Character Development for Writers Group

5000 Writing Prompts, page 218

Natural Enemies Prompts

Conflict is at the heart of a good story, and some characters seem destined to butt heads. Of course, in some cases, the same characters may also have a lot in common. Some of the parings on this list could be friends who bicker about a particular issue. Most of them could be true adversaries. They could even be enemies who wind up becoming friends or falling in love. Try writing about one of these pairs.

- 1. A vegan and a steakhouse owner
- 2. Soldiers of opposing armies
- 3. A celebrity and a tabloid photographer
- 4. A moderator on a website and an internet troll
- 5. A neat person and a slob
- 6. A cat lover and someone who's scared of cats
- 7. A jock and a nerd
- 8. Owners of two competing shops or restaurants in a small town
- 9. A city lover and an outdoorsy type
- 10. An eternal optimist and a pessimist

Different types of characters:

Selfless

Selfish

I selflessly put the needs of others before my own and use the laws and traditions of my people in order to help people the "right" way.

Whether I break or follow the rules is inconsequential. What matters most is being selfless and protecting the well being of others. I selflessly put the needs of others before my own. I defy social norms and challenge authority in order to help those oppressed by it.

LAWFUL GOOD

NEUTRAL GOOD

CHAOTIC GOOD

The needs of myself or others are inconsequential. What matters most is upholding the system and structures of authority for the sake of order.

Ethics and rules are flexible depending on the situation. I will do whatever is most pragmatic at a given time, and am not strongly attached to any one ideal The needs of myself or others are inconsequential. What matters most is challenging structures of authority for the sake of freedom.

LAWFUL NEUTRAL

True Neutral

CHAOTIC NEUTRAL

I put the selfish needs of myself above the needs of others, and will take advantage of the rules and traditions of society in order to keep others beneath me. Whether I break or maintain rules is inconsequential, what matters most is putting my own selfish needs above the needs of others I put the selfish needs of myself above the needs of others, and will subvert the rules and traditions of society in order to keep others beneath me

LAWFUL EVIL

NEUTRAL EVIL

CHAOTIC EVIL

Prioritizes structure and tradition

Prioritizes change and freedom



loves following rules and order, from good people for good causes. tries to get others to follow rules too.

thing sometimes. either way, they just

want to do whats best for others

will follow rules and

order, but is just

fine doing their own

hates rules and order and will do their own thing, but tries to make sure that what theyre doing makes people happy and helps people out

LAWFUL GOOD

would follow pretty much any rule, no matter what it is, even if the rule is unjust or evil. theyd be a little reluctant but theyd still do it.

NEUTRAL GOOD

kinda just... exists. just wants to be happy.

CHAOTIC GOOD

HATES RULES. loves chaos, good or bad. doesnt really care about what anyone says, and always does their own thing.

Lawful Neutral

love seeing others suffer, but also wants there to be some sort of order. will probably seek out a corrupt ruler, or become that corrupt ruler. not any less evil than chaotic evil, just more organized

TRUE NEUTRAL

just likes seeing people suffer. will or wont follow rules, depending on whether those rules cause suffering or not

CHAOTIC NEUTRAL

wont listen to anyone no matter what, and loves watching people die in hilarious, exiting, and creative new ways. just wants the world to become a fiery wasteland of torture and demise.

LAWFUL EVIL

NEUTRAL EVIL

CHAOTIC EVIL



AWFUL GOOD

"Everything you see exists together in a delicate balance. As king, you need to understand that balance and respect all the creatures, from the crawling ant to the leaping antelope."



Neutral good

"My dad just showed me the whole kingdom. And I'm gonna rule it all! Heheh. "



Chaotic good

"Asante sana Squash banana, Wiwi nugu Mi mi apana!" "It means you're a baboon... and I'm not."



AWFUL NEUTRAL

"One day, you two are going to be married."
"Sorry to burst your bubble, but you two turtle-doves have no choice. It's a tradition that goes back generations."



TRUE NEUTRAL "Hmm, what do you think, Sarabi?"



CHAOTIC NEUTRAL
"Luau! If you're hungry for a hunk of fat and
juicy meat, eat my buddy Pumbaa here!
'cause he's a tasty treat, come on down
and dine, On this tasty swine. All you gott
is get in line! Are you achin', for some
bacon? He's a big pig!
You can be a big pig, too! Oy!"



AWFUL EVIL "Long live the King!"



NEUTRAL EVI *THUMP! THUMP! THUMP!* *BA DUM DUM!* *THUMP! DUM! THUMP!*



"Eh-hee-hee. Heh-heheheheheheheh BA-HA-HA-HAAAA! HA-AH-AH-AH-AH! AH-HA-HO! HO-HO-HO!"



Fic Writers Alignment Chart

@anony-mouse-write

Lawful Good

writes long fic in full before posting on a regular schedule until finished

Neutral Good

long series of non-chronological fics with loose ties to one another, well written and with a largely consistent posting schedule

Chaotic Good

just posts short, one-shot stories at random forever- no matter how much the people beg for more

Lawful Neutral

has sequel(s) planned out for a series and is still writing, but takes approximately 5 years to finish it before posting

True Neutral

comes from obscurity to write a single, mind-blowing fic, then fades back into nothing forever

Chaotic Neutral

swans from the void to post updates erratically, but never leaves any real cliffhangers

Lawful Evil

begins long angst-fic with inconsistent update schedule before abandoning the fic for good after posting a cliffhanger

Neutral Evil

has a compilation post of 'fics I will never write' to tease everyone. Every last one is an amazing idea

Chaotic Evil

has 17 different long-fics begun and unfinished, some several years old. will occassionally break from their current work to post a single chapter for one at random leaving a worse cliffhanger than before.

Pure, Unadulturated Evil

has several chapters after their latest cliffhanger full of author notes and side tangets before abandoning the story forever and marking it complete without tagging it as an abandoned work