

## **PLOT STRUCTURE: IN THE BEGINNING ...**

The beginning of a book is sometimes called **THE EXPOSITION**. In this part of the book you meet the main character(s), learn the setting of the book, and find out the main (or first) problem. You might also find yourself asking questions or wondering certain things about the story.

Who is the main character in *The Eighth Day*? What do you know about him?

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What other characters have you met?

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What is the setting? \_\_\_\_\_

What seems to be the main character's problem in the book?

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What questions do you have in your mind at the end of the first chapter?

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## **PLOT STRUCTURE: THIS IS WHERE EVERYTHING CHANGES ...**

In a book, after **THE EXPOSITION** comes **THE RISING ACTION**. You've met the main character, seen the setting, and learned about the main character's problem. Then something happens that changes the situation or makes the problem worse. This is the start of **RISING ACTION**, which will take up most of the book. The main character will try to solve the problem and fail – or the problem will get more complicated – or new problems will arise.

The first event in the **RISING ACTION** is usually the one that gets the whole story started.

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Chapter 2 starts with Jax's birthday and a message from his mother's cousin Naomi saying she is no longer fighting Riley for custody. That makes the problem worse. Then, something really strange happens.

Describe what happens on the day after Jax's 13<sup>th</sup> birthday.

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Does this event give you more questions to wonder about? Does it answer any of your previous questions? Do you have any predictions about what will happen next?

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## Eighth Day Self-Help Guide

So, you woke up to a pink and purple sky, your phone doesn't work, and everybody is missing?

**DON'T PANIC!**

It's not the zombie apocalypse, it's just Grunsday.

Here are some tips to help you deal with it ...

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

## Design your Own Family Crest

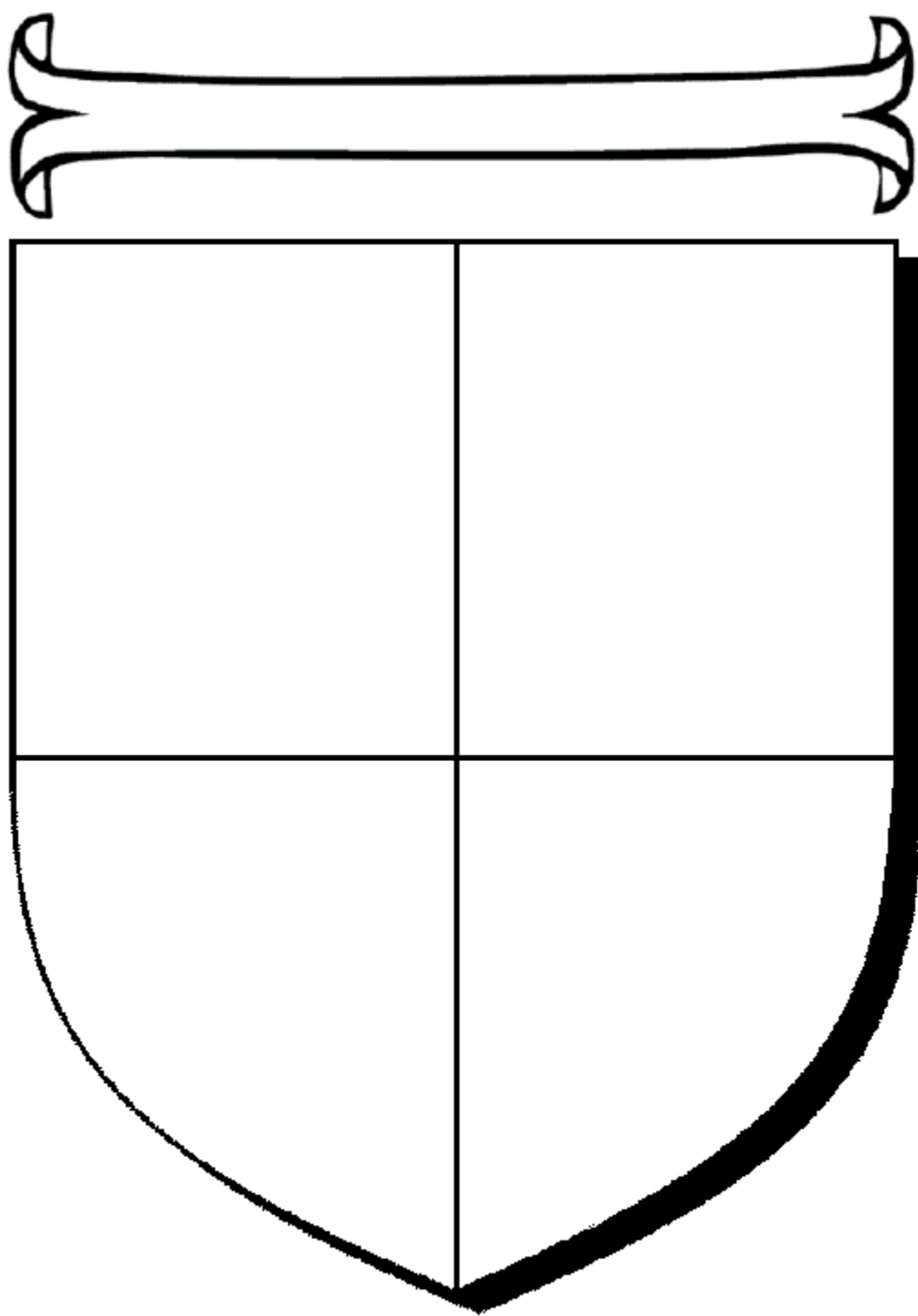
**HERALDRY** is the art of designing family crests with symbols. Think about the things that are important to your family and, using the list of symbols below, choose at least four to design a crest for your family. Feel free to make up symbols of your own.

