

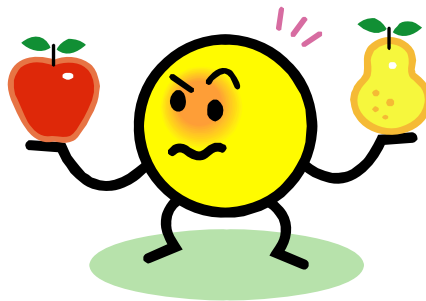
CONFLICT NOTES

If you don't have conflict, then you don't have a story!

Character vs. Self

1. **Internal conflict** - The battle between what the character wants to do and what the character must do.
 - a. Human nature wants to avoid difficult or unpleasant situations.
 - b. Conflict forces character to choose between the easy road and the hard road to achieve a goal.
 - c. Motivation determines what character will gain or lose by making the choice.
 - d. Characters must have a strong reason to stay in a situation they would rather avoid.
 - e. If they are not in a situation they want to avoid, there is no conflict, and no story.

➤ **Example:** *Do I keep or turn in the money that I found?*



Character vs. Character (Group), Society, Nature, Fate

2. **External conflict** - An external problem that is standing in the way of the character and his or her goals.
 - a. The problem can be a natural disaster, loss of a job, death of a loved one, etc.
 - b. It must be a conflict the character can't resolve, can only deal with.
 - c. Goals must be so strong they cannot be abandoned in the face of this situation.
 - d. The external conflict can also be a collision of the hero and heroine's goals.

➤ **Example:** *A robber is holding me up at gunpoint, demanding my money.*

