story, usually the love story, the main character regains their confidence and decides to try achieving their goal once again. As a result of this new surge of energy, the protagonist becomes more concerned with the greater good. Beat 13 represents a synthesis of the character's journey, where the lessons learned from both the A and B stories are integrated, giving the protagonist the insight they need to move forward. This beat is where the internal transformation takes place, and the protagonist, now armed with new wisdom, recommits to their goal with a clearer understanding of what's at stake. It's crucial to the beat sheet that this moment feels well earned, as a direct result of the protagonist's experiences and the relationships they've built or tested throughout the story.

Beat 14. Finale

This moment often marks the culmination of the character's journey, where the internal and external conflicts intersect and find resolution, providing a satisfying ending to the narrative threads that have been woven throughout the story.

This is also the point when your audience and main character both realize the moral of your story. As a screenwriter, your job is to ensure that there's a lesson for everyone, and that it's clear and meaningful.

Beat 15. Final image

The final image in your book should be the opposite of the opening image. This image should visually represent the change that has happened within your main character throughout the story. Since it's the last image, it's important to consider what message you want the audience to take away and how you want to complete your character's journey. It should be memorable, encapsulating not only the end of your character's arc but also the emotional impact of the story's theme.



Character Development



Character Arcs –

Even if you are writing a memoir – YOU are the character!

If you are writing a Non-Fiction book- YOUR READER is the character!

A compelling character arc is a journey that a character goes through in a story. It involves facing fears and overcoming challenges, which ultimately leads to personal growth. When you think about your favorite stories and characters from literature and film, you may notice that they all have a well-crafted character arc. Constructing a strong character arc can turn a good character into a great one and improve your writing significantly.

What Is a Character Arc?

A character arc refers to the journey a character undergoes throughout the course of a story. This journey involves facing adversity and challenges, experiencing changes and growth, and ultimately finding resolution. The character arc usually follows the traditional three-act story structure. For most protagonist character arcs, the journey begins with an inciting incident that sets up the stakes and central conflict for the character. The way the arc progresses depends on the type of story being told and the character's role within it.

How to Write a Captivating Character Arc:

Understanding how character arc works and the broad categories that most character arcs fall into is essential to charting out your own character arcs. Whether you are writing a good character who will undergo a negative character arc or vice versa, there are some tips to consider as you plan out your character's arc and flesh out your character development.

Genre often informs the way that your character arcs will unfold. If you are writing a tragedy, your protagonist will most likely undergo a negative arc, ending the story at a much lower point than where they began. Conversely, if you are writing an inspirational story, you will probably have a character change for the better and follow a positive character arc.

Some characters have more elaborate character arcs than others. A good story generally has a strong set of well-fleshed-out characters in addition to the protagonist. Knowing what role characters play in your story will help inform what character needs they have and what shape their arc will take. For instance, if your story has a clear-cut protagonist and an antagonist, they will most likely have opposite character arcs.

It is important to have a strong outline with a clear first act, second act, and third act before you start mapping out character arcs. Characters change alongside your larger narrative. Knowing where an important plot point or turning point might be will help you map out a corresponding character arc.

4 Types of Character Arcs With Examples

In literature and films, there are several archetypal character arcs. The majority of these arcs are change arcs where we witness a character's transformation over the course of the story, either in a positive or negative direction. A less common form of arc is the flat arc, where a character remains unchanged throughout the story. Here are some descriptions of various types of character arcs along with examples of characters who embody them.

1. Transformational arc: A transformational arc is a character arc in which the protagonist undergoes a significant change from an ordinary person to a hero throughout the story. This type of character development is commonly seen in epic tales and the classic hero's journey narrative structure. For instance, Harry Potter, the protagonist in the Harry Potter series, starts as an orphaned young boy living with his cruel Aunt and Uncle, who treat him like a servant. As the story progresses, we witness Harry summoning his inner strength and ultimately becoming the savior of the wizarding world.

2. Positive change arc: A positive change arc is similar to a transformational arc, but not as dramatic. It requires a character to experience positive change throughout the story. At the beginning of the story, characters often have negative outlooks or traits that evolve into a positive worldview by the end. For example, in "A Christmas Carol," Ebenezer Scrooge begins as a wealthy old miser obsessed with greed. However, as the story progresses, he undergoes a significant transformation and becomes a benevolent and charitable person.

3. Negative change arc: A negative change arc refers to a character's transformation from being good or virtuous to becoming evil or experiencing misfortune throughout a story. For instance, in the movie "The Godfather", Michael Corleone is initially portrayed as a clean army veteran with a good reputation, despite being part of a New York organized crime family. However, by the end of the story, Michael's character arc has descended into negativity, and he has become the head of the crime family, driven by a ruthless desire to maintain control and power. In the TV series "Breaking Bad", Walter White starts as a struggling public school chemistry teacher, desperate to provide for his family. But as the series progresses, Walter's character arc takes a negative turn, and he compromises his morals to become a successful drug kingpin, ultimately leading to the destruction of his family and his own happiness.

4. Flat or static character arc: A flat arc is a rare form of character arc that is commonly seen in action and thriller stories. For instance, Indiana Jones is an emotionally stoic and highly capable adventurer who maintains his demeanor regardless of the danger he faces. In action-adventure screenwriting, it is common to create flat protagonists who remain calm and cool under pressure.

If there was ever a time when the world needed to hear your story, it is now. It may seem daunting to follow all the rules of storytelling and story structure, but you already know them instinctively. Now, with this information you can put that wisdom to great use.

I offer private consultations, and packages to support you in writing your book.

Get in touch with me at betsy@betsychasse.net

