## What is a Plot?

When characters team up and work together to solve a problem very quickly





Protecting New York City's Children since 1831. (and sometimes its abandoned animals as well)

All services

WHOEVER YOU ARE free of charge. WHATEVER YOUR PROBLEM WE WILL FIGHT FOR YOU!

Our only fee is secrecy.



# Abigail has a big problem

Gangs are threatening her neighborhood

# Conflict

When a Protagonist's Intentions collide with Obstacles

### CONFLICT

#### **Elements**

- Protagonist wants something or needs something important
- They can't get to it because something is in their way.
  - EXTERNAL obstacles = Villains
  - INTERNAL obstacles = Fears
- The WORLD that they live in NEEDS TO BE CHANGED.
- But they CANNOT change the WORLD until they change THEMSELVES

### **Abigail Reid**

#### **Client #6532**

- Protagonist of the Story
- BACKSTORY
  - Lived in the Country, on a Farm.
  - Recently moved to the city
  - Mother died recently (fever)
  - Father works three jobs to support her
  - Very smart. Attends a school for gifted but underprivileged kids.
  - Doesn't like New York City, and wants to go home.



### **Abigail Reid**

#### **Client #6532**

- Protagonist of the Story
- INTENTION (What does she want?)
  - To go to school.
  - To be a good daughter.
  - To honor her mother who has passed away.
- OBSTACLE (What is her problem?)
  - EXTERNAL: Gangs that control her neighborhood
  - INTERNAL: Her own fear.





## Contract

Little Wade and Watchtower have a plan for Abigail. She hires them. They give her a contract.

### The Contract = Plot

#### **Laying out the Structure**

- Little Wade and Watchtower lay out the several "problems" the Abigail has
- They address them one by one, and agree to help her step by step.
- The reader knows some details about how the plot is going to proceed, but there will be surprises
- Q: how do the plots and subplots relate to each other?



## Little Wade and Watchtower, Co. Protectors of New York City's Children Contract for Services

On the date of November 18, 1899 in the City of
New York, Abigail Reid (hereafter referred to as
the Client), age 13, daughter of Martin
Reid, hereby enters into a services agreement with
Little Wade and Watchtower, Co., who hereby promise
in good faith to provide services to the Client for
the express purposes of:

First and foremost, the immediate physical protection from, and long-term removal of, dangerous gang elements infesting the Client's neighborhood that may pose a threat to her safety. Chaperoning will be provided.

Second, facilitation of the construction of the Secret Passage of Hope, a network of contacts and shortcuts to her place of education, places of recreation, place of employment, places of errands, and finally domicile, so that the Client may pass freely and safely to and from home without fear of harassment, harangue or capture.

Third, the facilitation of improved employment prospects for Client's father,

Martin Reid, so that his earnings, hours, and quality of life may improve so as to facilitate a higher quality relationship with his beloved daughter, the Client.

Fourth, Little Wade and Watchtower agree to provide the following: facilitation of dramatically improved long-term prospects for the Client, in the form of contacts, acquaintances, sponsors, benefactors, allies and friends, that will assist Client educationally, financially, socially, medically, scientifically, legally, emotionally, spiritually, psychologically, logistically and perhaps even militarily for the foreseeable future should the need ever arise.

Fifth, the rigorous education and training of the Client for the express purposes of increasing the Client's overall worldly wisdom, situational awareness, practical skill sets and talent for adaptability (hereafter all clustered together and referred to as "Street Smarts"), to improve Client's long-term prospects for survival and success in the Greater New York City Metropolitan Area.

Sixth, Little Wade and Watchtower agree to provide for the administration of any necessary medical attention for the immediate redress, respite, repair, and recovery from any injuries, physical or mental, suffered by the Client during the fulfillment of any of the services enumerated in this contract.

Heretofore agreed to on November
18, 1899 and binding for the
foreseeable future considering that
both Little Wade and Watchtower are
effectively ageless and nearly
indestructible and, therefore, could
be considered technically immortal.

Signed and Sealed (Client):
Abigail Sarah Reid, daughter of

Martin Thomas Reid and Sarah Hyland

Reid (deceased).

Additionally, Little Wade and Watchtower

agree to investigate the disappearance of the Client's close friend and classmate, Ms.

Brooke Adams, who vanished on Essex

Street on the date October 17th, 1899.

# Let's look at the contract again

Plots and Subplots will be color coded

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### The Contract = Plot

#### **Laying out the Structure**

- Plot 1: The Great Gang Trap
- Subplot 2: The Secret Passage of Hope
- Subplot 3: Helping her father
- Subplot 4: Getting more allies for Abigail
- Subplot 5: Training Abigail
- Subplot 6: (SECRET UNTIL THE END)
- Subplot 7: Rescuing Brooke Adams
- Q: how do the plots and subplots relate to each other?





