

“Dead men are heavier than broken hearts.”

“I belonged in Idle Valley like a pearl onion on a banana split.”

“She smelled the way the Taj Mahal looks by moonlight.”

“He sounded like a man who had slept well and didn’t owe too much money.”

“The muzzle of the Luger looked like the mouth of the Second Street tunnel.”

Description

“I was as empty of life as a scarecrow's pockets.”

“It seemed like a nice neighborhood to have bad habits in.”

“She had eyes like strange sins.”

“He was about as excited as a hole in the wall.”

“His voice was the elaborately casual voice of the tough guy in pictures.”

“It was a blonde. A blonde to make a bishop kick a hole in a stained-glass window.”

Your POV character is the one describing things.



**ADDING A NEW POV
EQUALS
ADDING A NEW PLOTLINE**



The history is in the details.



Cliches lack specificity



“She hath
ruby red
lips!”



A photograph of a stage with red curtains. The curtains are the central focus, with a white text overlay in the middle. The stage floor is visible at the bottom, with two black rectangular objects, possibly speakers, on either side.

Block out your scene

Clarity over style



AVOID A SLY, ARCH OR SUPERIOR TONE





SUBGENRE



Find your subgenre!

1. Read over the subgenre sheet on your table to identify your story's subgenre.
2. Do an Amazon search for that subgenre and read the summaries for three titles.
3. Open a blank Google doc and list the elements those summaries have in common.

Description can serve as foreshadowing.





**Description is a
drink that should
be sipped.**

Paragraph & scene-level telling



1. Using the setting elements that you identified last time, pick three locations in your story world and write a paragraph of description for each location.
2. Share your paragraphs with your feedback partners.
3. Get feedback on your work and give feedback on your partners' work.
4. Rewrite your descriptive paragraphs utilizing the feedback you received.