

YOUR NAME

naked

A NOVEL



naked

Thank you for your interest in
Plot Prompts! I hope this
framework for a novel or short
story sparks your imagination
and jumpstarts your best writing
yet.

Millicent Anglin
Gap Year Press Founder

Proposed Title

Naked

Genre

Young Adult

Themes

Perception – Are perception and reality equally important? Which do you spend the most time thinking about? Though perception and reality are often different, why do we often believe they are the same?

Deception – Why is denial (i.e. self-deception) different from being lied to? When people are often shamed for their differences, is it deception or preservation to hide your true nature?

Identity – Is it okay to sacrifice individual privacy for public safety? In this information age, should we abandon any expectation of privacy? Is privacy necessary to understand and embrace our own identities?

Description

A young man struggles to find his place in a world that challenges everything he believes.

Synopsis

Jonathan Hunt's sheltered life is shattered when his mother dies in a car accident. His grief turns to fear when his father decides to send him to public school for his senior year. Homeschooled his entire life, Jonathan must adapt to the fact that everyone at school is, well, *naked*. Not only that, they believe naked people are open and honest, while clothed people are secretive and suspicious. As part of a dwindling Puritan community that values modesty, Jonathan has been taught to reject society's prevailing wisdom

even if it means he's shunned. In the midst of his isolation, a beautiful classmate takes him under her wing and challenges him to decide who he wants to become.

Setting

Fictional town of Crossroads, FL in the year 2050.

Main Characters

Jonathan Hunt - Shy and unassuming, seventeen-year-old Jonathan's life changes forever the night his mother dies in a car accident. Only thirty-five years old when she died, his mother Gina was his best friend and confidant. Unable to connect with his enigmatic father, Jonathan struggles to manage his grief and isolation. When he's forced to move beyond his comfort zone, he begins to second-guess everything he's been taught.

Gina Hunt - Married at a young age to a man fifteen years her senior, Gina wonders about the life experiences she missed. Though happy and supportive of her husband's strict teachings, secretly she hopes her son Jonathan will have a more adventurous life than she's had.

Michael Hunt - Taciturn by nature, fifty-year-old Michael escapes into his work—and an ever-present Jack Daniels bottle—after his wife Gina dies. He secretly resents and envies the warm bond Jonathan and Gina shared because he can't replicate it. His life splits in two as he tries to maintain his dignified facade as a Puritan pastor while also exploring one vice after another to numb his pain.

Rose Richards - Though beautiful and well-liked, eighteen-year-old Rose isn't exactly popular. She's too opinionated to have many friends and spends most of her time pursuing her love of photography. Though naked since the age of thirteen—the customary age when people are encouraged to become transparent—she increasingly questions the stereotypes she's been taught.

Plot Outline

ACT 1 (Exposition):

I. Setup

- Throughout the US, everyone has gone naked (except in cold months). The practice is proclaimed as a movement that erodes superficial status symbols and promotes egalitarianism, confidence, and transparency. Clothes are seen as an attempt to hide one's true self, and those who insist on wearing clothes are thought to have the mark of evil.
- The Hunt family lives with fifty other families on a large acreage outside Crossroads, FL. Their self-sufficient community operates several cooperative agri-businesses. Each family homeschools their children and most people join one of the co-op businesses after completing the twelfth grade. A few elders venture into town to conduct business or run errands, but most community members stay close to HOME, the name of their outpost. There are a few similar communities throughout the US.
- Michael Hunt believes in Puritan values of modesty and privacy, and instructs his family and congregation to resist the temptations of the wider world. He rejects the notion that Puritans are hiding something sinister, and encourages everyone to complete a morality test during their final year of schooling. Most tests are community service trips abroad to poor countries.

II. Inciting Incident - Gina Hunt dies in a car accident while running errands in town. She's hit by a naked drunk driver who also dies in the accident.

III. Plot Point #1 - Michael decides that Jonathan's morality test will be to attend the town's public high school without losing his Puritan values. He knows this will be hard, but he thinks Jonathan is too much of a mama's boy and needs to toughen up.

ACT 2 (Rising Action):

IV. Subplots that facilitate character development:

- Gina's absence widens the chasm between Jonathan and Michael. As Michael finds temporary solace in alcohol, Jonathan turns to other HOME families for support. Jonathan is terrified about attending the public high school, but doesn't tell anyone for fear his father will find out.
- Jonathan isolates himself at school and eats lunch alone in the library. He discovers that writing helps him cope with his grief. A teacher encourages him to join the student newspaper as a features reporter and Jonathan agrees when he meets the paper's photographer, Rose Richards. They quickly bond and a romance blossoms.

- V. Plot Point #2 (Confrontation)** – Rose convinces Jonathan to join a senior prom party at the beach. When everyone else goes swimming, Jonathan shucks his clothes and joins them. As he emerges from the water, his father happens to pass by and see him.

ACT 3: (Falling Action):

- VI. Climax** – As a cautionary tale for the community, Michael announces during Sunday's sermon that his son has failed his morality test. In response, Jonathan outs his father's vices since his mother died, which include getting drunk and inviting prostitutes over. Both father and son are expelled from HOME.

- VII. Resolution** – Estranged from his father, Jonathan finds a job and apartment in town after graduation. He can't quite go completely naked and wears cutoff shorts most days. One night after a date with Rose, he notices the mark of evil on her neck, hidden behind her curtain of hair.

The ideas contained herein may be used to create your own original work of fiction. This document is intended for your personal use and may not be reproduced, scanned, or

*distributed in any printed or electronic form without the publisher's written permission.
Please send questions or feedback to gypfeedback@gmail.com.*

naked

A NOVEL

