

**HOW TO WRITE AND SELL  
A PICTURE BOOK  
WITH A PLOT  
Video Series**

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# HOW TO WRITE AND SELL A PICTURE BOOK WITH A PLOT Video Series

7 videos of direction instruction + 28 exercises

## HOMEWORK

### Video #1 = Introduction

- Over the course of this series you'll read at least 80 Picture Books
- Schedule 1/2 hour per day to read and evaluate Picture Books
- Determine whether the PBs you're reading are character-driven or action-driven

For additional plot support:

- *The Plot Whisperer: Secrets of Story Structure Any Writer Can Master*
- *The Plot Whisperer Workbook: Step-by-Step Exercises to Help You Create Compelling Stories*
- *The Plot Whisperer Book of Writing Prompts: Easy Exercises to Get You Writing*

# HOMWORK

## Video #2 = Overall Story Level

- Commit now to at least one PB concept and story all the way through this video series from beginning to end
- Write one sentence each for what happens (action) to the character (emotion) in the Beginning (1<sup>st</sup> 1/4), in the Middle, and one sentence for what happens at the End (last 1/4) of your story
- Evaluate characters and where the story takes place in the picture books you're reading and compare to yours
- Brainstorm your character. Put the character in lots of different settings & situations / determine what makes each character / setting unique
- Decide on one negative & (3) positive traits for protagonist and any other important characters
- Keep reading Picture Books

# HOMework

## Video #3 = Plot and Design

- With all the picture books you're reading, analyze the front flap for concept
- Go onto [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)/[BarnesandNoble.com](https://www.BarnesandNoble.com/)/[Indiebound.com](https://www.Indiebound.com) and read the professional reviews and determine why this book stands out
- Create a Plot Planner for your story
- Identify 3 Energetic Markers for each part

# HOMEWORK

## Video #4 = continue Plot and Design

- What is the *take-away* of the books you've read and are reading?
- Write the take-away for your book
- Identify plot lines in the PBs you're reading / for your story
- Transformational / Change Summary your story

# HOMework

## Video #5 = Scene Level

- Identify the antagonists in the PB you're reading
- Identify antagonist in your story
- Create goal, motivation, antagonists for your picture book

**Write  
YOUR Picture Book!**

# HOMework

## Video #6 = Word Level

- Review your story with an eye toward logic
- Review and revise your EM if needed
- Identify your theme – similar to take away
- Make a blank Dummy
- Revise manuscript:
  - Edit every verb
  - Pacing
  - Illustration opportunities per page
  - Dialog versus prose
  - Word choice
  - Sentence structure, etc.
- Rewrite Your Story

## HOMework

### Video #7 = How to Submit

- Make a list of agents and editors you wish to submit to
- Submit

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\*Additional video courses

PlotWriMo: Revise Your Novel in a Month

<http://marthaalderson.com/plotwrimo-revise-novel/>

27-Step Tutorial: How to Plot a Novel

<http://marthaalderson.com/how-to-plot-a-novel/>

Spiritual Guide for Writers

<http://marthaalderson.com/spiritual-guide-writers/>