

*David Chrisinger*

# 5 ESSENTIALS OF STORYTELLING



## 1. THE INCITING EVENT

*The sole purpose of the inciting event is to knock the main character (you) out of their routine or upset the balance of their life in some way.*

## 2. PROGRESSIVE COMPLICATIONS

*You experience escalating degrees of conflict. If you do one thing, you'll potentially put yourself in great danger — physical or emotional. If you don't, you may be tormented by regret.*



## 3. THE CRISIS

*You absolutely must make a decision. This decision will determine whether you'll get closer to or farther away from your object of desire.*

## 4. THE CLIMAX

*You make a decision—where you answer the question raised by the crisis. The decision you make will reveal who you are as a character to the reader.*



## 5. THE RESOLUTION

*You make sense out of all that has happened. If the inciting event shows the reader the before, the resolution is where the reader gets to see the after.*

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