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Do You Know What A Plot Is?

By Nick Vernon

Do You Know What A Plot Is?

by: **Nick Vernon**

Creative Writing Tips -

What a plot is and what a story is can be sometimes confusing. If you think they are the same... They are not. A plot is the outline of your story. The story is everything included.

I will illustrate the difference by asking you to visualize two pictures...

1. Visualize a skeleton.

Then

2. Visualize a body.

The skeleton is your plot. It's the outline of your story. It won't be visible when we flesh it out but it will still be there, holding your story together.

The body is your story. It's everything, which our story will contain, including the plot. The story is the plot fleshed out.

What does it mean to 'flesh it out'?

Let me show you.

I'll take a brief plot...

A man meets a woman and they fall in love. They encounter great difficulties because their family are against the relationship.

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This is the outline of the story.

Now we are going to flesh it out and make it into a story. Fleshing it out means adding things to make this basic plot into a story. To do this we will add the rest of the ingredients such as... Setting - Where will our story take place Dialogue - What will be said and by whom Characters - How many characters will our story contain? Who are they? What is their role? Problems - What and how many problems will the couple encounter Goal - What is the couple's goal? Conflict - What is the conflict? Climax - How is the conflict going to come to its peak? Ending - Will their love win in the end? And anything else I'll need in my story

Once we have written up all these ingredients, this will be our plot fleshed out into a story.

Besides his passion for writing, Nick Vernon runs an online gift site where you will find gift information, articles and readers' funny stories. Visit

<http://www.we-recommend.com>

Have You Tested Your Plot?

By Nick Vernon

Creative Writing Tips -

Our plotting stage is our testing area.

Everything in the plot should be tested for its effectiveness before we put in into our stories. If you believe something in your plot could be better, make it better.

Figuring everything out in your plot will save you time rewriting later.

So how do you test your plot?

Start with everything that has gone into it.

For example... Are the events interesting? Does your plot contain problems for the character to solve? Have you given your character a goal? Is the conflict strong? Is the resolution of the conflict interesting? Is the character interesting? Is the setting of the story interesting? Will the incident or situation be interesting to your readers? Etc

Make a list of what your plot contains. Comb through it carefully and tick off each item. If you find that some things need to be worked on some more, work on them.

I know to some this might be tedious work, but...

Do You Know What A Plot Is?

"Every one-minute you spend in planning will save you at least three minutes in execution."
Crawford Greenwald

Besides his passion for writing, Nick Vernon runs an online gift site where you will find gift information, articles and readers' funny stories. Visit

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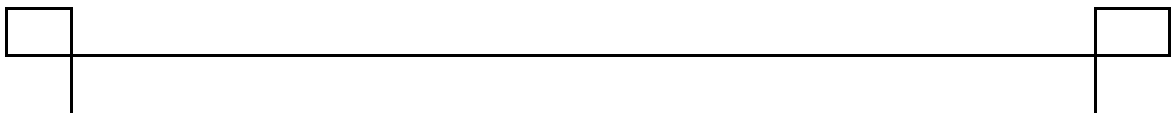
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