


The Synopsis

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>IF I WANTED TO TELL MY STORY IN ONE PAGE</p>  <p>I WOULDN'T HAVE WRITTEN THE OTHER THREE HUNDRED.</p> <p>http://graemeshimmin.com/how-to-write-a-novel-synopsis/</p> | <p>The Synopsis</p> <p>Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> genre era setting/background main character plot (dramatic turning points) <p>Purpose:</p> <p>Interest your reader and show that you have a story to tell!</p> <p>Do NOT worry about showing your writing "style" – that will come in the sample pages.</p> <p>https://literaryconsultancy.co.uk/media/press-publicity/how-to-write-a-synopsis/</p> |
|--|---|

**Synopsis of The Horses of Simea
by Jennifer Hardy**

In the Khawen Empire, legends are told of mystical creatures that can form from the earth's elements. It is said they take on the form of powerful stallions, chose a rider, and serve him until death. But for years they have been nothing more than a simple story, a myth that parents tell their children at bedtime, or a tale told around the hearth. But when the Kingdom of Simea is vanquished by the neighboring Kingdom of Gasa, it forces the survivors to flee deep into the mountains, where legends become reality.

Gaila's life had been simple, but when she encounters one of the fabled Mentos stallions, her life takes a drastic turn. Exiled from her village and forced to live on her own, she struggles with the realities that follow, the questions of the past, and haunted by the Mentos. Then things go from bad to worse when she encounters the very man who seeks to find her people, destroy their lineage, and capture the secrets of the Mentos to become unstoppable.

Can Gaila save her people and the legendary Mentos?

| | |
|---|--|
| Short Synopsis of Pride and Prejudice: Pride and Prejudice is a contemporary, literary romance about a woman who falls in love with a man she thinks she hates. | |
| <p>Longer Synopsis: Good Example</p> <p>Pride and Prejudice, a contemporary, literary novel, tells the story of Elizabeth Bennett, a proud, intelligent woman, one of five sisters, whose mother is committed to marrying her children off as a matter of urgency. Elizabeth meets Darcy, owner of a grand estate, but considers him over proud, arrogant and undesirable. In time, she learns that he is not all that he appears to be, and revises her prejudice, before they fall deeply in love.</p> | <p>Longer Synopsis: Bad Example</p> <p>Set at some point in the nineteenth century, five sisters are looking for husbands. Or is Mary, really? Anyway, their mother is a real fuss pot and annoys everybody. Outside their house there are lots of fields and it is sometimes raining. The girls' father is gentle and kind, with grey hair but not good at standing up to his wife always. Mr Bingley is an important character who is very handsome, but is he as handsome as Mr Darcy? It is hard to tell! ...</p> |
| https://literaryconsultancy.co.uk/media/press-publicity/how-to-write-a-synopsis/ | |

Writing the Synopsis

Rule of thumb: You should only name three characters in a short synopsis—usually, the protagonist, antagonist, and possible love interest/side-kick/contagonist. All other characters should be referred to by their roles (e.g. the waitress, the mother, the basketball player).

Rule of thumb: You must tell the ending! The purpose of a synopsis is to show an editor/agent you can tell a story from beginning to end. You will not entice them into reading your whole MS if you don't share the ending—you'll just tick them off!

Rule of thumb: Do not include subplots unless you have extra space!!!! Stick to the MAIN PLOT EVENTS.

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Opening image An image/setting/concept that sets the stage for the story to come.</p> | <p>Long ago, in a galaxy far away, a controlling government called the Empire takes control of planets, systems, and people. Anyone who resists is obliterated.</p> |
| <p>2. Protagonist Intro Who is the main character? Give 1-2 descriptive words and say what he/she wants.</p> | <p>Luke Skywalker, a naïve farm boy with a knack for robotics, dreams of one day escaping his desert homeland.</p> |
| <p>3. Inciting incident What event/decision/change prompts the main character to take initial action.</p> | <p>When he buys two robots, he finds one has a message on it—a message from a princess begging for help. She has plans to defeat the Empire, and she begs someone to deliver these plans to a distant planet. Luke goes to his friend and mentor, the loner Ben Kenobi, for help.</p> |
| <p>4. Plot point 1 What is the first turning point? What action does the MC take or what decision does he/she make that changes the book's direction? Once he/she crossed this line, there's no going back.</p> | <p>Ben tells Luke about a world where the Empire rules and Rebels fight back, where Jedi Knights wield a magic called the Force, and how Luke must face Darth Vader – the man who killed Luke's father and now seeks to destroy Luke too. Luke refuses, but when he goes back to his farm, he finds his family has been killed. He has no choice but to join Ben.</p> |
| <p>5. Conflicts & character encounters Now in a new life, the MC meets new people, experiences a new life, and meets the antagonist/villain.</p> | <p>To escape the desert planet, Ben and Luke hire a low-life pilot and the pilot's hairy, alien friend. Luke, Ben, Luke's robots, the pilot, and the hairy friend leave the planet and fly to the Death Star, Darth Vader's home and the Empire's main base.</p> |
| <p>6. Midpoint What is the middle turning point? What happens that causes the MC to make a 180 degree change in direction/change in emotion/change in anything? Again, once he/she has crossed this line, there's no going back.</p> | <p>Once on board the Death Star, Luke discovers the princess is being held as a hostage. He and the group set out to find the princess, while Ben sets out to find a way for them to escape the base.</p> |
| <p>7. Winning seems imminent, but... What happens that makes the MC think he/she will win? She seems to have the upper hand, but then oh no! The antagonist defeats her and rushes off more powerful than ever before.</p> | <p>After rescuing the princess, Luke and the group try to escape. Ben sacrifices himself so they can flee, and Darth Vader kills Ben. The group flees the Death Star on their own ship.</p> |
| <p>8. Black moment The MC is lower than low, and he/she must fight through the blackness of his/her emotions to find the strength for the final battle. What happens here?</p> | <p>Luke is devastated over Ben's death, and he is more determined to fight Darth Vader and help the Rebels defeat the Empire. Luke joins the Rebel army, and helps them plan an attack on the Death Star's only weakness.</p> |
| <p>9. Climax What happens in the final blow-out between the MC and the antagonist?</p> | <p>The Death Star arrives in space near the Rebels, and the attack begins. Luke joins the assault team of fighter ships. The Rebels suffer heavy losses, and soon Luke is one of the few remaining pilots and ships. He takes his chance and initiates the final attack. Guided by Ben's voice and the Force, he manages to fire the single, critical shot to explode the Death Star.</p> |
| <p>10. Resolution Does everyone live happily ever after? Yes? No? What happens to tie up all the loose ends?</p> | <p>With the Death Star destroyed and the Empire severely damaged, the Rebels hold a grand ceremony to honor Luke and his friends. The princess awards them with medals for heroism.</p> |
| <p>11. Final image What is the final image you want to leave your reader with? Has the MC succumbed to his/her own demons or has he/she built a new life?</p> | <p>Though Luke is still sad over the loss of Ben and his family, he has found a place among the Rebels, and with them, he will continue to fight the Empire.</p> |