



NaNoWriMo 2022

and other bad ideas





# National Novel Writing Month

## National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo)

is a fun, seat-of-your-pants approach  
to creative writing.

**Your goal:**

***Write the first draft of a novel  
in one month. 50,000 words.  
That's all! Easy, right?***

They don't have to be *good* words!  
Just get them out of your head so you can  
edit them into something wonderful later.

You can register with **NaNoWriMo.org**  
(it's free) (you don't have to)

**Make a list of things and places that make you feel inspired, curious, or thrilled.**

Some examples: *unicorns, ghosts, the 1920's, sibling rivalry, dog + elephant friendships, antique bicycles, reality TV, carnivorous plants, extreme baking.*

Try to write at least 10!

# Character Questionnaire

Name:

Physical appearance:

Ethnicity/cultural background:

Special skills/abilities?

What do they love to do?

Describe their family:

Describe their personal space  
(including anything they're hiding):

What do they keep in their pockets, purse,  
backpack or bag?

What makes them happy?

What makes them angry?

## Bonus Character Questions

Favorite clothing style/outfit:

Special gestures/quirky movements:

Thing(s) about their appearance they would most like to change:

Speaking style (fast, talkative, monotone, etc)?

Happiest memory:

Insecurities:

This character really cares about:

Theme music for this character:

## Building Conflict

*What does your main character (protagonist) want?*

What is blocking your character from getting what they want?

What weaknesses, fears or faults that will get in their way of the goal?

*What does your antagonist want?*

Why does your antagonist work against the protagonist?

What does your antagonist fear? (*Fire? Kittens? That peculiar shade of blue?*)  
Why?

What weaknesses, fears or faults will trip them up?

## Building Plot, part 1

This is one tried-and-true method for plotting a story.

Once there was a \_\_\_\_\_

Every day (month, year, whatever) \_\_\_\_\_

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But one day (month, year...) \_\_\_\_\_

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Because of this, \_\_\_\_\_

Because of this, \_\_\_\_\_

Because of this, \_\_\_\_\_

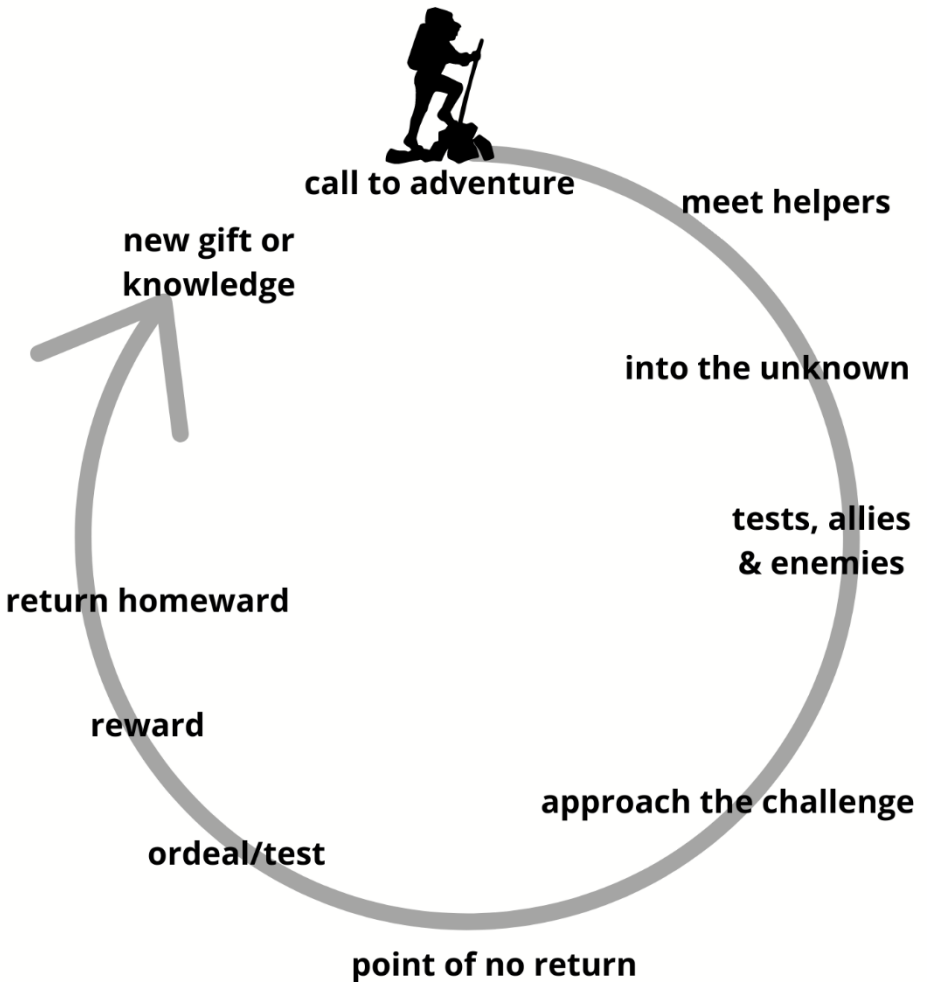
*You can add more "because of this" pieces*

Until finally, \_\_\_\_\_

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**Another way to build a plot:**  
the classic "hero's journey"



# **WHEN YOU GET STUCK:**

10 great writing prompts

- Reveal a secret
- Make a phone call
- Break a promise
- “Do you smell smoke?”
- Read a message
- Start the party
- End the party (badly)
- Punch somebody
- Hide somebody
- Offer two bad choices





**NaNoSnoCo**



**EVERETT**

WASHINGTON

