

CHARACTER CHEAT SHEET

NAME – (Two word descriptor – adjective and pronoun, e.g. Disposed Outsider)

Four positive traits (See [Positive Trait Thesaurus](#)) that reflective their identity and persona:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

| | Internal | External |
|---------------|----------|----------|
| Goal(s) | | |
| Motivation(s) | | |
| Conflict(s) | | |

STAKES:

URGENCY:

Appearance:

Fears:

Flaws/Negative Traits (that would hurt him/her from achieving goal) (see [Negative Trait Thesaurus](#)):

Interests/skills:

Strengths:

Tells/mannerisms/quirks/voice:

How can readers relate to her/him:

How does s/he deal with conflict:

What's his/her longing?

[Emotional WOUND](#)? How has it shaped his way of seeing the world/people?

LIE/warped belief about themselves/world?

Identity and Persona (their roles and how do people see them)?

Strip away beliefs, roles...what is their essence/their core?

Who would this character be if they had the courage?

How he/she will overcome his wounds and fears – his character arc:

Author's Note: These character sheets are my own compilation and interpretation from various helpful resources including other authors' websites, Dixon's book (GMC: Goal, Motivation & Conflict, The Building Blocks to Good Fiction), and Ackerman & Puglisi's "Thesaurus" book series. For more information, please refer to those books or websites. <http://www.jeanmgrant.com>

ROMANCE COMPARISON/CONTRAST CHART:

Make sure there are opposing goals, motivations, conflicts, and character traits!

| | Protagonist 1 (Hero/Heroine) | Protagonist 2 (Hero/Heroine) |
|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Goals | | |
| Motivation | | |
| Conflict | | |
| Stake | | |
| Urgency | | |
| Positive traits | | |
| Flaws, negative traits | | |
| Emotional Wound | | |
| Lie s/he must overcome | | |
| Fears | | |

VILLAIN COMPARISON/CONTRAST CHART:

| | Hero/Protagonist | Villain |
|---|------------------|---------|
| GMC Wants [goal] because of [motivation] but [conflict/villain/hero/self] | | |
| Positive traits | | |
| Flaws, Negative traits | | |

Author's Note: These character sheets are my own compilation and interpretation from various helpful resources including other authors' websites, Dixon's book (GMC: Goal, Motivation & Conflict, The Building Blocks to Good Fiction), and Ackerman & Puglisi's "Thesaurus" book series. For more information, please refer to those books or websites. <http://www.jeanmgrant.com>