



# STORY CIRCLE

## WORKBOOK

# Unique Descriptive Title

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## 1. "YOU" \_\_\_\_\_

*This is the undisturbed status quo of the protagonist. This leads to the "Point of Attack."*

E.g. In *The Dark Knight*, Bruce Wayne dresses up in a special suit, calls himself Batman, and brings the pain to Gotham's bad guys.

## 2. "NEED" \_\_\_\_\_

*This is the "Creation of the story." This leads to "Defining The Main Tension"*

E.g. Bruce Wayne is getting a little old for this... He's eyeing retiring "Batman" so he can be with the **love of his life**, Rachel. But who will protect Gotham? Maybe... Harvey Dent?

## 3. "GO"

*Elaborate on why accomplishing the goal will be difficult.*

E.g. To put his plan in motion, Batman **must help Harvey Dent** by bringing the criminal, Lao, to justice.

## 4. "SEARCH"

*First attempt to resolve the main tension, the road of trials. This leads to the midpoint, "FIND." This refines the main tension, narrows its scope, and makes it more specific.*

E.g. Just when Bruce thinks he can celebrate his retirement, The Joker takes the stage and unleashes a new wave of crime upon Gotham.

## 5. "FIND"

*This is when your protagonist finds what they think they need, but it doesn't work out quite the way they expected. Your protagonist must pay a devastating price for attaining what they sought.*

*E.g. This is when the protagonist FINDS what they were looking for. Bruce finds how to stop the Joker and save Gotham: unmask himself. But Harvey does it first...*

## 6. "TAKE"

*Full frontal assault on main tension. This leads to the main tension being resolved "yes or no" ... For now...*

*E.g. Batman finally TAKES the Joker in, and has him in his clutches, but the Joker springs a trap. It costs Rachel her life, and Bruce his future.*

## 7. "RETURN"

*False resolution or exposition sequence. This leads to the twist! We've been set-up to expect one thing, then it turns around.*

*E.g. The protagonist returns, but **changed**. For Bruce, the need to retire Batman was lost with Rachel. Now he must **protect Gotham**. The Joker has turned Harvey, making Batman's final task that much more painful.*

## 8. "CHANGE"

*Ultimate resolution (what happens after this character has gone through these circumstances and made these decisions.*

*E.g. The change is put to the test. Batman defeats the Joker, but the matter of Two-Face remains. Batman breaks his one rule when he kills Two-Face. To preserve Harvey's legacy, he takes the blame for Two-Face's killing spree. He commits to protecting Gotham while being hunted and reviled. In doing so, he CHANGES into... **The Dark Knight**.*