



Inspiration-Sparking Idea Decks for Creative Minds of all Ages

For writing, role-playing, storytelling,
mind-exercising and imagination stretching

**It's your mind....
Go crazy!**

STORY MAGIC means creating something out of nothing, simply by using your imagination.

Using Story Magic, you can:

- Imagine anything you want and make it “come true”
- Have adventures you can only dream of

HOW TO MAKE STORY MAGIC:

- 1) Pick two – any two cards – from the Curious Characters Deck.
- 2) Pick one – any one – from the Possibilities Deck.
- 3) Read them. (Obviously!)
- 4) Now start mixing them in your mind.

START IMAGINING:

Who is this character? Is it one character or two? It can be anyone or anything. Here are just a few suggestions:

- Hero
- Villain
- Alien
- Talking pet
- Monster
- A mythical being
- Parent (not necessarily human)
- Child (not necessarily human)
- Sibling (definitely not human)
- Animal
- Inanimate object that thinks
- Metamorphic beast

**We can go on, but you probably
get the idea.**

THINK: What does he/she/it look like?

TRY THIS: Draw a picture.

Don't worry about being an artist. It can be a stick figure as long as it helps you think. In the space around the character, label and describe what you've drawn.

Now, go describe it in words.

ASK: How do they move?

TRY THIS: Get up and move.

Move like your character would. Feel it in your own body. Yes, you'll probably feel like an idiot at first, but after a while, you'll discover that the character is in you, and you're in the character. *Weird, huh?*

**Now, write what you felt in words.
Try a poem, a description, even just
a list of words that come to mind.**

CONSIDER: What do they eat for breakfast?

TRY THIS: Go eat it!

(As long as it won't kill you or make you sick!) How did it smell? How did it taste? How did it feel in your mouth? Even if you hated it, your character may like it. (Or is being forced to eat it.)

Write all this down!

LISTEN: What sounds do they make? (While they eat, but other sounds too.)

TRY THIS: Make those sounds.

Really. Go growl or screech or grumble or whatever. How does it feel? What do the sounds mean? What would someone else think if they heard you – oh, no... we mean if someone heard *your character!*

**Find a way to describe
the sounds on paper.**

IMAGINE: What's their first memory? Memories give characters a past. They matter.

**Describe their first memory
in a scene:
write it as if you're there.**

DECIDE: What do they want – right here, right now?

Every character has to want something. That's where conflict and action begin.

Yeah, write that down, too.

NOW, DO IT ALL OVER AGAIN

Create another character. Pick new Character cards and a new Possibility to mix things up.

Remember, your characters may be:

- **Protagonist:** the main character. This doesn't mean s/he has to be the hero.
- **Antagonist:** the opponent, competitor, enemy, rival, or just the character who stands in the way.
- **More characters:** the best friend, sidekick, mentor (like Yoda), love interest, minion – or any others you can think of.

**PUT THESE CHARACTERS
IN MOTION!**

- Where are they?
- What are they doing?
- What happened the moment before your story begins?
- What happens next?
- Does something happen to them or do they make something happen?
- Whatever you choose is fine. Just stay with it. Take a chance. Trust your imagination.

Be ready for some surprises.



CHECK OUT OUR ADD-ON DECKS:

- Pragmatic Possibilities
- Preposterous Possibilities
- Apparent Appearances
- Absurd Obsessions
- Chilling Challenges

We want your feedback!

Share your comments via our online survey and get a 10% discount to any TWC in-person workshop. (All workshops held in New Jersey—so far...!)

www.writerscircleworkshops.com/storymagic.html

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TWC Characters created by the awesome Amanda Zoe.