

Build a Character



Steal from Yourself, Family, and Friends

- Feel free to use traits from you or someone you know. Writers do this all the time.
- You don't have to start from scratch.



Give Them Flaws

- The best protagonists are like bruised apples. Life has knocked them around, and they have squishy spots.
- If your protagonist has no flaws, they have nothing to overcome.
- There are no perfect people...so it's harder to relate to a perfect protagonist.



Likeability is Optional



- How many of you enjoy stories from the villain's or anti-hero's perspective?
- People don't have to want to move in with a character to want to read about them.
- Sherlock Holmes is a cocaine addicted misanthrope, and he's lasted more than a century.

Questions to Think About

- What does your character most wish they could change about themselves?
- What does their anger look like?
- What is their...
 - Guilty pleasure
 - Pet peeve
 - Greatest secret
 - Greatest fear

