

# Plot Versus Character: A Balanced Approach to Writing Great Fiction

Jeff Gerke



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What's more important to a story: a gripping plot or compelling characters? Literary-minded novelists argue in favor of character-based novels while commercial novelists argue in favor of plot-based stories, but the truth of the matter is this: The best fiction is rich in both.

Enter *Plot Versus Character*. This hands-on guide to creating a well-rounded novel embraces both of these crucial story components. You'll learn to:

- Create layered characters by considering personality traits, natural attributes, and backgrounds
- Develop your character's emotional journey and tie it to your plot's inciting incident
- Construct a three-act story structure that can complement and sustain your character arc
- Expose character backstory in a manner that accentuates plot points
- Seamlessly intertwine plot and character to create a compelling page-turner filled with characters to whom readers can't help but relate
- And much more

Filled with helpful examples and friendly instruction, *Plot Versus Character* takes the guesswork out of creating great fiction by giving you the tools you need to inject life into your characters and momentum into your plots.

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