How to Outline Your Novel with What If Questions



How to Outline Your Book with "What if..." Questions

by Kylie Day



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Outlining a novel can be a daunting task, but it's essential for creating a strong and engaging story. A good outline will help you keep track of your plot, characters, and setting, and it will ensure that your story has a clear beginning, middle, and end.

One of the best ways to outline a novel is to use what if questions. What if questions can help you generate ideas for your story, develop your characters, and create plot twists. They can also help you identify any potential problems with your story and find solutions.

Step 1: Brainstorm What If Questions

The first step to outlining your novel with what if questions is to brainstorm a list of questions. These questions can be about anything related to your

story, such as:

- What if my protagonist lost everything they loved?
- What if my antagonist was secretly working for the good guys?
- What if my setting was suddenly plunged into darkness?

Don't be afraid to come up with crazy or outlandish questions. The more questions you have, the more ideas you'll have to work with.

Step 2: Choose Your Questions

Once you have a list of questions, it's time to choose the ones that you want to use for your outline. Look for questions that are interesting, that have the potential to generate conflict, and that can help you develop your story in new and unexpected ways.

Step 3: Answer Your Questions

Once you have chosen your questions, it's time to answer them. This is where the real fun begins! As you answer your questions, you'll start to develop your story's plot, characters, and setting.

Don't be afraid to let your imagination run wild. The more creative you are, the more unique and engaging your story will be.

Step 4: Create Your Outline

Once you have answered your questions, you can start to create your outline. Your outline should include a brief summary of your story, a list of your main characters, a description of your setting, and a timeline of events.

Your outline doesn't have to be perfect. It's just a roadmap to help you stay on track as you write your novel.

Step 5: Revise and Edit Your Outline

Once you have a draft of your outline, it's time to revise and edit it. Look for any plot holes or inconsistencies. Make sure that your characters are welldeveloped and that your setting is believable.

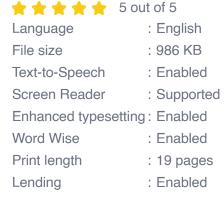
The more time you spend revising and editing your outline, the better your novel will be.

Outlining a novel with what if questions is a great way to generate ideas, develop your characters, and create a strong and engaging plot. By following the steps in this article, you can create an outline that will help you write a successful novel.



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