

WRITE a Story Opening With RESONANCE

Scientific DEFINITION: the reinforcement or prolongation of sound by reflection from a surface or by the synchronous vibration of a neighboring object. (Online dictionary)
Literary DEFINITION: Resonance is being able to evoke emotions or the condition of being full and deep in character. From <https://www.yourdictionary.com/resonance>

A story that has resonance includes an opening that appeals to the reader on a deep human level and brings up an issue that will be investigated all the way to the last page. The main character (and other characters) deal with this throughout the story as they learn and grow.

Do you want to understand how to write a novel opening that resonates?
Answer these questions to get ready!

1. What deep issue will arise within the first pages of your story? Will a character be in pain? Will a human issue (examples: death, pain, abandonment, fear, etc.) arise as the characters are introduced?
2. How will other characters deal with this theme/issue to serve as an example or lesson for the main character?
3. If you can't think of a "deep issue," what is your story about? How do you think most people deal with this issue? Where's the struggle in all of this? Can you more clearly see the theme after thinking this through?
4. How will page one and the last page of your story connect?
5. Will the main character voice what they learned on the final page (even if it's in how they behave in the final scene)?
6. How will you show the character's growth within this theme/issue throughout the story?
7. To better understand how to make your story resonate, fill in these blanks:

At the start of the story, the main character thinks _____.
In the middle of the story, the main character has learned _____.
At the end of the story, the main character now knows _____.

