

# Bourne toWrite...

creative writing  
workshops

## Creating a Convincing Character

*Convincing characters make fiction great. Plot is secondary to character. Think about the plot for Goldfinger. Problem? Now think about James Bond. Exactly.*

*If you build a compelling well-rounded character you'll find they'll write their own stories, but they need your help initially to get them off the ground. Detail is important. Here's a good example of a character definition, in case you're wondering it's the Peanuts cartoon strip character Charlie Brown.*

He is a lovable loser

He possesses endless determination and stubbornness, but is ultimately dominated by his anxieties and shortcomings

He is often taken advantage of by his peers

He is nervous and can be awkward in company

He is an avid kite flyer

His little sister calls him Big Brother

Initially he doted on his little sister, though eventually she became a thorn in his side as she would pester him for help with her homework

He is in love with a little red-haired girl

He has a tendency to say the wrong thing, at the wrong time

Although his parents are invisible his father is a barber

Some people think he is bald but his hair is so light it's hard to see

A female friend calls him Chuck

He almost always wears a yellow T-shirt and baggy jeans

His catch-phrase is "Good grief!"

He is an enthusiastic team player, but not as accomplished at sport as his famous dog.

He is short and has a very round head