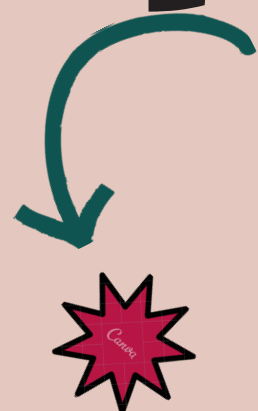




TWISTING THE SUSPENSE FORMULA



Land Of Creativities



WHAT IS SUSPENSE?



The cruel, but absurdly full-filling art of making the reader suspenseful.

WHY IS SUSPENSE ESSENTIAL?

Suspense can also be hinting at so many cool and mysterious things, that readers become so desperate to find out what happens next that they literally can call at the author's house and offer some money.

- Because editors and readers are not patient.
- Readers want to be drawn to the story right away because they are very impulsive. This is why building immediate suspense serves the authors well.





THE HOOK

First sentence, first paragraph, first page, first chapter.

To hook a reader, the author must provide tantalizing bait early and often.



7 METHOD TECHNIQUE





1. MYSTERY



Provide the reader with something that is unknown. Constantly tickle their creative traits and curiosity. Make the reader start raising questions.

2. INTENSE EMOTION.



Again to make them question. Why are readers feeling this way? Using facial expressions, use nature/setting to set the atmosphere or mood of the narrative. Make the reader question the mood. Going back to facial expressions, you have to suddenly change their expressions to make the reader bewildered. The whole narration should only make one thing accompany the reader's mind: why; creating an intense emotion in the character itself.

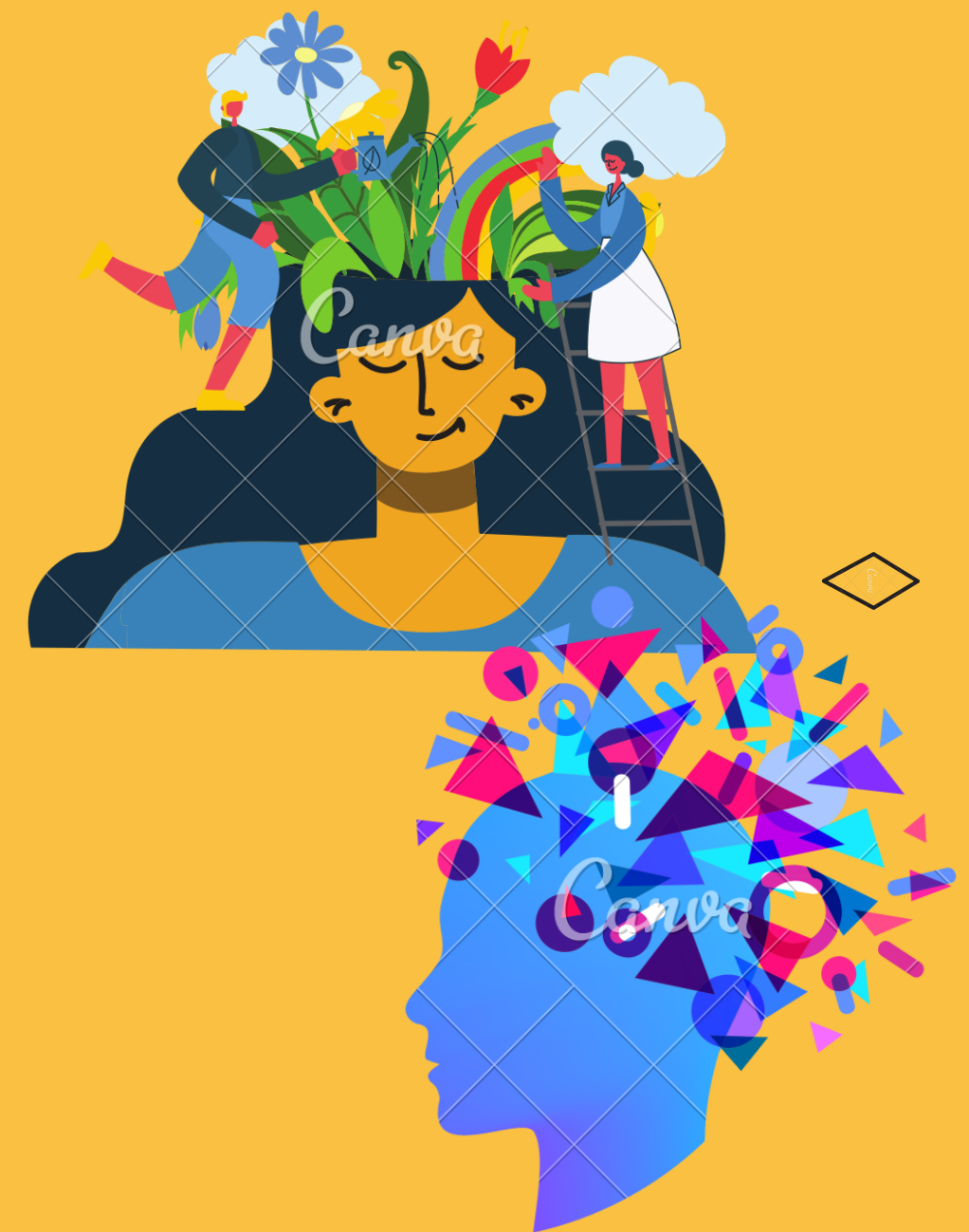




3. PERIL



You have to put the characters in danger; making the readers fearfully hope that the characters get out of the apocalypse or danger. This is when the cliffhanger is of use. It grabs the reader's attention and sends panic emotions into themselves as they put themselves in the character's shoes.





4. FRUSTRATION

Your main character should have goals. To create suspense, set the reader up to think that the character will attain one of these goals. But don't let it happen ever.





