

1. Protagonist.

- Full [name](#)
- A nickname? Where did it come from?
- Age
- Current hometown
- Occupation
- Income
- Skills
- Talents
- Hobbies
- Short Term Goals
- Long Term Goals
- Habits
- Best qualities
- Worst qualities
- Favorite book
- Favorite movie
- Favorite possession
- Greatest passion
- Favorite foods
- Best friend
- Worst enemy

2. Establish physical characteristics.

- Height
- Weight

- Body Type
- Fitness level
- Hair color
- Hair type/style
- Eye color
- Glasses/contacts?
- Ethnicity
- Distinguishing features (birthmarks/scars/tattoos)
- Quirks
- Allergies
- Overall appearance/upkeep/style
- Limitations/handicaps

3. Layer in emotional characteristics.

- Personality
- Attitudes
- Introverted or Extroverted?
- Spiritual Worldview
- Political Worldview
- Strengths
- Weaknesses
- Mannerisms
- Motivations
- Fears
- Internal Struggles
- Secrets
- What makes him happy?

- Deepest longing
- If he could do or be anything, what would it be?

4. Their past

- Birthdate
- Birthplace
- Accent
- Family members/birth order (describe relationships)
- Childhood
- Education
- First jobs
- Accomplishments
- Failures

- What does he want? (a novel-worthy goal or challenge)
- What are his needs or desires?
- What or who stands in his way?
- What will he do about it?
- What happens if he fails? (the stakes must be dire enough to carry an entire novel)
- What sacrifices will he have to make?
- What is the worst possible thing that could happen to him?
- What fundamental changes do you see coming in him?
- What heroic qualities need to emerge for him to succeed?