

Side Character Mood Board

It's finally time to write your side characters!
The true meat and bones of any good story are captivating side characters that support the main character along their journey while also having their own storylines woven into the plot. Today we'll be learning how to make your side character meaningful!

Personally, my favorite characters of all time have always been **SIDE CHARACTERS**. However, with that said, side characters are ten times harder to write than the main character. *Why?* Because you want the audience to love your side characters just as much as they love the main character, but since they are still a side character, they get less time than the main character to really pull the audience in. Thus, the writer must balance creating a dynamic three-dimensional character and ensuring the side character supports the main character and

doesn't overshadow them. A great example of this is in Teen Wolf, where the main character is Scott McCall, but the side character is Stiles Stilinski. Both characters are extremely dynamic and feel like the story's main characters; however, Stiles is always there to support Scott within the plot, thus creating a good balance between the characters.

Just like any good main character, there are 8 parts to building a side character:

1. **The Basics**
2. **Zodiac** (optional but so much fun!)
3. **Physical Description**
4. **Relationships**
5. **Background**
6. **External Characteristics**
7. **Internal Characteristics**
8. **Back Story.**

(Copy and paste the list down below into a document so you can start building your side character!)

The Basics:

- Character name:
- Role in story:

- Age:

Zodiac:

- Zodiac:

- Zodiac Traits:

Physical description:

- Age:

- Height:

- Hair:

- Skin:

- Physique:

- Facial features:

- Scars:

- Clothing:

- Distinguishing features:

- Habits:

- Mannerisms:

- Voice:

- Fragrance:

Relationships:

- Best friend:

- Other friends:

- Family:

- Enemies:
- Mom:
- Dad:
- Siblings:

Background:

- Ethnicity:
- Education:
- Religion:
- Occupation:
- Sexuality:
- Residence:

External Characteristics:

- Why is it important for this character to be a part of the main character's journey?
- Top three things they value most in life?

Internal Characteristics:

- What is their greatest fear/misbelief about the world?
(Essentially, what looming dark cloud over their life consistently keeps them from obtaining their goal?)

Backstory:

- What happened in their past to create their greatest fear/misbelief about the world?

· One paragraph description of their backstory: