

Character Sketch

As I complete this sketch, ask myself, "Why?" for every point. By the time I finish this, I will know my characters!

Character Name

Age • Location

Role in Story:

-

Goal(s):

-

Address & Phone Number:

-

Date & Place of Birth:

-

Height/Weight/Physical Description:

-

Citizenship/Ethnic Origin:

-

Parents' Names & Occupations:

-

Relationship with Parent(s)

Parents Relationship with Each Other

Other Family Members and Character's Relationship with the Family Member(s):

-

Spouse or Lover(s) and Character's Relationship with Them:

-

Friends' Names & Occupations:

-

Education:

-

Occupation/Employer:

-

Salary:

-

Active in Church? If yes, activities/favorite scripture if they have one:

-

Organizations/Sororities/Fraternities. If yes, which ones:

-

Political Beliefs/Affiliations and Why:

-

Hobbies/Recreations. Do they do solo or group activities? Why?:

-

Ambitions. Have they achieved their ambitions or still striving?:

-

Fears/Anxieties/Hangups – How will this play out in the story? Or do I need it only to understand them better?:

-

Personality:

-

Background:

-

Sense of Humor – What kinds of things make them laugh? When they tell jokes (if they tell jokes) do others find them funny? Are they dry? Boring? Etc.:

-

Most Painful Setback/Disappointment:

-

Most Instructive/Meaningful Experience:

-

Health/Physical Condition/Distinguishing Marks/Disabilities:

-

Prefer Television or Music or Neither? Favorite TV show/Favorite song:

-

Tastes in food, drink, art, music, literature, decor, clothing:

-

Attitude toward Life:

-

Attitude toward Death:

-

Philosophy of Life (in a phrase):

-

Internal Conflicts:

-

External Conflicts:

-

General Questions:

#

Your character invites you to their home for dinner. Write a couple of paragraphs about what this is like. When you walk into their home, what do you see? Color schemes? Collections? Art? Furniture? Style of home? Layout of the home? Who lives there? How long have they lived there? What kind of food do they serve? On paper plates? China? What are they serving to drink? Are you eating indoors or outdoors? Home cooked or take-out? If they cook, is good? What's the conversation like?

Your character comes to pick you up for a "date." (Even same sex character - a girl's/guy's night out.) What are they driving? Where are you going? In the car, do they play music?

Describe your character's social media. Facebook? Instagram? Twitter? Website? For personal or work? What's on the pages? What types of "friends" do they have?