

NOTE: To adapt to the NOTECARD METHOD, write each answer from the outlined boxes on individual Theme Storyboard

Viewpoint Character	Jill	Jack
THEME-Source of internal conflict? What event will introduce the theme?	Our worth shouldn't be dependent on what others think of us, but Village doctor suggests that Jill might want to move if her father dies and Jill panics.	Our worth shouldn't be dependent on what others think of us, but Jack believes his stepmother's lies about his worth.
PROBLEM-What event has forced MC to take action?	Jill's father collapses and, in a whisper, he tells her about the only cure—water from a magic well.	Jack gets a rare opportunity to transport goods in his boat. Success means he can make a living and leave stepmother's house.
DESIRE/GOAL-What does MC think will solve the problem? What event will introduce the GOAL?	Jill WANTS to save her father and prove her worth to the village. She drags his body home from the field where they'd been treasure hunting and found a cursed chest.	Jack thinks leaving will solve all his problems. But he'll need confidence to run a new business. The boat crash sends Jack into a panic.
MISBELIEF-How does your MC view the world incorrectly? What lies have they told themselves or others? What event will introduce the Misbelief?	Jill BELIEVES that if others don't value her, she isn't worth anything. Jill thinks about doctor's advice.	Jack BELIEVES that if others don't value him, he isn't worth anything. Jack thinks about rich stepmother's disdain.
WOUND-What great fear or secret is keeping them from achieving that desire? What event will introduce the WOUND?	Jill is HURT because her village has de-valued her efforts all her life. On the way to meet father, she runs into girls who make fun of her.	Jack is HURT because his stepmother has de-valued his worth all his life. He believes money is worth. Crashing his boat is the catalyst to making him panic.
PAST EXPERIENCE #1-What happened in my MC's past that created that misbelief?	Jill TRIES to gain village's respect by learning to cook	Stepmother marries his father but won't let Jack move into big house.
PAST EXPERIENCE #2-What happened in my MC's past that built that misbelief?	Jill TRIES to gain village's respect by boasting	When father dies, Stepmother demotes Jack to lower position, pig farmer.
PAST EXPERIENCE #3-What happened in my MC's past that cemented that misbelief?	Jill TRIES to gain village's respect by doing father's job when he gets sick	Stepmother and friends laugh at Jack and his pigs.
Given my MC's misbelief, what does my MC think is the worst thing that could happen? (CONFLICT)	Jill would be devastated if her father would die and the village would blame her	Jack would be devastated if he loses this one chance to improve his life.
Moment when internal struggle ends. Event where MC learns the Misbelief is False (pre-write)?	Jill's EPIPHANY happens when her father survives and tells her that few people would have thought how to save the situation.	Jack's EPIPHANY happens when Jill shares her epiphany with him.
NEED-What lesson does MC need to learn? What event will show that MC has changed?	Jill NEEDS to learn that our worth shouldn't be dependent on what others think of us. She runs into same village girls later and isn't affected by their words.	Money doesn't create worth. Jill's willingness to help Jack made him realize he'd been concentrating on his stepmother's opinions too much.

Conflict Storyboard

Instructions:

What point do you want your story to make? That's the source of your protagonist's internal conflict. Since I want my THEME strong, both of my characters need to learn this point.

Notice that we are planning EVENTS right away--something that will happen in your story.

Every internal conflict needs to be shown by an EVENT.

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Just because you know what would devastate your character, doesn't mean it has to happen. Your MC might only worry about that possible EVENT.

If you're a pantser and your brain doesn't want to write the story if it's planned out and "finished," then DON't plan your Epiphany. Just leave the EVENT part blank (ie. MC 1's EPIPHANY happens when...I figure it out).

If you're a pantser, you definitely need to know what lesson your MC needs to learn. But you don't need to plan that EVENT yet. Just leave the EVENT part blank (is. MC 1 NEEDS to learn that power corrupts...somehow.)

Now that you've planned your internal conflicts, map them into your Conflict Storyboard. Some of the EVENTS from your Theme Storyboard will be duplicated below.

