

Hero Interview

Answer as your character. This person is supposed to be your story's champion, so these questions focus on motivation.

What do you want most? Did something happen in your childhood or in your recent past that makes this desire more significant?

Tell us about the first time you ever fell in love. How did it end? Are you in love now? How is the object of your affection different from your first love? How is this person similar?

What kind of relationship do you have with your parents? Do you share their beliefs and values? Or are you rebelling against them? How do they feel about you?

What is your middle name? How many people know it? How do you feel about it?

Do you feel confident you can survive the events of this story? Is there any circumstance in which you would willingly give up your life to achieve your goal? Who would you die to save?

What would you want inscribed on your tombstone? Who would you choose to give your eulogy?

What strikes fear into your heart? What drives you to succeed? What do you regret?

Have you ever lost someone important to you? Or failed to complete a task important to your cause? How has this changed how you approach your current situation?

Are you more comfortable with technology or nature? If you went camping, would you go for a lodge, an RV a tent or a hammock?

How would your friends describe you?

Antagonist Interview

Answer as your character. This person is supposed to oppose your story's hero, so these questions focus on motivation.

Give us the highlights of your painful backstory. Why should we find you sympathetic?

What do you dislike about the hero? How is he different from you? Is there a way he serves as a reflection of you or completes missing parts of your personality?

Are you dangerous? Or more of an emotional adversary? Or is the relationship more of a rivalry?

What is your main goal? What drives you to achieve it? Is this goal right or wrong?

Are there any lines you won't cross?

Have you ever been in prison? Or in therapy?

What is your middle name? How do you feel about it?

What do you love most in the world? What would you be willing to give up to protect it?

How do you feel about children? Puppies? Ice cream cones?

What strikes terror in your heart?

If you don't survive the story, who will mourn you? Do you feel the same way about these people as they feel about you?

Comic Character Interview

Answer as your character. Try to give the character depth, and remember that humor comes from exaggerating a normal character.

What were you doing before you got drawn into this story?

What two contradictory things do you want from life (or from the plot)? How do you rationalize this?

What person would you least like to be partnered with (or forced to spend time with) for the rest of this story?

What bit of painful backstory grounds you? What keeps you from being a stereotype?

What quirk of yours makes people laugh? Did you mean for this to happen? Were you the class clown? Or out of step with the world around you?

What would people be surprised to learn about you?

What do you want most? What would you be willing to give up to get it?

Have you ever been in love? Did that person break your heart?

Tell us about your day job? What made you choose this occupation?

Do you have any hobbies?

What is your philosophy about the world? Or are you more of an impartial observer?

The Love Interest Character Interview

Answer as your character. This person is supposed to be your hero's match, so these questions focus on making them strong and dynamic.

How did you meet the hero? What was your first impression of him/her?

Describe the first person you ever fell in love with? Does the hero of this story measure up? Are your memories colored by nostalgia or are you a brutally honest person?

What do you do for a living? Why did you choose this career?

What was the point of greatest triumph in your life? What was your most dismal failure? How did these two events change you?

Where do you see yourself in five years? As of right now, can you imagine yourself being with the hero?

The dinner party with famous people living or dead question. When someone asks you this, how do you respond? If you actually think about it, who do you pick?

What are your phobias?

Are you afraid of dying? If you don't survive this story, what would you consider the worst way to go?

Would you rather vacation at the beach or in the mountains? Take in a museum or zip line through the rain forest?

How do you feel about kids, marriage, one-income families and traditional values? Do you suspect the hero shares your beliefs?

Sidekick/Narrator Interview

Answer as your character. This person is supposed to be your hero's champion, so these questions also focus on motivation.

What is your relationship to the hero? How did this relationship come about?

How do you feel about the hero? Why should we believe you see him/her objectively?

Could you step in and become the new hero if something happened to the current one? What qualities do you possess that would allow you to do so?

What are your goals, separate from those of the hero? Why do you feel they are focused enough to justify giving you a subplot?

Tell us a little bit about your backstory. What are two things in it that could potentially cause conflict between you and the hero?

If the hero has a love interest, how do you feel about him/her?

The dinner party with famous people living or dead question. When someone asks you this, how do you respond? If you actually think about it, who do you pick?

Why should you live to the end of the story and not become part of the hero's tragic backstory for Book 2 or his/her motivation for defeating the villain? Do you have a role in the next book? In case you can't justify yourself, how would you prefer to die?

Where do you see yourself five years after this story ends?

Do you have more or less education than the hero? Which of you is more intelligent? Wittier? Better at dealing with the opposite gender?