

THE CHARACTERS, A TWO-PART STORY

By

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Part 1: Characters in search of a story

“Make me a character in your story,” said an unknown woman. “Make me famous!”

“I’m dying for an adventure,” said an adventurous man.

“This is a mystery, isn’t it?” asked the mysterious intruder.

“If you need a detective to solve this case, I’m your man,” said the rugged detective.

“Someone just killed me,” said the dead man. “By the way, am I allowed to talk?”

“Dead men don’t talk,” said the villain, “that’s why I killed you.”

“What about me? I’m the damsel in distress,” said the distressed damsel.

“I’m here to rescue you – and just in time,” said the dashing hero. “By the way, are you married?”

Part 2: Characters’ feedback

“Um, you cut off my romance scene before I could even kiss the girl,” said the sad hero.

“There’s too much kissing in this story, not enough fighting,” said the villain.

“I’m a lover, not a fighter,” said the dead man, “but you killed me off too soon, so no one really cares about me.”

“I do, I’m your mother,” said the mother. “Never once did you have a flash back scene to develop my son (or me) more fully.”

“Speaking of full, the narrator seemed too full of himself,” said the distressed damsel. “Cut out the sidetracking and keep to the story or I’ll never get rescued.”

“The beginning drags a bit too. You don’t get to me soon enough,” said the mysterious intruder.

“Your clues are so clumsy that even a blind man can follow them,” said the detective. “Assume your readers have half a brain and let me do my job.”

“And tie up those loose ends at the end,” said the hero. “Now, do I kiss the girl or not?”

“No - that’s my fiancée,” said a rival. “You need to make that clear.”

“Now you tell me,” said the sad, lonely hero, as he walks off alone into the sunset.

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