

BASIC FACTS

Working Title:

Genre:

Age Rating:

Vibe/Feeling of this Book:

Inspiration Points:

FOUNDATIONAL QUESTIONS

When did you first come up with this story idea?

What past stories have emotionally and intellectually moved you and why? What would you want to emulate?

What messages/themes/lessons might you want to share with this story?

How would you describe this book in 1-2 sentences?

What is your goal with this book?

BRAINDUMP

Put every idea you already have for your story. Don't stress about organization! Let your creativity run wild!

LIST OF CHARACTERS & THEIR ROLES

You can increase and specify this list as time goes on.

MAP

If you're not writing fantasy, then you can skip the following pages. Just write down your location and how that affects the main character and plot.

For fantasy authors, you can draw your world, country lines, landmarks, geography, and dimensions.

GEOGRAPHY/WEATHER/NATURE

Focus specifically on how this affects the story/character's lives?

HISTORY OF NATIONS

Is there any background information that will be helpful to know? History of wars or treaties? Did something happen between nations to cause a part of the plot?

COUNTRY'S CURRENT SITUATION

What does the country look like in the character's world? What's the current population? Political landscape? Who are the rulers if you have any? Are there hierarchies in your society? What is their relationship to other nations?

SOCIAL ASPECTS

Clothing:

Entertainment:

Language:

Technology:

Gestures:

Education:

Hobbies:

Social Circles:

Currency:

Holidays:

TIMELINE

This is specifically a timeline of events leading up to your story. It can specifically focus on your country or character's life.

CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

For every main character, you can write out a basic information sheet. Pretend you are having an interview with your character.

Name:

Age:

Likes/Dislikes:

What kind of stereotypes/tropes do you gravitate towards? How could you make them different for this character?

Worldview:

Place in Society:

Inspiration Points:

Internal/External Struggle:

Family Situation (Relationship to parents, siblings, spouse if they are married):

What's their profession?

Backstory:

What's their possible character arc? How will they start at the beginning of the story versus the end? How will they learn this lesson?

What kind of POV would you want to be in? 1st person or 3rd?

What is their goal/ desire? What is their want versus their need?

OVERVIEW OUTLINE

Summarize your plot points for an overview look at your story. If you're looking for a good outline, I would check out Save the Cat or 3 Act Structure.

MAIN OUTLINE

This can be chapter-by-chapter or just slightly larger than your small outline.

SUMMARIES

Write a one paragraph summary for later publishing use and to keep you on track. How would your story be described on the back of your book?

PUBLISHING PAGE

Any dreams you have for publishing you can put here or information you learn on the way. If you want to be traditionally published, you can write out a list of literary agents you would like to query.

IMPORTANT DATES

Write down when you first came up with your idea, started your first draft, wrote The End, and more! This will be so fun to look back at later!