








VIVIEN REIS CHANNEL GUIDE

30 steps to get you started on your writing journey!

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BONUS VIDEOS

remember: all titles are clickable in the PDF!

#1: Just starting out

15 Things I Wish I Knew Before I Became a Writer
Book Marketing | Making Aesthetics for Your Novel
How to Increase Tension in Your Novel
How to Write a Prologue (and if you should!)
Keep Readers Hooked with Immersive Writing
Writing Tips for Young Writers!
Writing Travel Scenes in Your Novel
12 Tips on How to Title Your Book

#2: Plot

How to Find Subplot Ideas for Your Novel
How to Strengthen Your Novel's Plot
8 Tips to Writing Better Fight Scenes
9 Tips for Writing Better Dialogue
How to Create a Series Bible
How to Outline Your Novel in Scrivener
Why & How to Plan a Series
FAQ - Brainstorming & Outlining Your Novel!

#3: Editing & Lifestyle

HUGE FAQ!! All Your Editing Questions Answered!
10 Habits of Highly Successful Writers
4 Healthy Habits to Increase Productivity
4 Tips to Building Your Own Daily Writing Habit
Getting Over the Fear of Failure as a Writer
How to Permanently Defeat Writer's Block
How to Stay Motivated While Writing Your Novel
22 Quotes From Famous Authors

HOMEWORK

#1: PLOT

Stage 1: Brainstorming

Take the time to write out some of your ideas. Let your thoughts flow away from you, but make sure you're documenting those thoughts! You never know what might lead to your next big plot twist.

What's your favorite way to passively brainstorm? In the shower, on a walk, while watching Netflix? List ways you passively brainstorm and then give those thoughts time to stew!

Stage 2: The Basics

PROTAGONIST

Who are they? What is their goal? What's the story problem? What are the stakes if they don't succeed?

ANTAGONIST

Who are they? What is their goal? What are the stakes if they don't succeed?

Your antagonist doesn't always have to be a person! Depending on the story, it could be an illness or a mental hurdle your character must overcome. **Remember:** your protagonist and antagonist's goals are in direct opposition to one another; if one succeeds, the other must fail.

Stage 3: Key Points

(refer to the video or blog post "How to Outline Your Novel Part 2" for detailed explanations)

■ Homeland	■ Take-charge/Proactive phase
■ Catalyst #1	■ Catalyst #3
■ Emotional/Reactive phase	■ Climax
■ Catalyst #2	■ Conclusion

Stage 4: The Outline

For this stage, break out those flashcards or fire up Scrivener and list, organize and reorganize all the scenes you can think of so your story flows from “Homeland” to “Conclusion”

#2: CHARACTERS

List your main and supporting characters here. What role does each play in the overall story?

Brainstorm some powerful memories (fun, sad, exciting, nerve-wracking) that you've had, or make some up. Use these in your stories to help show character!

CHARACTER TEMPLATE

CHARACTER IMAGE

NAME:
AGE:
GENDER:
HAIR COLOR:
EYE COLOR:
GENERAL APPEARANCE:

DEEPEST SECRET:

THINGS THEY LIKE:

THINGS THEY HATE:

FUNNY MEMORY:

WEAKNESS:

GOAL:

↖ Your character's weakness should affect their ability to accomplish their goal! ↗

HOW IS THIS CHARACTER INTEGRAL TO THE STORY?

#3: EDITING

Analyze some of your own writing. Are you guilty of using too many of these words? Remember: the goal is not to eliminate each usage, but to question if it's necessary to keep it. Sometimes, removing one of these words will be grammatically incorrect; othertimes it can be eliminated or reworded to strengthen the passage. (Refer to video "29 Words to Cut From Your Novel")

SEE
LOOK
HEAR
KNOW
REALIZE
WONDER
DECIDED
NOTICE
FEEL
REMEMBER

THINK
THAT
OF
REALLY
VERY
ADVERBS
DOWN
UP
THEN
START

BEGIN
SUDDEN
JUST
REDUNDANT PHRASES
THE
THAT VS WHO
ALMOST
RATHER
SOMEWHAT

Reword the following paragraph. Try to use as few words as possible!

Lucy felt the cold air against her skin and decided it was too late to leave. She could see the glittering of snow as it fell, wondering why her group hadn't left when they had the opportunity. The snow would freeze them. Lucy knew there was no hope.

YOUR LAST BIT OF HOMEWORK?

 be a beta reader!

One of the best ways to improve your writing is to edit others' work

Search forums on Goodreads or groups on Facebook for other writers who need beta readers. If possible, sample their work first to make sure you're both nearly at the same skill level.

DON'T FORGET TO SUBSCRIBE TO MY
YOUTUBE CHANNEL AND SAY "HI" IN THE
COMMENTS OF MY VIDEOS!