

The Story Bible Starter

The character entry, the who knows what table, and the scene turn audit.

Two artifacts. The character entry, which is what actually reaches the model, and the who knows what table, which no tool builds for you and which catches the most common continuity error in AI assisted fiction.

CHARACTER ENTRY

Keep main entries short. A hundred words is generous. Write them as instructions for performance, not as history. History goes in the notes with the eye color, in whichever field your tool keeps **out** of the prompt.

Name
Aliases every name this character is called, by anyone
Diction register and actual vocabulary
Rhythm sentence length, interrupts, finishes, waits
What they will not say and what they deflect to
Verbal tic, or its deliberate absence
Always doing while they talk
Notes, kept out of the prompt appearance, backstory, history

The third axis does more work than the other four combined, and it is the one people leave blank. A person who deflects grief into procedure has to be put in a room with grief, and the scene writes itself the moment you do it.

THE WHO KNOWS WHAT TABLE

Characters down the side, secrets and revelations across the top, the chapter each character learns each thing in the cells. Before you write a scene, read down the column of every secret in play and ask who in this room knows it. Fifteen seconds, and it catches most of what would otherwise reach a copyeditor.

CHARACTER

Give the model one row, never the whole table. Thirty words of what this character knows as of this chapter prevents the single most damaging class of error. The whole table contains everything, and everything in the prompt is everything the model may use.

A scene turns the value charged condition of a character's life. Something that mattered was one way at the start and is the other way at the end. If nothing turns, you have written an event, not a scene. Run this over eight to twelve scenes at a time, never the whole manuscript.

[illegible]

Watch for two adjacent rows negative on the same value. That is a pacing problem as well as a turn problem. And do not let the model fix what it finds: asked to make a scene turn, it will invent an argument in which two characters say the quiet part out loud. Diagnose with the machine, fix by hand.