

Pattern Seven: Character Transformation Stories

FAQ: Is this pattern complete or does it require a subplot?

Answer: This plot requires one or more subplots.

Choose Type of Transformation:

*Viewpoint

Wemberley Worried by Kevin Henkes

Toad Sleeps Over by John Bianchi

The Quiltmaker's Gift by Jeff Brumbeau

Sister Anne's Hands by Marybeth Lorbiecki

*Linear Journey (move somewhere & never return)

It's not Easy Being a Duck by Joan Rankin

Selina and the Bearpaw Quilt by Barbara Smucker

The Giver by Lois Lowry

Sarah, Plain and Tall by Patricia MacLachlan

The Man Whose Mother was a Pirate by M. Mahy

The Subway Mouse by Barbara Reid

*Friendship

Effie by Beverly Allinson

The Story of the Toothfairy by Tom Paxton

Shaggy by Marcus Pfister

Next Choose Subplot:

copycat

stuck

contest

physical transformation

FAQ's About the Character Transformation Story Pattern/Plot

FAQ: What is a character viewpoint transformation?

Answer: In this type of plot one or more characters change their views. For example, in the book The Quiltmaker's Gift, the king believes he can only be happy when everyone gives him a present. At the end of the story he has learned that giving to those in need brings happiness.

FAQ: What is a linear journey character transformation?

Answer: In this pattern, a character goes on a journey to find a new home due to problems or persecution. During the journey or at the end of it the character is transformed. For example, in the book It's not Easy Being a Duck, the duck refuses to swim or fly until she is about to be eaten by a fox. At that moment she is transformed into a more adult duck by flying to escape the fox. She soon joins her family in the next pond. A more adult example of this would be Underground to Canada by Barbara Smucker which is a slave's journey to freedom.

FAQ: What is a friendship character transformation?

Answer: In this pattern two unlikely characters become friends through unlikely events. For example, in the book Effie by Beverly Allinson, an ant and an elephant become friends due to the ant's big voice. When he yells at the elephant to prevent him from stepping on his ant colony the two form a unique friendship.