

Let's Write!

5 Tips for Writing a Good Plot Twist

Whether it's your first time trying to write a successful plot twist or your fiftieth, here are some writing tips to help inspire you:

- 1. Kill off a seemingly important character.** If you want to get your audience's attention, set up a character who appears to be quite important—perhaps even someone who seems like the main character—and kill them off a fifth of the way into your story.
- 2. Let your character discover a plot twist organically.** Rather than describe a major plot twist using narration, have your protagonist uncover the fact that someone isn't who they claim to be, or that a person they thought was dead is still alive.
- 3. Elevate a seemingly minor character.** One way to concoct a good twist is to make a seemingly trivial character a much more important figure. Perhaps an ostensibly inconsequential barista or checkout clerk was actually a spy the whole time. Perhaps a babysitter is actually the protagonist's mother.
- 4. Have your big reveal instigate a twist ending.** If you insert a good plot twist at the end of the film or novel, don't wrap up the story right there. Make the plot twist have a consequence—one more problem for your protagonist to solve. Or, if you're planning to start a series, make your twist ending the cliffhanger that tees up the next book, movie, or TV episode.
- 5. Make sure your plot twist is earned.** There's nothing worse than a plot twist that isn't grounded in the story you've established. Use careful foreshadowing to set the stage for a plot twist you want to reveal once you're far deeper into the story.

Source: www.masterclass.com/articles/tips-for-writing-a-killer-plot-twist