5. THE TRAIL OF BREADCRUMBS.

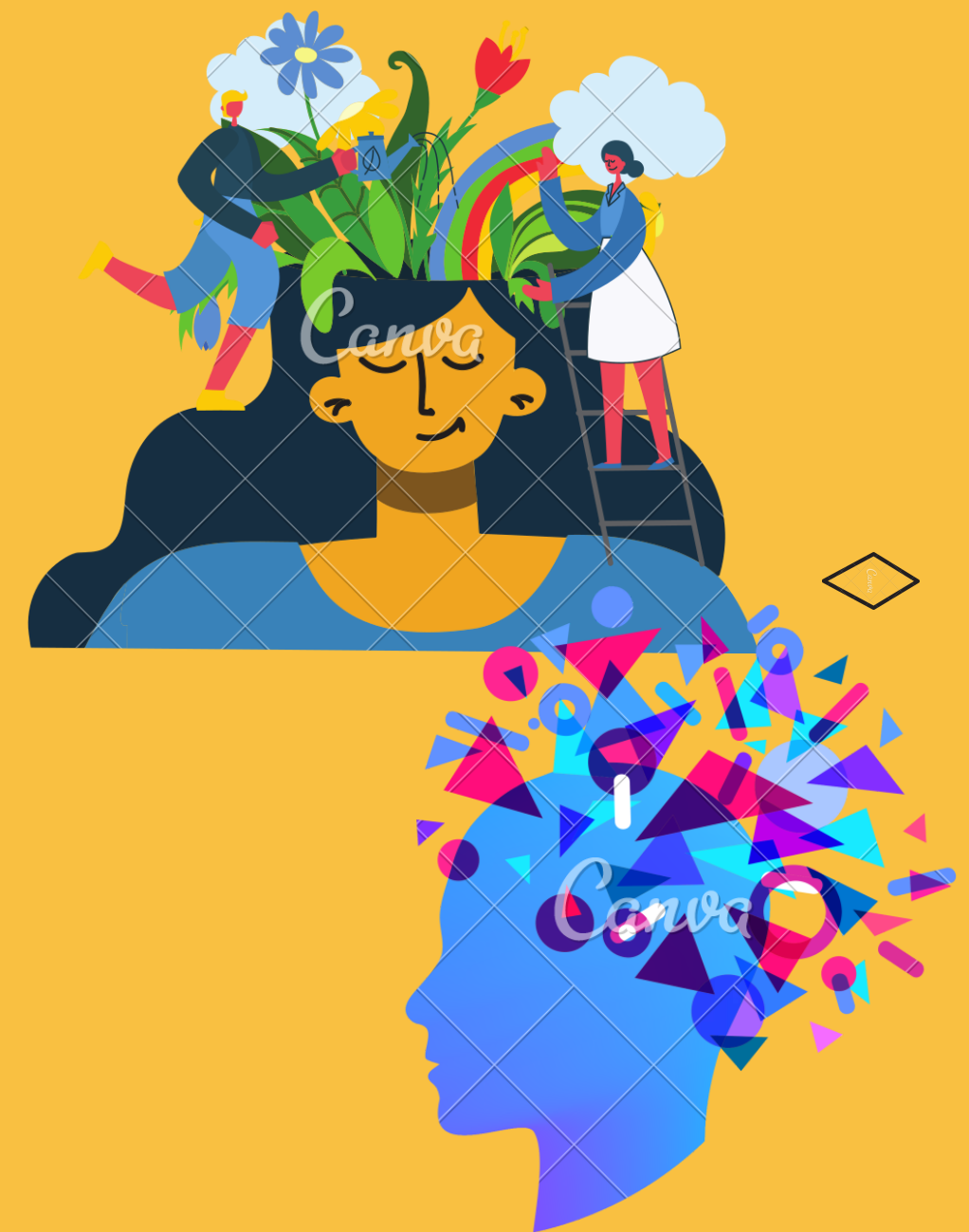
Just like the Hansel and Gretel story, the author should leave clues or 'crumbs' for the readers to collect or interpret.





