

9 Questions to Help You Identify What's at Stake in Your Novel

This is an extra resource to go along with the original article:
[How to Raise the Stakes in Your Novel and Create a Gripping Story](#)

Answer the following questions to find out what's at stake for your characters. Knowing what's at stake will help you write a stronger scene and story.

1. What is the character's goal in this scene?
2. What obstacles block your character's path to accomplishing his goal?
3. What does your character stand to lose in this scene?
4. What will your character gain in this scene?
5. What are the unintended consequences of your character's actions?
6. Is your character aware of the potential consequences of his action?
7. Is the reader aware of these potential consequences?
8. What is the character afraid of in this scene?
9. How will the character's action feed into the rest of the story?