

## Story Sketch Template

It's okay if you don't know all this yet—just fill in what you know so far. You can use this as a blueprint to keep your story on track, and dig in and develop your characters and story as you draft and revise, filling in more as the story takes shape.

X is a \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
(key character descriptors/traits)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(identity/situation)

who \_\_\_\_\_  
(desperate goal/longing)

because \_\_\_\_\_  
(motivation)

but \_\_\_\_\_  
(thing in the way)

But when \_\_\_\_\_  
(new situation)

she must \_\_\_\_\_  
(new response)

despite \_\_\_\_\_  
(obstacles, fears, challenges)

and she learns \_\_\_\_\_  
(change from initial fears/wound)

## Example: *The Hunger Games*

Katniss Everdeen is a tough, practical, resourceful, determined woman  
(key character descriptors)

who is the provider and caretaker for her family,  
(identity/situation)

and determined to ensure her family's survival  
(desperate goal/longing)

because she feels responsible for caring for her family and keeping them together once her dad dies and her mom falls apart  
(motivation)

but struggles to keep them fed and safe in their oppressive society.  
(thing in the way)

But when her sister is chosen as a Hunger Games contestant,  
(new situation)

she must take Prim's place and fight for survival to return to her family,  
(new response)

despite lack of strength/skill, inadequate weapons, the other contestants, fear, hornets, hallucinogens, Snow, society, etc.  
(obstacles, fears, challenges)

and she learns to trust and rely on others (Haymitch, Rue, Peeta, etc.) and widens her perspective.  
(change from initial fears/wound)