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100% Effective Natural Hormone Treatment
Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances
Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!

Suspense

By Jeff Heisler

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Suspense

He had never killed a man before. Looking down at the lifeless body at his feet, Harold wondered if it would be the last time.

Want to know more? Good. That's the point.

So how do you create this suspense? It's easier than you think. Just keep two things in mind when you construct your story— conflict, and question.

Conflict drives all fiction. There's no story without it. Let me show you an example of writing devoid of conflict.

Helen sat comfortably in her easy chair. She had a bowl of warm popcorn in her lap and a soda on the end table. A few yards away her television flickered as she surfed the channels looking for something interesting to watch. She settled on a documentary about the Amazon. She'd always like documentaries.

As the evening passed the popcorn ran out and the soda can emptied— but she didn't mind. She was comfortable.

After a few hours she stood up, stretched, and gathered her popcorn bowl and empty soda can. She set them both in the kitchen sink and slunk off to bed.

So, do you want to read 300 pages of this? I didn't think so. Now watch this.

She didn't know he was there.

While the microwave rattled, heating a bag of popcorn, the man moved furtively down the hallway.

Helen waited for the popping to slow. She opened the microwave, and emptied the warm bag of popcorn in a large plastic bowl. She grabbed a soda from the fridge and walked to the living room.

She didn't suspect anything was wrong when she picked up the remote and surfed the dial for something interesting to watch. There were no suspicious rustles or creaks. No shadows moving in the distance. Just her house, empty and neat— just like always.

On the tube a documentary on the Amazon flashed into view. Helen put the remote down and settled deeper in her chair.

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Just another Sunday night. Another cozy, uneventful Sunday night.

From Helen's point of view– it's the same scene. From the reader's point of view there's a big difference. The second scene is loaded with conflict. Notice that the conflict doesn't have to be visible to the characters, but it must always be visible to the reader. In the second example, the reader knows that Helen is in danger. As they read, the voice in their mind screams at Helen– "There's a man in the house! Look out!" The conflict is felt by the reader even if it's not felt by the character. Keeping the reader in the grips of this conflict creates a "page–turner."

The second essential element is story question. What does the reader want to know? Why should they read this scene? Why shouldn't they put the book down?

This is crucial so listen closely. From page one to the finish, the reader must never read a single word without a strong question in mind.

Never.

I mean it.

The moment you write something like the first example of Helen's evening– your readers have no reason to continue and they put the book down, sometimes for good. That doesn't mean that there has to be great mystery in each scene. It does mean every scene should be read while a question hangs in the air.

Do you notice how the great suspense authors braid their novels? In one scene we see the hero attacked. The last thing our protagonist sees is the butt of a gun bearing down on him. The scene or chapter ends, and now we're taken somewhere else. We visit the perspective of another character, a character with their own set of problems. The reader is firmly hooked now. They are interested in the events surrounding the second character because it raises more unanswered questions. More than that, they are dying to find out what's happened to our protagonist from the previous scene.

Braiding is a powerful technique for creating suspense. Use it whenever you can.

Those of you writing more literary or character based works may not feel these techniques are relevant, but they are. Every good author in every genre uses suspense in some way shape or fashion. There's no story without it.

Jeff Heisler is a freelance writer and novelist. You can see more of his writing tips at www.heislerink.com/writeaway.htm.

Understanding Acne Scars To Treat Them And Restore A Fair Look Once Again!

By Ashish Jain

This acne scar is not an ordinary scar. It has a "S" & "Car" in it. Firstly you have to see what "model" is your sCAR. The cost of treatment for certain types of scars is very costly. Therefore, before committing to treatment of acne scars, you should have a frank discussion with your dermatologist, in all the aspects. As, terminating the scar treatment at an incomplete stage, may be counter–productive for you.

Acne scars are treated in several stages based on the type of scar. They are like the episodes of a TV serial. Some stage of the story is covered in every episode, and a deliberate suspense is created at the

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ending. Here, the dermatologist may not deliberately try to keep you in suspense, but after completion of every stage, it is natural for you to have your quota of suspense, "Will this scar fully heal?"

There is no doubt that innovative skin care technology for acne, bums, surgery and piercing has arrived. The dermatologist will give you tens of reasons to get beautiful, getting rid of scars. He has documents of many success stories. You arrived at his clinic with scar-removal temptation, and your temptation is now confirmed. He has explained to you doubt-proof methods to reduce and eliminate acne scars.

Acne scars can affect anyone. After the healing process, the skin is left with a discoloration that may take months to heal. 6 to 18 months is the normal estimate. If the scar still persists, and is in no mood to go, then surgical methods are the only alternative.

Since the scars are visible, they cause embarrassment. There is nothing to worry about the macules of "pseduo-scars". When it eventually disappears in the natural processing of healing, it leaves no trace. Post-inflammatory pigmentation is discoloration of the skin at the site of a healed acne lesion, which may last up to 18 months. Chemical peeling is likely to hasten the disappearance of post-inflammatory healing process.

It is better to bear the scars if they are not in the visible part of the body. It is difficult to predict how successfully scars can be treated. For, the healing duration differs from case to case.

Acne scars are generally categorized in two types: (a) scars caused by increased tissue formation and (b) scars caused by the loss of tissue.

The decision to seek surgical treatment is an important one. The type of treatment has to suit you best. The experience and expertise of the dermatologist come to play an important part here. He may fail sometimes, at your cost, despite of his best efforts. You have to make your personal decision whether to live in the company of your scar/s, unless it is a psychological burden for you.

Scar treatment usually improves the appearance of the skin. But if your expectation is total restoration, it is an impossibility. The main aim of any acne scar treatment is basically to provide you a totally acceptable look. To have a complete restoration of your previous look is far than a possibility.

Ashish Jain writes about a number of different topics. For more information on acne visit

<http://www.acnetalks.com>

and for additional acne articles visit the following articles page:

<http://www.acnetalks.com/index.html>

To comment on this article visit

<http://www.acnetalks.com/2006-05-27>



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