Types of Characters

- **Flat Characters**—These are characters that don’t have a lot depth. They are usually stereotypes, and they don’t really change. Readers can easily see what kind of character they are from the beginning. Think, evil stepmother, school bully.

- **Round Characters**—These characters have a bit more oomph than flat characters. They change and develop through the story and often have some personality to them. These are the more realistic characters you often come across, ones you could be friends or enemies with in real life.

- **Static Characters**—These characters are always the same. They do not change through the story, they do not grow in the story, and they don’t really develop much.

- **Dynamic Characters**—This type of character changes through the book, they do things and learn things that make them, as a character, change and grow.

- **Stock Characters**—These are stereotyped characters, based on a certain character. They are created using stereotypes of that culture. These kinds of characters can be insulting, even when they don’t mean to be.

- **Protagonist**—The person this story is about. This is the person who changes and develops through the story.

- **Antagonist**—The person causing the conflict.

In writing, there can be lots of different characters, but all of them should fit in these definitions somewhere. In a good story, there should be a conflict that changes some of the characters. And remember, the protagonist is not always a “good” guy. Your characters should be complicated people, people who could actually exist, that have problems and quirks. Think of all the weird stuff that makes you who you are, then make sure your characters are just as complicated. Though, there is use in a flat or static character. Just make sure you balance these with interesting complicated ones. 😊