

WISH YOU WERE HERE!

Postcards
from future
Queensland

**Write a postcard to your present self from your future self!
Include three pieces of advice and one warning.**

For your challenge this week we're asking you to write a postcard to your present self from your future self! Time travel is one of my favourite genres—mainly because there are so many great historical periods and places that I would love to visit. But there is nothing more inspiring—and more interesting—than imagining what you, your future self might be like. In this lesson, we're going to focus on character, because really that future you—while not a whole new person—is going to be a very different version of who you are now.

First, the key to writing a great, compelling character is to establish clear motivations, hopes, dreams and fears. So start there: Five years from now, what do you want most in life? What do you most not want in life? How are you trying to get there? These hopes and dreams may be related to where you are in your

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We can't wait to read your dreams and visions, and stories of another world.



LESSON 5: YOUR LAST ASSIGNMENT

life now—but they may be different too. Ultimately, our hopes and dreams and our fears are what make us human. They guide our decisions and define our sense of self.

The next step is to think about your backstory. Great characters are people who have had things happen to them. Sometimes it's small stuff and sometimes it's big stuff—but all of it will have an impact on who you are, how you make decisions, and how you see the world. So imagine: what has changed for future you over the last five years?

Lastly, think about voice. Every character has a unique way of talking. This can have to do with your background, how you talk to your friends, the kind of TV you watch, the games you play. Are there words or phrases you know that your parents totally don't get? These might be keys to finding your voice.



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