LION – courage  
TIGER – fierceness  
BEAR – protection of family  
WOLF – leadership, persistence  
HORSE – hardworking  
LAMB – gentleness and patience  
RABBIT – peaceful and shy  
FOX – clever  
GREYHOUND – vigilant and loyal  
SPIDER – wise and hard-working  
EAGLE – quick, decisive, spirited  
WINGS – protective  
FALCON – eager to pursue goals  
OWL – vigilant and wise  
PEACOCK – beautiful and proud  
ROOSTER – always ready for battle  
DOVE – loving and peaceful  
TURTLE – invulnerable to attack  
DRAGON – defender of treasure  
HORNS & ANTLERS – strength  
SCALLOP SHELL – many voyages  
HEART – charity, kindness  
HAND – faith and justice  
LEG – strength, endurance  
EYE – government, leadership  
CROWN – royal authority  
RING – faithfulness  
PEN – writing, knowledge  
AXE – military duty  
CASTLE – solid and long-lasting  
CROSS – religious

ANGEL – dignity and honor  
SUN – glory, splendor, showy  
MOON – quietly powerful  
FIRE – intense  
LIGHTNING – forceful  
ROCK – safety and protection  
SWORD – honorable in war  
HORSE SHOE – lucky  
WHEEL – fortunate  
ANCHOR – solid, dependable  
APPLE – cheerful and peace-loving  
BAT – dark and full of chaos  
CANDLE – spiritual  
KEY – guardians  
RAINBOW – good times after bad  
VINE – strong, lasting friendship  
SCROLL – information, knowledge

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YELLOW/GOLD – generous  
SILVER – peaceful  
BLACK – dependable  
BLUE – loyal, truthful  
RED – military  
GREEN – hopeful, joyful  
PURPLE – royal  
BROWN – worthy, hard-working



## KING ARTHUR LEGENDS

Learn more about the legends of King Arthur at

<http://www.earlybritishkingdoms.com/kids/> -- Click on Arthur on the sidebar

Fill the chart in with information you learn.

ARTHUR	MERLIN
THE LADY OF THE LAKE	EXCALIBUR
OTHER PEOPLE IN THE LEGENDS	OTHER PEOPLE IN THE LEGENDS

## **BLOODLINE MAGIC QUIZ: WHAT KIND OF TALENT MIGHT YOU HAVE?**

Directions: For each question, pick the answer that most closely matches what you would do in that situation. If you can't choose between them, you may pick two, but no more than that.

- 1) **At a gathering of friends, the host offers to make frozen pizza for dinner, but another guest says he doesn't like the frozen kind. Do you:**
  - a) Offer to make fresh pizza yourself
  - b) Take a survey of all the guests' dinner choices
  - c) Tell the host to turn on the oven and get that frozen pizza started
  - d) Quietly arrange for several dinner choices to be delivered
- 2) **You see an elderly lady having difficulty crossing a busy street. Would you**
  - a) Start a petition to create a crosswalk in that spot
  - b) Find out where she's going before offering to help
  - c) Stand in the street and signal cars to stop
  - d) Offer to accompany her to her destination
- 3) **If someone gave you a gift you do not like. would you**
  - a) Find an alternate way to use the unwanted gift
  - b) Find out the name of the store where it was purchased and return it later
  - c) Tell them (politely) that it's not for you and they should keep it or give it to someone else
  - d) Find something to compliment about it anyway
- 4) **You see a crowd watching a large building fire. Do you**
  - a) Grab a hose to fight the fire
  - b) Ask the crowd of bystanders what happened
  - c) Recruit the watchers to help fight the blaze
  - d) Find out if anyone is injured and provide assistance
- 5) **An animal shelter is losing its home and needs help moving to a new place. Do you**
  - a) Build dog runs at the new location
  - b) Take charge of the shelter records so no animal misses a vet or adoption appointment
  - c) Organize the volunteers and assign everyone their tasks
  - d) Foster a special needs cat or dog until the new shelter is ready
- 6) **Your dog really did eat your homework. The FIRST thing you do is**
  - a) Tape it back together
  - b) Find out how much it counts toward your grade
  - c) Tell your teacher you need an extended deadline
  - d) Monitor the dog's health after his unauthorized snack
- 7) **The kids you're babysitting start fighting among themselves. Would you**
  - a) Build a pillow and blanket fort to distract them
  - b) Question them to find out exactly what happened
  - c) Make them go play in separate rooms
  - d) Listen carefully to what they each have to say

