

Does The Title Reflect The Story?

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**Does The Title Reflect The Story?**

**By Nick Vernon**

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Short Story Writing Tips -

We all have different tastes in what we like to read. Some have a particular taste for horror, while others prefer romance or fantasy or crime stories, etc. My favourite genre in short stories is horror, so once the title grabs my attention, I will enthusiastically read the story.

You may want to leave your readers in no doubt of the type of story you have written. That's fine. You want to grab all the fans out there and/or recruit new readers into the genre you are so fond of writing.

So, how do you select a title that reflects your story?

Should the title always reflect the story?

Not always. But your title must have some sort of connection with your story.

Is There A Connection Between Your Title And Your Story?

If you choose not to have the title reflect the story that's fine too. But there should be some relevance between them.

If, for instance, your story is about a man walking on the moon, then it wouldn't make sense to title it, 'Walking on Mars.'

If your story is an uplifting tale about two characters finding love, then your title isn't going to mention death, unless of course one of the characters' die.

## Does The Title Reflect The Story?

At first your title may not give away the nature of your story. But once having read the story, the reader will understand the connection. Let me give you a few examples...

`The Fire In The Sky'

This can be the title of a story in which an airplane explodes in midair or a story about a meteorite on its way to earth, etc.

`An Angel Amongst Us'

Can be the title of a story about a person with extraordinary kindness or about an angel that leaves the heavenly realm to reside on earth, etc.

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You can be ambiguous in your title if you wish. Your title doesn't always have to reflect your story. Having more than one possible meaning intrigues the reader but remember...

There has to be a connection between your title and your 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

### **Have You Settled On First Choice When Choosing A Title?**

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Short Story Writing Tips –

We've established what a title should be and we've also established your title is your selling tool. So if it can make or break the sale of your story, then we'll have to agree that it is extremely important. How much emphasis have you placed when selecting a title? You can't write a story before titling it, so you jotted down the first thing that came to mind. You added it as an afterthought when you completed the story. You put a lot of thought into it and selected the best one.

I hope it was the latter - and I hope you did this... You noted down as many titles as you could think of Then crossed out the titles you thought were `so-so' And kept the most grabbing title of them all?

You did do this, didn't you?

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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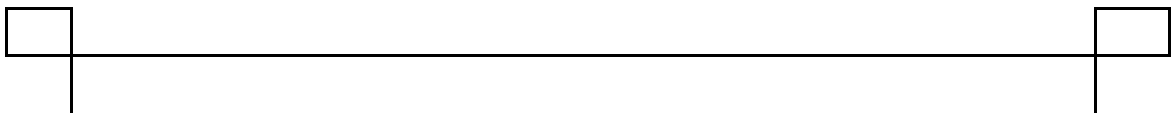
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