

Making a Scene-Crafting a Powerful Story One Scene at a Time

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Functions of a Scene

The scene is a _____ of all the parts of fiction.

- Characters
 - must be _____ and _____
 - must undergo _____
- Point of View
- Action
 - must feel like it is unfolding in _____
- Dialogue
- New Plot Information
 - must _____ your story and _____ characters
- Conflict and Drama
 - _____ your characters to reveal their personalities

conflict = action

talking arguing
fighting chasing
teasing demanding
tricking stealing
competing hiding

suspense = the unknown

waiting
guessing
worrying
wandering
dreading
imagining
expecting the worst

- Setting
 - calls on all the _____
- Narrative Summary or Exposition
 - comprehensive _____ or _____ of an idea

Length of Scenes

Long Scenes: More than 15 pages

- Slow down the _____. Allow reader to digest what has happened, and to build new _____ and _____.
- Include a lot of _____ action in a given scene (fights, chases, explosions)
- Add dialogue that needs to run long in order to feel _____

Short Scenes: 10 or fewer pages

- Differentiate one character from another
- Pick up the _____ right after a long scene
- Leave the reader _____ for more or _____ with suspense
- Include multiple scenes within a chapter
- Create a sense of _____ by dropping bits of information one by one

Beginning of Scene:

Start by asking:

- Where are my characters in the _____?
- Where did I leave them, and what are they _____?
- What is the most important piece of _____ that needs to be revealed in this scene?

Four Types of Beginnings

1. _____ -Before starting, you'll want to establish Character Intention
 - Most Important _____
 - When Character will (1) _____ intention or (2) encounter _____
 - Whether intention makes sense to your _____
 - Who will _____ your characters achieve their goal
 - Who will _____ them

2. _____
 - Get straight to the action. Don't _____ your _____
 - Hook the reader with big or surprising _____.
 - Be sure the action is _____ to your character.
 - _____ first, _____ later

3. _____
 - to _____
 - when information needs to be given _____ an action
 - when a character's thoughts or intentions _____ be revealed in action

4. _____
 - Use _____ details
 - Allow scenery to set the _____ of the scene
 - Use scenery to reflect a character's _____

- Show the _____ of the setting on the character

Middle of the Scene

Four ways to “Up the Ante” to complicate the characters’ lives:

1. The Withhold

- Dangle objects of _____ just out of reach (emotions, information, objects)
- The longer you withhold, the more _____ you build

2. The Danger Element

- _____ or _____
- How your character reacts to danger reveals his true _____
Example: shy character suddenly shows bravery/Macho character terrified when life at stake

3. Scene Stealer

- Delaying a scene the reader _____ is coming

4. The Unexpected Revelation

- Can come with devastating effect or _____ and _____

End of Scene: (6 types)

Zoom-in -to bring the reader _____

➤ **Character Summarizes** the scene in interior monologue or simple dialogue.

Lets reader know of character’s _____ pulse

➤ **Revelatory Dialogue or Action**

Builds _____ for the next scene

➤ **Cliffhanger** adds suspense. **Do Not Overuse.**

-Leave a character in grave _____

-cut an _____ short

-change character’s perception of _____

Zoom-out -to give a _____ perspective

➤ **Visual Descriptions**

-leaves physical _____ on reader to take into next scene

➤ **Philosophical Musings**

- _____ back on events of a scene or scenes

-should always be in the POV of the _____ character of the scene

Conclusive Ending Purpose is to:

➤ _____ something that happened or tie up a _____ point

➤ _____ that have been posed throughout the scene or story

Examples: unmask murderers, reveal blood tests, lay down jail sentences

**Each ending you choose must fit the scene's _____,
the _____, and the _____.**

Using colorful, vivid and exact words in your scenes.

The truck was speeding down the road when an animal fell out of
a tree and crashed through the front window.