## **ANSWER KEY FOR THE BLOODLINE MAGIC QUIZ:**

Count up how many of each letter you have. Then match the letter with the talent below.

If you have a tie, you might have an equal chance of either talent.

a \_\_\_\_

b \_\_\_\_

c \_\_\_\_

d \_\_\_\_

**a = Artisan ~ You like to build and create things that will fix problems.**

**b = Inquisitor ~ You seek information to help solve problems.**

**c = Voice of Command ~ You make decisions, take charge, and tell people what to do.**

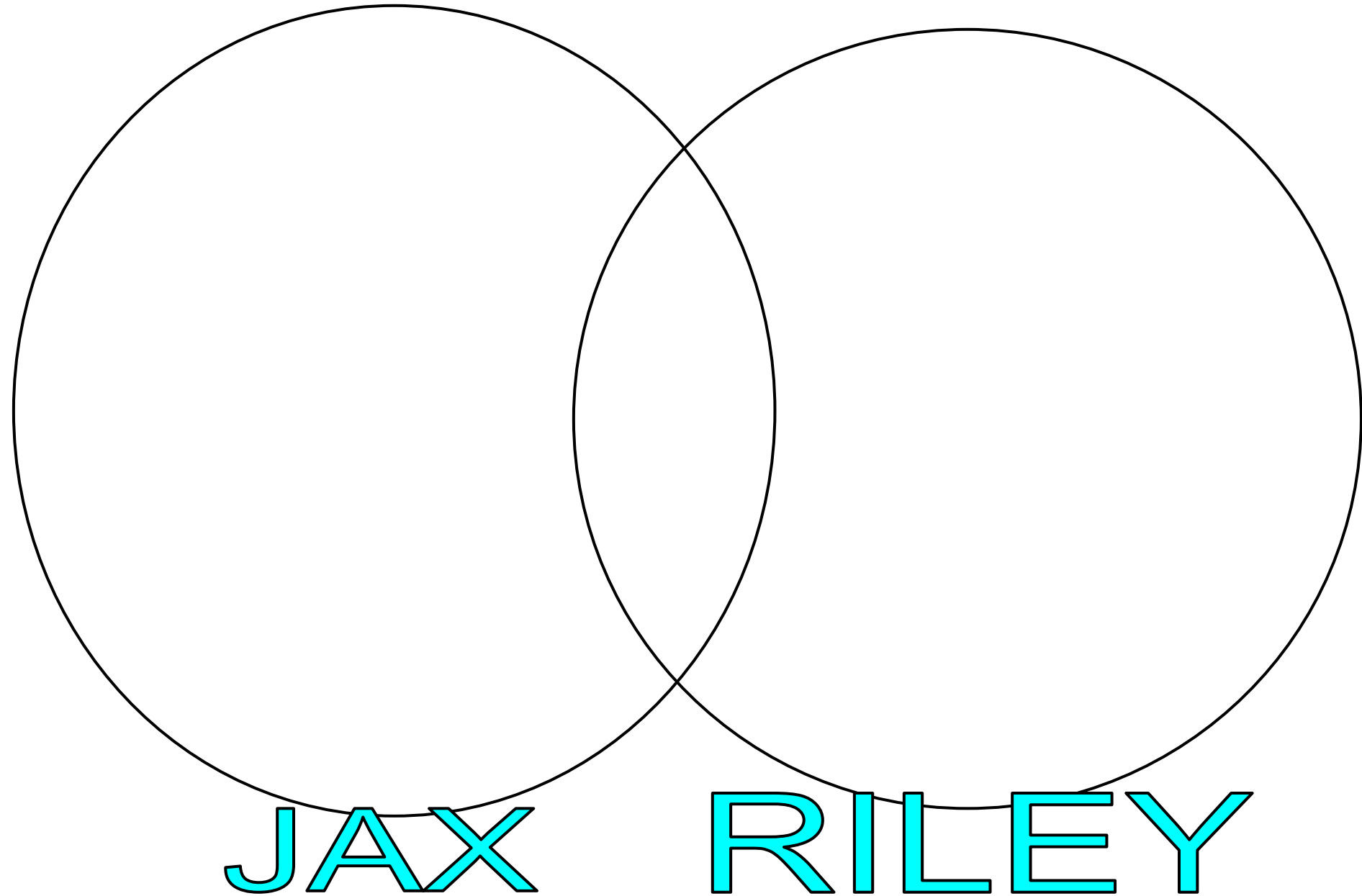
**d = Sensitive ~ You are always aware of people's feelings and needs.**



