

How to Build Novel Tie-Ins Using Flash Fiction & Short Stories



BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE

Alone In A Room With Invisible People

PODCAST

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Intro

The concept for this is simple.

You're going to gather up everything in your existing story (and development materials) that you love, and then you're going to play detective — looking for the little bits and pieces of characters, plots, settings, conflicts, and twists that you hinted at cool things, but **did not follow through**.

The more you write, the more you'll find yourself seeding your work with these fun little bits of “extra,” and the easier it will become to build shorter tie-ins and spin-offs to bring eager readers to your larger work.

If you haven't finished a lot of work yet, this can be tough. And you might have to build things out from some pretty thin links — but if you follow the steps in this worksheet, you'll get what you need.

You can do this.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Holly". The letters are cursive and fluid, with a long vertical stroke for the letter 'y'.

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STEP ONE: Identify an important named character in your story.
(Protagonist or antagonist)

NAME: _____

STEP TWO: Locate places this character mentions, goes to, or avoids in your existing story. (Setting)

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

STEP THREE: Identify the people in your existing story this character mentions... and his or her CURRENT relationship with each.(P/A)

- _____

- _____

- _____

- _____

- _____

- _____

STEP FOUR: Identify successes and failures this character had before your story starts, then briefly note how each of these got your character to the current point in your story. (CONFLICTS)

- ---

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STEP FIVE: Build as many **30-word Protagonist Versus Antagonist in Setting with Twist** story sentences as you can building the material you've created on the previous pages.

PROTAGONIST: _____

VERSUS: _____

ANTAGONIST: _____

SETTING: _____

TWIST: _____

SENTENCE: _____

PROTAGONIST: _____

VERSUS: _____

ANTAGONIST: _____

SETTING: _____

TWIST: _____

SENTENCE: _____

STEP FIVE: Continued...

PROTAGONIST: _____

VERSUS: _____

ANTAGONIST: _____

SETTING: _____

TWIST: _____

SENTENCE: _____

PROTAGONIST: _____

VERSUS: _____

ANTAGONIST: _____

SETTING: _____

TWIST: _____

SENTENCE: _____

STEP FIVE: Continued...

PROTAGONIST: _____

VERSUS: _____

ANTAGONIST: _____

SETTING: _____

TWIST: _____

SENTENCE: _____

PROTAGONIST: _____

VERSUS: _____

ANTAGONIST: _____

SETTING: _____

TWIST: _____

SENTENCE: _____
