

# How to Use The Character Aspects Sheet



## MEET THE EDITOR

Both before and after starting MadHope Editorial, I have been in and out of the querying trenches to help writers improve their craft. Here is a quick, easy guide to using my Character Aspects Sheet to develop your characters beyond basic knowledge so you can start your first draft off strong.

## Breaking Down the Categories

### Nature

Each person has inherent characteristics they are born with that flourish as they grow. These are your innate characteristics. Some examples may include:

- Cleanliness
- Kindness
- Cleverness
- Disconnect
- Quick to anger

### Nurture

On the other side of the coin, many of our characteristics and habits come from how we were raised. This is where you can expand upon how your character was raised and, more important, how did it affect them? Some examples may include:

- A character raised as the eldest of several children may be overly responsible and determined to handle things alone
- A character raised without a family may have a hard time trusting people, or may be too quick to trust

### Love

Love is a natural part of life, even if your character doesn't experience it. What is the state of your character's love life? How do they feel about the concept of love in general. For example:

- A woman scorned by a previous relationship despises the concept of love
- A girl with her first crush will do all it takes to have a loving relationship

### Values

We all have core values that guide us. These are what show us the difference between right and wrong. But not everyone's values are the same, otherwise there would never be conflict. What are the core values your character believes in?

## History

Perhaps one of the most straight-forward section is your character's history. Up until we meet them on the page, what has occurred? What have they been doing up until now and how does that influence where they are and where they're going?

## Station

Finally, what station does your character hold? In general, this refers to their place in society. Is your character middle class? Rich? Are they just barely scraping by? Feel free to include their job, too.

And, more importantly, how do they feel about their station in society? This is where you can really see the difference between a scrapper on his way to bring down the government versus an aristocrat who's going to get his due.



### Need Help with Your Characters?

I would love to help! Fill out the form on my website to receive a quote on a manuscript critique or developmental edit today!

# Character Aspects Sheet

**Nature**

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**Station**

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**Nurture**

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**History**

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**Love**

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**Values**

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