

Your Story Map

Hey writer friend, it's Eden here!

I am *so* honored that you want to use my story map. *high five*

This guide will ask you questions and provide prompts so by the end, you're ready either to write or outline! If you have any questions, please contact me at YouTube or my website:

edendetwiler.com.

But I'll stop yapping so you can get to work!

First Things First

Genre: (Are you writing fantasy, historical fiction, science-fiction?)

Age Range: (Are you writing mainly for adults, children, young adults?)

One Sentence Summary: (Ex. *In this world, Character did this and learned this. In the dystopian work of Panem, Katniss Everdeen has to survive the Hunger Games and fight for love, her humanity, and her life.*)

Vibe: (What feel do you want the story to have? What books remind you of your story. How can you make yours unique while still holding to the true elements of your genre?)

Pro Tip: Make a playlist to inspire you as you are writing!

Why/Theme: (What message is important to you? What's a possible character arc? What would you want to share with a friend who is hurting? What stories have emotionally moved you and why? Did they change any part of your life? How can you emulate that?)

Inspiration Points: (Record how you first thought of your story idea. This is not only fun to go back and look at but to get inspired again.)

The Three Elements

Characters: (Who can you see being the main character of your story? What kind of stereotypes/tropes do you gravitate towards? Do you want to have multiple main characters? What kind of POV would you want to be in? 1st person or 3rd? Don't stress yourself out about this but it'll help you start thinking.)

Setting: (Where does your story take place? If you're writing fantasy, what are the basics of your world? If it's set in our world, where and when does it take place? Why? What research might you need to do to understand your setting? What might the setting change about the character? Where is the character in society?)

Plot: (What is the character's internal struggle? External struggle? What might start the story rolling? Will the character make a life-altering decision or will they be affected by another's decision? What plot archetypes do you most gravitate towards? Do you have any inspiration for the ending? Any must-have scenes that you want to put in your story?)

My Ideas List

Next Steps

Do you want to outline or start writing after this? A mix of both?

Do you have a date you would like to finish by?

Do you have any dedicated time that you'll set aside for writing?

Is there anyone you can talk to and bounce ideas off?

When will you start your first chapter?

Well, what are you waiting for? Get writing!