

BLUEPRINT FOR A BOOK:

Build Your Novel from the Inside Out

Workbook Answers

Part 1: Story Fundamentals

- Why write this book? Write one page.
- What's your point? Write one or two lines. 2.
- 3. Write a super simple version of your story one or two sentences, maybe three.
- Brainstorm some book titles. Try to think of 15 and highlight your • favorite.
- Define your genre.



Who is your ideal reader?

- How old is she?
- Where does she live?
- How does she spend her day (in very broad strokes) mom, kindergarten teacher, dog owner, business owner, truck driver, senator?
- What keeps her up at night? What does she worry about, care about, wonder about?
- What does she want more than anything in the world?
- What can your book do to help her get it?
- What other books does your ideal reader love? Aim to find three books and answer these questions:

Why does she love these other books?
What will your book add to the conversation?
What would your ideal reader say after finishing your book?

Write your book jacket copy. No more than 250 words.



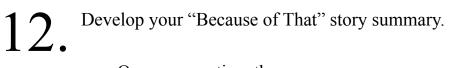
Part 2: Design a Structure



Who is your protagonist?

- What does your protagonist want in the world?
- What does your protagonist want inside themselves?
- What is standing in your protagonist's way of getting what she wants?
- Who is telling your tale?
- **10.** Two questions about time:
 - Where does your narrator stand in time?
 - What is the period of time that elapses in your story?
- 11. Where does the story start and where does it end?
 - The Kitchen Timer Scene Challenge:
 - Opening SceneClosing Scene





Once upon a time there was _____.

Every day _____. One day _____.

Because of that _____.

Because of that _____.

Until finally _____.

And ever since that day _____.



Part 3: The Inside Outline

13. Develop your Inside Outline. Here is a reminder of the rules:

- Use standard manuscript formatting: 1-inch margins, Times Roman 12-point font, single line spacing, one full line space between the bullet-point pairings.
- Write no more than 3 pages.
- Each bullet point should have no more than 3 lines.
- Each Scene must *cause* the next one so your story has a narrative drive.

14. Use the Ten Point Inside Outline Checklist to evaluate your work. Download a copy <u>here</u>.