Adapted from an activity by Jennifer Johnson for Kreutz Creek Area Library

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# COMPARE AND CONTRAST



Antagonist = A character who opposes or is hostile to the protagonist or blocks the protagonist's goal

Name	Main Goal Of Character	Bad things this character has done to Jax or blocked his goals	Good things this character has done to Jax or helped Jax's goals.	Your Verdict: Bad, Good, or Neutral?
Riley				
Giana				
Terrance				
The Donovans				
Balin				
Wylit				



## Eighth Day Vocabulary

If you already know the definition of the word, great! If not, try to use context clues from the sentences to help you narrow down your choices.

1. "Then Riley had appeared at Naomi's with an affidavit, claiming to be Jax's guardian." (pg 8)  
**Affidavit** means:
  - a. A sharp tool used for cutting
  - b. A written declaration made under oath
  - c. A sturdy piece of cardboard
  - d. A false statement
2. "Now he was bused from Riley's town to a consolidated megaschool servicing five different townships." (pg 10) **Consolidated** means:
  - a. Brought together into a single whole
  - b. Rustic or antique looking
  - c. Disconnected or apart
  - d. Hardened
3. "Flailing out an arm, he flipped the switch before the buzzer could go off and rolled out of bed without looking at the clock." (pg 15) **Flailing** means:
  - a. Slowly moving
  - b. Beating or swinging
  - c. Wildly running
  - d. Sharply speaking
4. "And then there's people like you and me, who transition between the two time streams." (pg 36)  
**Transition** means:
  - a. The state of being bored
  - b. To cross from one to state to another on the highway
  - c. To be imbalanced
  - d. Movement or change from one position or stage to another
5. "He knocked tentatively and peered through the glass." (pg 41) **Tentatively** means:
  - a. Uncertainly
  - b. Confidently
  - c. Aggressively
  - d. Negatively
6. "You must be Riley's protégé." (pg 61) **Protégé** means:
  - a. A best friend
  - b. An enemy
  - c. A person under the care of someone interested in his or her career
  - d. A family member, once removed
7. "You're an inquisitor." (pg 79) **Inquisitor** means:
  - a. A person who was alive during the Spanish Inquisition
  - b. Someone who is very calm

- c. A person who asks questions
  - d. A snake
8. "If you're not sworn as Riley's vassal, then some things aren't your business to know." (pg 81) **Vassal** means:
- a. A person sworn to obey the authority of someone else
  - b. An overlord
  - c. A drinking cup
  - d. A person who asks questions
9. "He hoped Giana's revulsion for him would wear off." (pg 87) **Revulsion** means:
- a. Feelings of love and adoration
  - b. Distrust
  - c. Strong feeling of dislike
  - d. Nervousness and anxiety
10. "Evangeline bit her lip and scrutinized the thing on the kitchen stoop, trying to decide if it was supposed to be a kobold or a goblin." (pg 90) **Scrutinized** means:
- a. Examined in detail
  - b. Showed blatant ignorance and disregard
  - c. Distanced oneself from an object
  - d. Cleaned vigorously
11. "She tackled him with the ferocity of a small panther." (pg 94) **Ferocity** means:
- a. Care and tenderness
  - b. Uncertainty or confusion
  - c. Savage fierceness
  - d. Bitterness
12. "It *used to be* that honor and chivalry mattered." (pg 104) **Chivalry** means:
- a. Rude behavior
  - b. Knowledge of horses
  - c. Polite words
  - d. Honorable behavior including generosity and bravery
13. "Jax glanced around the cozy kitchen, at the lunch platter -- not quite decimated by Riley's assault -- and Melinda." (pg 109) **Decimated** means:
- a. Increased
  - b. Generously replaced
  - c. Destroyed
  - d. Scared
14. "She must think I'm an idiot or a pyromaniac." (pg 141) **Pyromaniac** means:
- a. Someone who destroys books
  - b. Someone who likes to start fires
  - c. Responsible student
  - d. Class clown