

Title:

The "Casablanca" Secret

Word Count:

1024

Summary:

Good writing is often designed around a character who has a distorted vision of himself or of

A classic example is ^Casablanca,~ where Bogart's immortal Rick has managed to create an insult

Keywords:

writing, novel, advice, creativity

Article Body:

Good writing is often designed around a character who has a distorted vision of himself or of

A classic example is ^Casablanca,~ where Bogart's immortal Rick has managed to create an insult

Rick begins as a damaged, closed off character, carrying wounds to his heart and ego. What he

In Lifewriting we trust that the quality of a writer's skill will be heightened by his evolution

The easiest way to learn this is to look at our own lives. None of us make it through our years

Either attitude clouds our vision, makes it difficult to see the world as it is. Those clouded

What we WANT is the comforting womb of our illusions. What we NEED is to be born into the world

Often, we are dragged kicking and screaming into clarity, forced ultimately to accept the ways

Too late, we are battered by one failure or disappointment after another, until the ego walls

But there are events that create clarity. The birth of a first child. A near-death experience.

Stories that deal with these core stressors--life, death, birth, transformation, love--are always

This is one of the functions of story. The writer must create story pressures beyond the capacity

Let them struggle. Let them learn. Let them love.

Let them live.

Do this, and it will mark the beginning of a beautiful friendship between you, your muse, and

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