**Character Biography**

Each of the following areas must be addressed to better understand your character in order to make important **storytelling** choices. Sometimes the author will directly provide the information; more often than not the storyteller will need to search the text for clues to these areas. Use your imagination (and the information you’ve already collected) to answer each of the areas.

**I. Character Dissection**

Write it in the first person, and follow the outline format below for your responses.

**A. Physical**

*Everything in this section should describe the outer side of the character, how they are seen and how they appear.*

1. Full Name

2. Gender *(male or female)*

3. Age *(exact, not approximate)*

4. Posture *(good, bad-describe)*

5. Center *(where does the character carry himself)*

6. Strength *(relative physical strength)*

7. Health *(the current state)*

8. Defects *(scars, etc.)*

9. Appearance *(overall)*

10. Shape

11. Point of Vanity *(what part of their body is the character most proud of)*

12. Pets *(either one(s) you have or ones you’d like to have)*

**B. Social**

*Everything in this section should describe the life of the character in his/her community, how they have been prepared and how they function with others.*

1. Class *(lower, middle, upper)*

2. Occupation *(job/school)*

3. Education *(how many years in school, last grade completed)*

4. Home Life *(live alone, with others, married, quality of that existence)*

5. I. Q. *(not always indicated by education)*

6. Race *(Caucasian, etc.)*

7. Nationality *(countries descended from)*

8. Religion *(either by birth or by choice)*

9. Place in Community *(status in society)*

10. Politics *(party affiliation or lack of interest)*

11. Amusements *(what sort of hobbies, activities interest the character?)*

**C. Psychological**

*Everything in this section should describe the inside of the character, how they see themselves and his/her life.*

1. Love Life *(describe generally the nature of it)*

2. Moral Standards *(not just high or low, but give a hint of what is important to your character)*

3. Philosophy *(about their life)*

4. Ambitions *(personal goals and dreams)*

5. Disappointments *(opportunities missed, wrong roads taken, relationships, etc.)*

6. Complexes *(things which bother or concern your character)*

7. Abilities *(ways in which your character excels in navigating life and its problems)*

8. Qualities *(of a person’s character)*

9. Peculiarities *(oddities or unusual character traits)*

10. If you were an animal, what would it be and why?

11. Color *(Does your character have a favorite color and how does character impact your character?)*

**II. Character’s Given Circumstances**

*Answer each of these questions for the setting/time of the story*

A. Where am I coming from?

B. What was I doing there?

C. Why did I leave?

D. Why have I come here?

E. What will I do here?

F. Describe the environment and how it affects you.

G. Whom do I know here?

H. What is my relationship to/feelings towards the people here?

**III. Character’s Mood-Intensity during the story**

How does your character feel about telling the story

1. Heartbeat

2. Perspiration

3. Stomach Condition

4. Muscle Tension

5. Breathing