Conflict Type	Person vs. Self	Person vs. Self	Person vs. Person	Person vs. Society	Person vs. Supernatural	Person vs. Nature
General Conflict	Jill v Herself	Jack v Himself	Jill v Jack	Jill v the Village	Jill v the Hill	Jack v the Storm
Specific Conflict (OBJECTIVE, BUT CONFLICTING PROBLEM)	Jill wants to save her dying father to prove her worth to the village, BUT the magic water only works for the pure in heart and she's afraid her anger for her village will stop the magic.	Jack wants to escape his step-mother, BUT a hit on his head is causing hallucinations where Jack thinks Jill is his step-mother who doesn't value him.	Jill needs the well's only bucket to hold the magic water that can save her father, BUT Jack needs the bucket to bail out his boat.	Jill WANTS the village to respect her, BUT everything she tries backfires.	Jill wants to reach the top of the hill where the well sits, BUT the hill is covered with magical entrapments, like rocks that jump under her feet and twist her ankle.	Jack wants to deliver his cargo, BUT a huge storm swamps his boat and he must bail it out before he continues.
Objective Introduced	Jill is teased by girls from the village. Jill gets angry at the village.	Jack looks at his cargo and imagines freedom from his stepmother.	Jill's father collapses and, in a whisper, he tells her about the only cure—water from a magic well.	Jill sees girls from the village and remembers a past attempt to get respect.	Jill's father collapses and, in a whisper, he tells her about the only cure—water from a magic well. (Note that this objective is the same as another conflict. That's okay. Some events will be duplicated.)	Jack sees his cargo as a key to his future.
Conflicting Problem Introduced	Father warns her that her anger will stop the magic.	Jack is tripped and hits his head. He hallucinates his father marrying his stepmother and her warning to Jack.	Jack's boat is caught in a storm and runs aground on a sandy reef with his boat full of water. On a hill above the beach, he sees a well, and he's sure there's a bucket hanging at the end of a rope. He swims to shore, heading toward his only hope.	Jill is teased by girls from the village. Jill gets angry at the village.	Jill's father warns her that the well is at the top of an enchanted hill.	A huge storm approaches.
First Attempt to Resolve	Jill complains about being teased by girls from the village. Village doctor tells her she ought to move if father dies.	Jack tries to reimagine himself standing up to stepmother.	Jill finally makes it to the top of the rocky hill, only to find a boy there, hauling the bucket up by the rope. She explains her predicament and asks him to give her the bucket. Jack laughs at her fairy tale and then ignores her.	Jill attempts to be friendly with village doctor.	The second she steps onto the slope of the hill, a rock jumps under her foot, making her twist her ankle. She retreats and goes to find something to wrap her ankle.	Jack straps down the cargo to keep it safe.
Conflict Discussed	Jill gets angry at the doctor.	Jack hates that stepmother even invades his nightmares.	Jill remembers the last time someone ignored her—a village boy she'd had a crush on. His slight had embarrassed her in front of her friends.	Doctor's warning makes her angry.	She meets an old woman who gives her a bandage but warns her about more dangers.	Jack worries as the storm hits.
Second Attempt to Resolve - Deepen	Jill complains to her old woman friend about the village. Old woman reminds her that the village is afraid of her, too, and warns her of her anger stopping the magic.	Jack hallucinates about when father died, Stepmother demoted Jack to lower position, pig farmer. He was assistant to father who ran the place.	Jack ignoring Jill makes her angry, and she demands the bucket. She stomps her foot, forgetting that she'd twisted her ankle earlier, and screams in pain. Jack thinks she's the local lunatic and uses the rope to tie her up.	Jill asks old woman for advice to get village to respect her. Old woman says their opinion doesn't matter.	Jill tries to ascend the hill again but is stopped by a ring of thorny bushes that rise up suddenly. She climbs a tree with a branch that reaches over the bushes and jumps.	Jack tries to steer through the storm.
Conflict Discussed	Jill decides she shouldn't let someone else determine her thoughts.	Jack feels shame about his position. Vows to change his life.	Jill has some very angry and pointed words to share with Jack, in a tone that's not at all polite.	Jill remembers another attempt to get village's respect.	Jill talks to herself as she assesses the damage to her other ankle. Now both ankles are hurt. And her elbow is scraped.	Jack worries more and rechecks cargo.
Third Attempt to Resolve - Broaden	Jill finally makes it up and down the hill, practicing calming her mind and forgets about village.	Jack hallucinates about Stepmother and friends laughing at Jack and his pigs.	Jack turns to walk away with the bucket, and Jill lunges for him. She catches his heel, making him trip, and he hits his head on one of the rocks.	Her father survives and tells her that few people would have thought how to save the situation. Because her father sees her worth, she sees her value and the village doesn't matter.	Once Jill gets the water from the well, she must find a way down the hill without spilling the water. As she starts down, a root grows up and trips her. She falls down the hill, spilling the water from the bucket as she tumbles.	Storm pushes boat toward rocks.