6. MOOD AND ATMOSPHERE

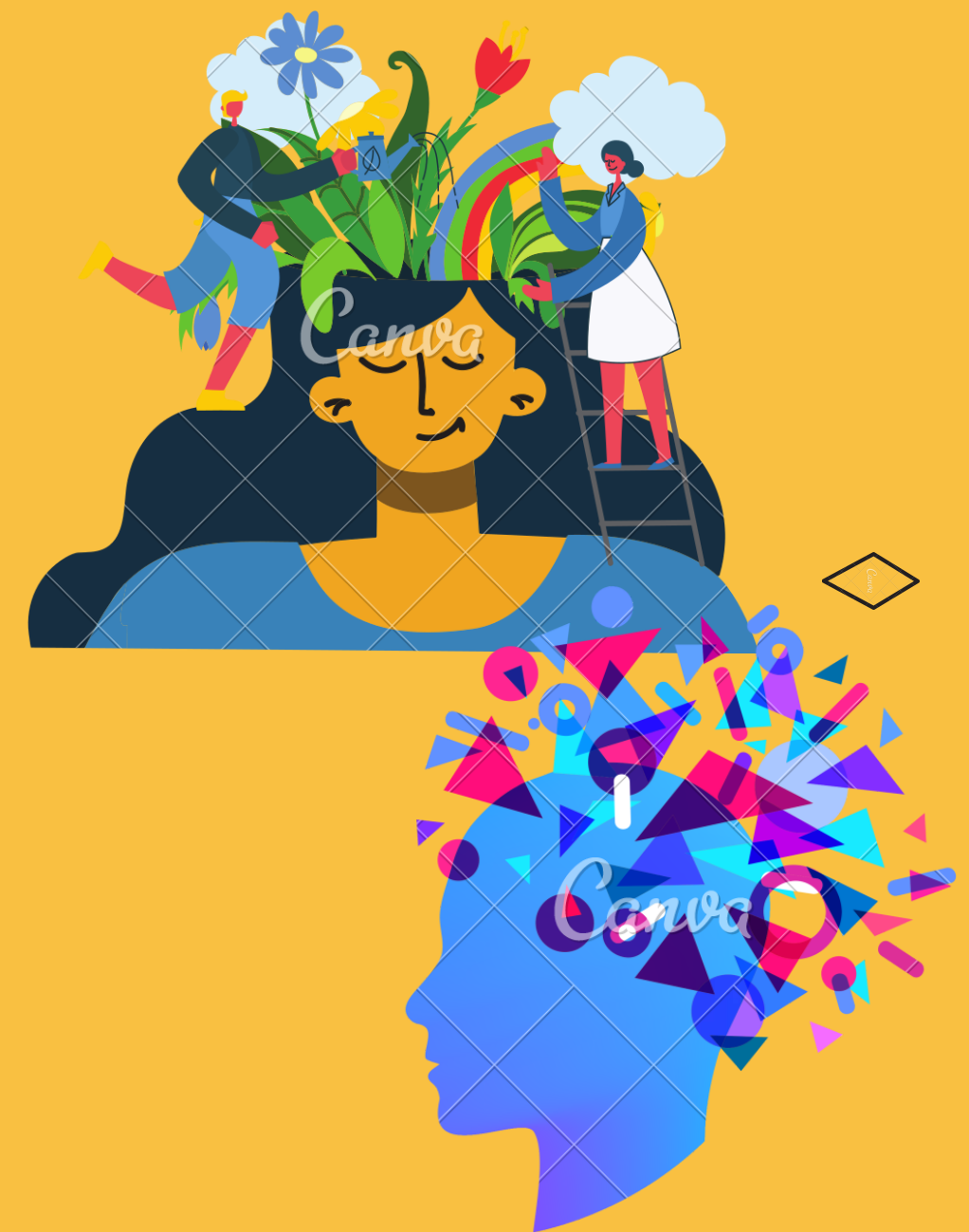
Use descriptive details to make your reader feel something as you are writing. You show them, not tell.





7. WHAT IF?

Take the most ordinary task of life, and put the most bizarre twist you can ever think on it. Then ask, what if? For instance, what if while you were raking the leaves of your garden and a tiny dragon escapes from the ground. If you open your locker, and you suddenly find a skeletal arm? What if while you were taking the trash out, a dark figure ran into the house. What if while you were washing the dishes a tentacle reached and grabbed your arm.





THREE STEP WRITING PROCESS



Literary Techniques for Suspense Writing

- **ADD DRAMATIC IRONY (MAKE THE READER KNOWING SOMETHING THE CHARACTER DOESN'T)**
- **PACE (MAKE THE SERIES OF EVENTS GO FASTER OR SLOWER.**
- **FORESHADOWING (HINT AT SOMETHING IMPORTANT)**
- **FLASHBACKS OR MEMORY MOMENT**
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- **INVOLVE RED HERRINGS (MAKE THE READER SUSPECT SOMETHING JUST TO FIND OUT THEY WERE COMPLETELY WRONG)**
- **MAKE A PUZZLE FOR THE READERS TO GET INVOLVED IN.**
- **ADD HIGH STAKES, GREAT COSTS, AND HEAVY RISKS THAT THE CHARACTER TAKES IN ORDER TO REACH THE ENDING.**

- **INTERCHANGE POINT OF VIEWS.**
- **MAKE THE READER SYMPATHIZE THE CHARACTER.**
- **MAKE THE OUTCOME UNEXPECTED.**
- **NEVER MAKE YOUR WRITING PREDICTABLE. YOU SHOULD NEVER HAVE ANY STORY THAT MAKES THE READER ALREADY KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT.**
- **AVOID STEREOTYPICAL AND CLICHE WRITING.**

 **NOW TRY AND** 
 **PRACTICE!** 