

Writing Funny: Putting Humor Into Fiction



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Alone In A Room With Invisible People

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Intro

Getting your fiction to work is a three-step process:

- Define your situation and the specific conflict in it
- Define your characters' expectations related to the resolution of that conflict
- Identify the places where the expected or logical resolution of the conflict can break — in other words, where things can go wrong

What's your situation?

What is the specific conflict within this situation?

What is the logical or expected outcome of this conflict?

What is the obvious opposite of the expected outcome?

What are three different alternatives to the expected and obvious opposite outcomes?

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How can you make the action bigger?

How can you increase the element of surprise?

How can you use the reader's expectations to make it look like they'll be met until the last possible moment?

What of all of your outcomes would you personally find funniest?

How could you make that one thing even funnier TO yourself?
