

CHARACTER DEPTH

“Happiness is like a butterfly: the more you chase it, the more it will elude you, but if you turn your attention to other things, it will come and sit softly on your shoulder...”– Thoreau

Character depth is like happiness. One way to attain it is to not consciously try to seek it (a common cause of writers block) – you think about your story start-state, the in-between states, the final-state, the journey, the transformation, the functions that need to be performed, the characters that can be assigned to those functions, how you’ll dress those characters, the value systems that may rationalize their actions and so on. Finally, you may find that your characters have depth. You may also find that directors / actors etc are the final secret sauce that give your characters their depth.

Kal Bashir

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