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WAYS TO DEVELOP IRONY IN YOUR STORY

A compelling storyline has something ironic about it, that turns an interesting idea into a must-read one. But how do you develop situations full of irony? Here are some starting points.

1

WORLD'S WORST

Use an online job-generator and then think of the worst possible person for that job.

2

FEARS

What phobia that would prevent your hero from solving your story's problem? Give them the phobia. Use caution and respect, though - don't mock their fear.

3

FORCED TO DEAL WITH IT

What is your character's greatest dislike? Put them in a situation which involves it.

4

BUT LUKE-

When would it be worst to win the lottery? Or fight the bad guy? -Probably over a yawning abyss, right after you learn that he's your father.

5

BUTS

Get your but in gear. 'I love you but you're undead/my sworn enemy/a werewolf/ in another dimension.'

6

ONE LAST JOB

Graduation/retirement day perfect for the wrong people to get involved in the action. Think of all those cops who have to fight crime right before collecting their carriage clock,

7

MISTAKEN IDENTITY

This can land the wrong person nicely in the middle of things. The Doctor has no medical qualifications but goes to help regardless because he can't resist a challenge.

8

LIES

This is like mistaken identity, except on purpose. Think Mr and Mrs Smith, or Jamie Lee Curtis in True Lies.

9

ISN'T IT IRONIC?

Channel your inner Alanis Morissette. Remember, though, that rain on your wedding day is only ironic if the wedding is outdoors in a desert. Good luck!