Brainstorm all the possible conflicts in your story. Remember the types of conflict: Person v Self, Person v Person, Person v Nature, Person v Technology, Person v Supernatural, Person v Society, Person v God. Potentially, every character in your story needs to face some conflict. The more characters, the more conflicts.

State each conflict in the format "Objective, But Conflicting Problem."

What EVENT will introduce the Goal or Objective? In the case of internal conflicts (Person v Self), you will already have listed it in your Theme Storyboard.

What EVENT will introduce the Conflicting Problem? In the case of internal conflicts (Person v Self), you will already have listed it in your Theme Storyboard.

Every attempt to resolve the problem and achieve the goal, needs to happen in an EVENT.

Your MC needs to REACT, realize the DILEMMA, and DECIDE what to do next.

The problem needs to have worsened, affecting your MC more. Your MC needs to try harder, spending more time and energy.

Your MC needs to REACT, realize the DILEMMA, and DECIDE what to do next.

The problem needs to have worsened, affecting more people. Your MC needs to try even harder to resolve.

Conflict Discussed

<p>Her father survives and tells her that few people would have thought how to save the situation. Because her father sees her worth, she sees her value.</p>	<p>Jack decides he's let his Stepmother affect his confidence.</p>	<p>Jill worries to herself because she now must care for two hurt people, yet she's tied up.</p>	<p>Jill thinks about her father's words, she sees her value and village doesn't matter.</p>	<p>Jill lies on the ground at the bottom of the hill and contemplates giving up.</p>	<p>Jack panics when boat hits rocks.</p>
<p>She runs into same village girls later and starts to get angry, but remembers her father's words. She isn't affected by their words.</p>	<p>Jack's EPIPHANY happens when Jill shares her epiphany with him.</p>	<p>With Jack hallucinating, Jill is able to get loose and tie Jack to the well so she can fill the bucket with water. She takes it to her father and then goes back to rescue Jack's boat with the bucket and her father's boat. Jill returns the bucket to the well and gives some water to Jack.</p>	<p>She runs into same village girls later and isn't affected by their words because she remembers her father's words.</p>	<p>Jill realizes that her clothes are soaked in the water and the bucket is next to her. She wrings her wet clothes into the bucket and takes the water to her father.</p>	<p>Storm settles down. Boat grounded. Water in boat needs to be bailed out.</p>
<p>Discusses with old woman about why the magic worked. Father's pure heart made the magic work. Now Jill's epiphany has calmed her heart too.</p>	<p>Jill's willingness to help Jack made him realize he'd been concentrating on his stepmother's opinions too much.</p>	<p>Once Jack's head clears, Jill explains what she's done, and he forgives her.</p>	<p>Jill realizes village opinion doesn't matter.</p>	<p>Jill asks the old woman why Jack could get to the top of the hill unharmed and the woman tells her that Jack wanted the bucket, not the magic water. The hill knew that, somehow.</p>	<p>Jack sees the well and decides to go get bucket.</p>

Solution

Solution Discussed

Your MC needs to REACT, realize the DILEMMA, and DECIDE what to do next.

If you're a pantser and your brain doesn't want to write the story if it's planned out and "finished," then DON'T plan your solutions.

Once you plan your Solution, don't forget to resolve the conflict by REACTing and DISCUSSing.