

21 Plot Templates

Try to think of at least one story to fit each plot category.

Plot	Example?
1. Adventure comes to you. A Stranger comes to town.	
2. You go to Adventure. You leave town.	
3. Quest. The protagonist searches for something and winds up changing him/herself.	
4. Adventure. Features a goal-oriented series of events.	
5. Pursuit. This is the typical Chase Plot. Definitely action-oriented.	
6. Rescue. Another easy to recognize action-oriented plot.	
7. Escape. A variation on the Rescue is when the protagonist escapes on his/her own.	
8. Revenge. Someone is wronged and vows to take revenge.	
9. The Riddle. Love a good mystery? This is the plot for you.	
10. Rivalry. This story follows two main characters, one on a downward track and one on an upward track and their interactions.	
11. Underdog. This is the plot where the under-privileged (handicapped, poor, etc) triumphs despite overwhelming odds.	
12. Temptation. Pandora's Box extended to novel form.	
13. Metamorphosis. This is a physical transformation of some kind.	
14. Transformation. Similar to the previous, this plot features an inner change, instead of changing the outer form.	
15. Maturation. Rite of passage,	

coming-of-age–these terms all refer to someone growing up morally, spiritually or emotionally.	
16. Love. The classic Boy-meets-Girl plot.	
17. Forbidden Love. Brilliant use of the forces that keep her characters apart, while still attracting.	
18. Sacrifice. From the Biblical tale of Jesus to the story of parents sacrificing for their children, this is a staple of literature.	
19. Discovery. This story digs around, exposes buried secrets and watches them affect the characters.	
20. Wretched Excess. When a character is in a downward spiral from alcohol, drugs, greed, etc. this is the plot form.	
21. Rise or Fall. A rise or fall from power puts a character into this plot form.	