Worksheet 15: Story Evolution

Title:

Part I: The Beginning

1. Conflict Is Introduced
   Detail the major conflict:

2. Story Goal Is Introduced
   Detail the major story goal:

3. Characters Are Outfitted for Their Task
   List and briefly describe the characters who will be involved in reaching the story goal and defeating the conflict. Detail each character’s strengths and weaknesses:

   1.

   2.

   3.

Additional:
Part II: The Middle

1. Characters Design Short-Term Goals to Reach the Story Goal
   Character 1:
   Briefly describe first short-term goal and how character will reach it:

   Character 2 (Optional):
   Briefly describe first short-term goal and how character will reach it:

   Character 3 (Optional):
   Briefly describe first short-term goal and how character will reach it:

   Additional Characters (Optional):
   Briefly describe first short-term goal and how character will reach it:

2. Quest to Reach the Story Goal Begins
   Briefly detail the events that take place:

3. First Short-Term Goals Are Thwarted
   Briefly detail the events that take place:

4. Characters React With Disappointment
   Character 1:
   Briefly describe reaction:

   Character 2 (Optional):
   Briefly describe reaction:
Character 3 (Optional):
  Briefly describe reaction:

Additional Characters (Optional):
  Briefly describe reaction:

5. Stakes of the Conflict Are Raised
  Detail new stakes of the conflict and how they affect all subplots:

6. Characters React to the Conflict
    Character 1:
    Briefly describe reaction to the conflict:

    Character 2 (Optional):
    Briefly describe reaction to the conflict:

    Character 3 (Optional):
    Briefly describe reaction to the conflict:

    Additional Characters (Optional):
    Briefly describe his reaction to the conflict:

7. Characters Revise Old or Design New Short-Term Goals
    Character 1:
    Briefly describe new short-term goal and how character will reach it:

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Character 2 (Optional):
Briefly describe new short-term goal and how character will reach it:

Character 3 (Optional):
Briefly describe new short-term goal and how character will reach it:

Additional Characters (Optional):
Briefly describe new short-term goal and how character will reach it:

8. Quest to Reach the Story Goal Is Continued
Briefly detail the events that take place:

9. Short-Term Goals Are Again Thwarted
Briefly detail the events that take place:

10. Characters React With Disappointment
Character 1:
Briefly describe reaction:

Character 2 (Optional):
Briefly describe reaction:

Character 3 (Optional):
Briefly describe reaction:

Additional Characters (Optional):
Briefly describe reaction:
11. **Stakes of the Conflict Are Raised**
   Detail new stakes of the conflict and how they affect all subplots:

12. **Characters React to the Conflict**
   **Character 1:**
   Briefly describe reaction to the conflict:

   **Character 2 (Optional):**
   Briefly describe reaction to the conflict:

   **Character 3 (Optional):**
   Briefly describe reaction to the conflict:

   **Additional Characters (Optional):**
   Briefly describe reaction to the conflict:

* Items 7-10 can repeat here. This section of the cycle can repeat several times throughout the course of your novel as your characters readjust their short-term goals in order to meet their objectives.
13. Downtime begins
   Detail the events that lead to downtime:

   **Character 1:**
   Briefly describe reaction to these events:

   **Character 2 (Optional):**
   Briefly describe reaction to these events:

   **Character 3 (Optional):**
   Briefly describe reaction to these events:

   **Additional Characters (Optional):**
   Briefly describe reaction to these events:

14. Characters Revise Old or Design New Short-Term Goals With Renewed Vigor
   **Character 1:**
   Briefly describe desperate short-term goal and how character will reach it:

   **Character 2 (Optional):**
   Briefly describe desperate short-term goal and how character will reach it:

   **Character 3 (Optional):**
   Briefly describe desperate short-term goal and how character will reach it:

   **Additional Characters (Optional):**
   Briefly describe desperate short-term goal and how character will reach it:
15. The Quest to Reach the Story Goal Continues, But Instability Abounds
   Briefly detail the events that take place:

16. The Black Moment Begins
   Briefly detail the events that take place and how they affect all subplots:

17. The Characters React to the Black Moment
   Character 1:
   Briefly describe reaction:

   Character 2 (Optional):
   Briefly describe reaction:

   Character 3 (Optional):
   Briefly describe reaction:

   Additional Characters (Optional):
   Briefly describe reaction:

Part III: The End

1. A Pivotal, Life-Changing Event Occurs
   Detail this event and how it affects all subplots:
2. Characters Modify Short-Term Goals One Last Time

Character 1:
Briefly describe final short-term goal and how character will reach it:

Character 2 (Optional):
Briefly describe final short-term goal and how character will reach it:

Character 3 (Optional):
Briefly describe final short-term goal and how character will reach it:

Additional Characters (Optional):
Briefly describe final short-term goal and how character will reach it:

3. The Showdown Begins
Showdown details (including all main characters who are involved):

4. The Opposition Is Vanquished and the Conflict Ends
Details:

5. The Story Goal Is Achieved
Detail resolution plot and all subplots:

1.

2.

3.
6. Characters React to the Resolution of the Plot and Subplots
   Character 1:
   Briefly describe reaction to the end of the conflict:

   Character 2 (Optional):
   Briefly describe reaction to the end of the conflict:

   Character 3 (Optional):
   Briefly describe reaction to the end of the conflict:

   Additional Characters (Optional):
   Briefly describe reactions to the end of the conflict:

7. The Relationship Black Moment Is Addressed (Romance Novels Only)
   Character 1:
   Briefly describe reaction:

   Character 2:
   Briefly describe reaction:

8. Characters Revise Their Life Goals
   Character 1:
   Briefly describe life goal:
Character 2 (Optional):
  Briefly describe life goal:

Character 3 (Optional):
  Briefly describe life goal:

Additional Characters (Optional):
  Briefly describe life goals:

9. Possible Reemergence of the Conflict or Opposition