

Worksheets: The Daily Novel

By Joanna Booth

Embarking on the journey of novel-writing is both an exciting and daunting venture. To assist you through this process, I've devised a series of structured worksheets tailored to guide your creativity and maintain consistent progress. They can be an excellent way to provide a structured space for writers to focus their thoughts and jot down their daily quota. Each worksheet is meticulously crafted to cater to specific aspects of storytelling:

1. **Character Exploration:** Dive deep into the psyche of your characters, understanding their desires, fears, and the complexities that make them relatable and memorable.
2. **World Building:** From sprawling cities to quaint villages, these sheets will help you detail the environments that serve as the backdrop to your narrative.
3. **Plot Development:** Navigate the twists and turns of your story, ensuring a gripping plot that keeps readers on the edge of their seats.
4. **Dialogue Focus:** Work on interactions between your characters and see how they help you progress your story.
5. **Thematic Exploration:** Delve into the underlying messages and themes of your story, ensuring a resonating depth beneath the surface plot.
6. **Subplot design:** design a detailed subplot by outlining its title, main characters, starting point, and climax.
7. **Backstory Dive:** Explore how the backstory influences the current events or characters.
8. **Imagery and Descriptive Focus:** Work on the sensory details and symbols that add to the depth of your story.
9. **Emotional Arc:** Work on following the trajectory of your characters' emotional work.
10. **Foreshadowing and Hints:** Foreshadowing needs to be used skilfully to ensure that events aren't completely expected but also don't feel totally random. Keep track of how you use them and when you enter them into the story.
11. **Research and Authenticity:** Keep track of your sources and important details that add authenticity to your tale.
12. **Conflict and Resolution:** Every gripping tale has its challenges. These sheets will guide you in crafting conflicts that challenge your characters and drive the story forward.

Remember, while these worksheets offer a structure, they are flexible tools. Let your creativity flow, use them as a guide, not a constraint. They are here to serve your vision, helping transform fleeting ideas into a cohesive, captivating novel.

Worksheet 1: Character Exploration

Character Name: _____

Physical Traits: (Describe the character's appearance, mannerisms, etc.)

- _____
- _____
- _____

Emotional Traits: (Describe the character's emotional state, behaviour, reactions, etc.)

- _____
- _____
- _____

Backstory: (Jot down key elements from the character's past that influence them.)

220 Words of the Day: (Write about this character, whether it's a scene they're in, a monologue, or any relevant content.)

Worksheet 2: Setting Development

Location Name: _____

Sensory Details: (Describe what one might see, hear, smell, touch, and taste in this setting.)

- _____
- _____
- _____

Significant Landmarks: (Any notable structures or natural features?)

- _____
- _____
- _____

Cultural or Historical Significance: (Is there a history or cultural relevance to this place?)

- _____
- _____
- _____

220 Words of the Day: (Write a scene in this location or describe it in detail.)

Worksheet 3: Plot Development

Scene or Event: _____

Characters Involved:

- _____
- _____
- _____

Conflict or Challenge: (What obstacles or conflicts arise in this scene?)

- _____
- _____
- _____

Resolution or Outcome: (How does the scene resolve, or what are its consequences?)

- _____
- _____
- _____

220 Words of the Day: (Narrate the scene or event.)

Worksheet 4: Dialogue Focus

Speaking Characters:

1. _____
2. _____

Setting or Context: (Where and when does this conversation take place?)

Main Topic or Conflict: (What is the central theme or conflict of the conversation?)

Emotional Tone: (Is it confrontational, friendly, romantic, etc.?)

220 Words of the Day: (Write the dialogue between characters.)

Worksheet 5: Theme Exploration

Central Theme: _____

Symbols or Motifs: (What symbols or recurring images will represent this theme?)

- _____
- _____
- _____

Characters Representing this Theme:

- _____
- _____
- _____

Potential Scenes or Events: (How will this theme manifest in the plot?)

- _____
- _____
- _____

220 Words of the Day: (Write about this theme, whether through a scene, dialogue, or introspective narrative.)

Worksheet 6: Subplot Design

Subplot Title or Description: _____

Main Characters Involved:

- _____
- _____
- _____

Starting Point: (Where does this subplot begin or originate?)

Climax or Turning Point: (What's the most crucial moment in this subplot?)

Resolution: (How does this subplot conclude?)

220 Words of the Day: (Delve into this subplot, developing scenes, characters, or events.)

Worksheet 7: Backstory Dive

Character or Setting: _____

Time Period: (When did these events take place relative to the main story?)

Key Events: (What major events happened in this backstory?)

- _____
- _____
- _____

Impact on the Main Story: (How does this backstory influence the current events or characters?)

220 Words of the Day: (Narrate a moment from this backstory or describe its implications for the main plot.)

Worksheet 8: Imagery and Descriptive Focus

Object or Element to Describe: _____

Sensory Details: (What does it look like, sound like, etc.?)

- Sight: _____
- Sound: _____
- Touch: _____
- Taste: _____
- Smell: _____

Symbolic Meaning: (Does this object or element hold any symbolic significance?)

Relevance to the Plot: (How does it fit into the story?)

220 Words of the Day: (Write a detailed description, or craft a scene where this object or element plays a central role.)

Worksheet 9: Emotional Arc

Character's Name: _____

Starting Emotional State:

Trigger Event: (What event causes a shift in their emotions?)

Progression: (How does their emotional state evolve?)

- Early: _____
- Middle: _____
- Climax: _____

Resolution: (Where does their emotional journey conclude?)

220 Words of the Day: (Describe a moment from this emotional arc, the character's internal reactions, or scenes showcasing their emotions.)

Worksheet 10: Foreshadowing and Hints

Event to be Foreshadowed: _____

Early Hints: (Subtle clues that something will happen)

- _____
- _____

Mid-story Hints:

- _____
- _____

Direct Precursors: (Events directly leading up to the foreshadowed event)

- _____
- _____

220 Words of the Day: (Craft a scene or moment that contains one of these foreshadowing hints.)

Worksheet 11: Research and Authenticity

Topic/Aspect to Research: _____

Key Facts or Details: (Important points to ensure accuracy in your writing)

- _____
- _____
- _____

Relevance to the Story: (Why is this research important to your narrative?)

Sources or References: (If applicable, jot down where you found this information)

220 Words of the Day: (Incorporate the researched details into a scene, dialogue, or description.)

Worksheet 12: Conflict Resolution

Central Conflict: _____

Stakes: (What's at risk for the characters?)

Potential Solutions: (How might characters attempt to solve this conflict?)

- _____
- _____
- _____

Challenges or Roadblocks: (What obstacles prevent an easy resolution?)

- _____
- _____

220 Words of the Day: (Write about an attempt to resolve the conflict, a challenge faced, or the final resolution itself.)

These worksheets focus on refining details, ensuring the story has depth, and that various elements are thoughtfully integrated. As always, they can be adjusted based on the specific needs and structure of the writer's story.

Download more copies of the worksheets on my website:

www.ephemeralboutique.com

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