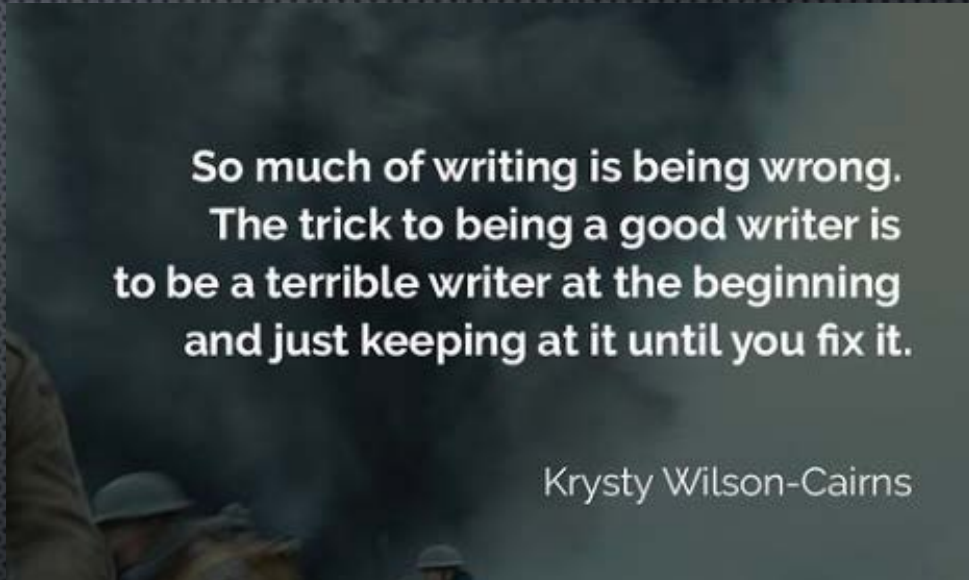


Screenwriting
Media 22/Media 123

Week 6

SELECT SLIDES



So much of writing is being wrong.
The trick to being a good writer is
to be a terrible writer at the beginning
and just keeping at it until you fix it.

Krysty Wilson-Cairns

Characters & Character Arcs

Who exactly is your Protagonist?

The External Plot:

1. Who is your hero?
2. What is your hero trying to accomplish?
3. Who is trying to stop your hero
4. What happens if your hero fails?

Who exactly is your **Protagonist**?

The Internal Story:

1. Dark moment story
2. Resulting mistruth they believe
3. Wound they suffered
4. Resulting shame/secret
5. What special trait do they possess...
6. ...That makes them worthy of redemption?

How to Create A Sympathetic Hero

- Sincere
- Conflicted
- Adept
- Brave
- Abused
- Vulnerable
- Honest
- Considerate
- Altruistic (Save the Cat)
- Misunderstood
- Unique
- Hurting
- Alone

Who exactly is your **Antagonist**?

The External Plot:

1. Who is your antagonist?
2. What is your antagonist trying to accomplish?
3. Who is trying to stop your antagonist
4. What happens **when** your antagonist fails?

Who exactly is your **Antagonist**?

The Internal Story

1. Dark moment story
2. Resulting mistruth they believe
3. Wound they suffered
4. Resulting shame/secret
5. What special trait do they possess...
6. ...The makes them **unworthy** of redemption?

Protagonist
Hero

Antagonist
Villain



“The villain is doing what the hero would do if her or she wasn’t constrained by morality, purpose or righteousness.”

Protagonist
Hero



Antagonist
Villain



1. You need a **worthy opponent** to help drive the conflict.
2. Your **villain is the hero** of their own story.
3. The **villain never engages in villainy** sake for the sake of villainy.
4. Your villain is the **shadow reflection** of your hero.
5. The more you know about either, the more you know about the other
6. If possible, have both you hero and **make each other**.

The Team: Functional Characters

1. Protagonist (hero)
2. Antagonist (villain)
3. Stakes Character
4. Sidekick
5. Love Interest
6. Ally
7. Foe
8. Ally who turns into Foe
9. Foe who turns into Ally
10. Oracle

Stereotypes vs Archetypes

STEREOTYPE: a fixed, over-generalized belief about a particular group or class of people:

- The ditzy blonde
- The insensitive jock
- The unwed teen mother
- The non-sexual nerd

Racial, Religious, Gender, Cultural

Stereotypes vs Archetypes

ARCHETYPE: a pattern of behavior that is reflected and repeated in human behavior in every culture and age

- The Hero
- The Ruler
- The Magician
- The Lover