
Writing the stories around

US...

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Agenda

Helping students reach outside themselves to tell stories...

- Character development (using props to create a character)
- Setting development (finding a place to set our scene)
- The problem (giving our character something to navigate through)
- An ending (finding a solution to the problem!)
- Thoughts of Dog (or cat, or fish)
- Phobia writing (if we have time!)

So the last time we did this...



**Look under your
chair...**



Ernest Hemingway: “When writing...a writer should create living people; people not characters. A character is a caricature.”

Who is this person???

What do they look like?

What do they act like?

What emotions are swirling in their head?

What is their name?

What are their hobbies?

What is their family situation like?

What is their gender?

Do they have a favorite color?

Are they a cat or dog person?

What does their soul crave?

What is their age?

What is their style?

The big questions...

What is something that just happened to them? How do you know?

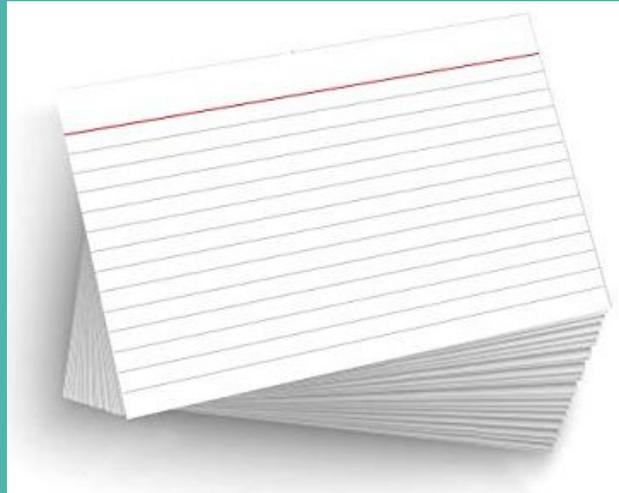
OR

What is something that is about to happen to them? How do you know?

7:42

Give your character a place...

Or, let me help you with a place...



Add a few sentences to
show where your story
is taking place...

The problem is...the problem

No backstory

No solution (not yet)

What is standing in this person's way?

Make it real...no aliens...no lottery winning

Draw from what you know

People you know

Problems you know

Rescue or reality time...

Rescue:

How will you get your person out of their situation WITH A SATISFYING ENDING?



Reality:

How will you get your person out of their situation with "LIFE IS NOT ALWAYS FAIR ending?"



Thoughts of Dog



Thoughts of Dog ✓

@dog_feelings

2020 calendar and planner below 🍷

[thoughtsofdog.com](https://www.thoughtsofdog.com) 📅 Joined March 2017

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Sample Tweets



Thoughts of Dog  @dog_feelings · Oct 31 

the tiny monsters are on their way. and my job. is to hold this bucket of snacks for them. i was told they can only take one. but that's not my rule to enforce

 243

 11.4K

 127.2K



Thoughts of Dog  @dog_feelings · Oct 31 

the human asked what i wanted to be for halloween. and after some thought. i have decided. i would like to be cherished

 755

 27.1K

 170.7K



More (because they are so darn cute)



Thoughts of Dog  @dog_feelings · Oct 27 

occasionally during our walks. someone will pass us. and completely ignore my human. but whisper hello to me. i really enjoy this

 1.1K

 21.5K

 232.5K



Thoughts of Dog  @dog_feelings · Oct 13 

we are headed to a pumpkin patch. and although i've been told. i can only bring one home. i am going to say hi. to every pumpkin there

 426

 15.4K

 174K



Thoughts of Cat



My human slept later than normal today. I pawed at her face until she was awake and demanded the tasty, wet vittles that come from the can. I curse my own lacking of thumbs but luckily this woman follows my commands.

What stories could
your pets tell?

Phobia Stories (with all credit to Jeff Harr)



fearof.net

The 100 most common phobias

No back story

No rescue

What would be the worst thing that could happen to an individual with this phobia?

**Which of these three creative writing techniques
worked best for you?**



**Thank you for your active
participation!**

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