

## Collaborative Story Builder Template

Write a story with your friends! With two others you will write a three-act story with each person building on the story. Use the images below from MoPOP's collections and exhibits as inspiration to write a short story following the three-act story structure. You will pass on one part of the story to two different people (and even have the chance to challenge them by requiring them to use specific words you choose!).



Image 1



Image 2



Image 3



Image 4



Image 5



Image 6



Image 7



Image 8

**Image Credit:**

- Image 1 - Aragorn's Strider Sword from The Lord of the Rings (2001) and The Return of the King (2003). Allen Family Collection.
- Image 2 - Alien Carbonizer pistol from the film "Men in Black" 1997. Allen Family Collection.
- Image 3 - Lament Configuration Box from Hellraiser: Inferno, 2000. Courtesy of Kurt Root.
- Image 4 - Klingon D7 battle cruiser filming miniature from the television series Star Trek, 1966 – 1969. Allen Family Collection.
- Image 5 - Helmet worn by John Rhys-Davies as Gimli in The Lord of the Rings film trilogy, 2001 – 2003. Allen Family Collection.
- Image 6 - Stunt stake gun used in Fright Night, 2011. Courtesy of Kurt Root.
- Image 7 - Dorothy dress from The Wizard of Oz (1939). Private Collection.
- Image 8 - Illuminating TER (Trans-Phase Eradication Rod) weapon from the television series "Stargate SG-1" 1997-2007. Allen Family Collection.

## Author #1

### **Act 1**

Pick an image:

Write a short description of the **main character** of the story. This will help your coauthors get to know the main character. *HINT: Think about who your characters are before you start writing. Know their strengths and flaws.*

**Who is the main character?**

Write a short description of the **setting** of the story. Be detailed enough that your coauthors know where your story takes place and what it's like there. *HINT: Set your story somewhere specific and interesting.*

**What is the setting?**

In act 1 readers are introduced to the setting, the main character, and the start of the plot line.  
Use the image you picked as inspiration to start the story.



Challenge mode – pick two words from the word bank below that author #2 must incorporate into the next part of the story.

**Word Bank:**

- |                                    |                                  |                                  |                                |                              |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Apprehension | <input type="radio"/> Cauldron   | <input type="radio"/> Disgust    | <input type="radio"/> Dragon   | <input type="radio"/> Dread  |
| <input type="radio"/> Acceleration | <input type="radio"/> Asteroids  | <input type="radio"/> Comet      | <input type="radio"/> Cosmic   | <input type="radio"/> Nebula |
| <input type="radio"/> Terror       | <input type="radio"/> Alarming   | <input type="radio"/> Chilling   | <input type="radio"/> Cauldron | <input type="radio"/> Eerie  |
| <input type="radio"/> Illusion     | <input type="radio"/> Apprentice | <input type="radio"/> Utopia     | <input type="radio"/> Flight   | <input type="radio"/> Awe    |
| <input type="radio"/> Intimidating | <input type="radio"/> Shocking   | <input type="radio"/> Malevolent | <input type="radio"/> Sinister | <input type="radio"/> Curse  |
| <input type="radio"/> Fright       | <input type="radio"/> Eclipse    | <input type="radio"/> Hairy      | <input type="radio"/> Castle   | <input type="radio"/> Dark   |

**Author Name:**

Now save what you have written and pass it along to a friend! Tell them which two words they must include.

## Author #2

You have been invited to write a story with your friends! With two others you will write a three-act story with each person building on the story. Use the images below from MoPOP's collections and exhibits as inspiration to write the second act of a short story following the three-act story structure. You will pass on what you and Author #1 wrote to another friend and have them complete the story (and even have the chance to challenge them by requiring them to use specific words you choose!).

Read what Author #1 wrote.

### **Act 2**

Pick an image:

In act 2 the plot continues. Develop the characters further and develop the **conflict** or the problem or challenge for the main character. Use the second image you picked as inspiration for act 2 of the story and try to include the challenge words.



Challenge mode – pick two different words from the word bank below that Author #3 must incorporate into the next part of the story.

**Word Bank:**

- |                                    |                                  |                                  |                                |                              |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Apprehension | <input type="radio"/> Cauldron   | <input type="radio"/> Disgust    | <input type="radio"/> Dragon   | <input type="radio"/> Dread  |
| <input type="radio"/> Acceleration | <input type="radio"/> Asteroids  | <input type="radio"/> Comet      | <input type="radio"/> Cosmic   | <input type="radio"/> Nebula |
| <input type="radio"/> Terror       | <input type="radio"/> Alarming   | <input type="radio"/> Chilling   | <input type="radio"/> Cauldron | <input type="radio"/> Eerie  |
| <input type="radio"/> Illusion     | <input type="radio"/> Apprentice | <input type="radio"/> Utopia     | <input type="radio"/> Flight   | <input type="radio"/> Awe    |
| <input type="radio"/> Intimidating | <input type="radio"/> Shocking   | <input type="radio"/> Malevolent | <input type="radio"/> Sinister | <input type="radio"/> Curse  |
| <input type="radio"/> Fright       | <input type="radio"/> Eclipse    | <input type="radio"/> Hairy      | <input type="radio"/> Castle   | <input type="radio"/> Dark   |

**Author Name:**

Now save what you have written and pass it along to a new friend! Tell them the two words they must include.



### Author #3

You have been invited to write a story with your friends! With two others you will write a three-act story with each person building on the story. Use the images below from MoPOP's collections and exhibits as inspiration to write the final act of a short story following the three-act story structure. You will finish what Author #1 and Author #2 have written and send the complete story back to your friends and to MoPOP!

Read what author #1 and #2 wrote.

### **Act 3**

Pick an image:

In act 3 the story reaches its climax. Resolve the conflict and bring the story to its resolution. Use the third image you picked as inspiration for act 3 of the story and try to include the challenge words.



**Author Name:**

Save what you have written, proofread and edit the whole thing, and send the completed story to your coauthors and to us at MoPOP: [education@mopop.org](mailto:education@mopop.org).

You did it! Well done, through cooperation you and your fellow writers completed a three-act story together. Consider sharing your story with others, creating illustrations for it, perhaps submitting it to a contest. Continue learning at [MoPOP.org/Education](http://MoPOP.org/Education).