

Example of Nicolas Crystan's Basic Character Bio:

Name: Nicolas Jack Crystan (a.k.a. Nick)

Short Summary: Nicolas is young man who feels lost in his life, after the disappearance of his mother 8 years ago led him into depression, which he's only now coming out with the help of a therapist. More than anything, he wants meaning to his life. When he unexpectedly has a psychic vision, he thinks he may have found the deeper meaning he was searching for.

Longer Summary: Nicolas is young man who feels spiritually lost in his life, after the disappearance of his mother 8 years ago led him into depression, which he's only now coming out with the help of a therapist. More than anything, he wants meaning to his life. In his pursuit of meaning and happiness, he has tried out many forms self-help and even some spiritual practises—self-help books & DVDs, meditation, law of attraction, EFT, therapy, and so on. His relationship with his father is tense, because it's hard for Nicolas to be around is dad, who changed so dramatically after the disappearance of Nick's mother. Nick is trying his best to let go of the past, but it's hard when his dad is a constant reminder. Because Nick has been pretty self-absorbed in his own troubles for the past few years, most his friendships have also fallen away. He lives alone in a rundown bungalow he can barely afford to maintain with his current job. He's desperate for something bigger and better to come his way, and he's always had in interesting in the paranormal, because of all the witchy hype he's grown up with on Lansin Island. When he has a psychic vision, he thinks he's found the deeper meaning he's been searching for.

Age in Book: 24

Height: 6ft

D.O.B: 13th of January, 1987

Occupation: Works part-time at Creaky Crystals, a crystal shop/'New Age' store.

Basic Physical Description: 6ft tall. Slim, but with slightly broad shoulders/upper body, giving some natural stock to his otherwise skinny frame. Hazel eyes, and medium brown hair that has a naturally rough, styled look. Light olive skin.

Interesting Contradictions: Nick is your ordinary person, living a dull life, working an average job, but he's been gifted with something extraordinary: a psychic ability.

Habits & Mannerisms: Has a sheepish laugh. When he gets nervous, he uses a tapping technique his therapist taught him to calm down. Tends to get facetious when he's nervous too.

Background: When Nick was 16, his mother disappeared. Nick failed most his GCSEs, had a terrible relationship with a girl he believed he loved, fell into depression, moved out of his dad's place, and has struggled to get by since.

Intelligence Level: Nicolas doesn't consider himself unintelligent, but he did leave school with minimal qualifications, because his mother's disappearance happened just before his exams. He'd probably be considered 'book intelligent.'

Main Motivations: To have meaning to his life. To find out the truth about his mother's disappearance, so he and his family can let go of the past.

Other Motivations: To experience something spiritual/paranormal, to find happiness and meaning, to have enough money to live comfortably, to find out why items are going missing from Creaky Crystals, to come around to dating again.

Initial Stakes in the plot: If Nick doesn't embrace his psychic power and find out the truth about his mother's disappearance, then he'll never let go of the past and he'll stay stuck in his dull life of little meaning.

Conflicts (Internal and/or External): Internal: struggling with depression and wants meaning to his life, but feels stuck in his monotonous routine. Later on in the novel, struggles with moral decisions about telling lies, committing murder. Meeting Juliet also helps him to come around to the idea of dating, which he'd been avoiding since his last dysfunctional relationship. External: when he has a vision of the future, he suddenly feels like there is more meaning to his life; he has to begin actually making decisions and using his ability, if he wants to discover the truth about what happened to his mother.

Realisation/Epiphany: Realises that all he needed to let go of the past was the truth; he also discovers he is strong enough to handle the truth, and he manages to take his final, confident step out of depression, after considering ending his therapy sessions for a while.

Development:

At beginning- Still struggling with depression. Not ready to embrace life. Has little meaning to life and feels generally unimportant. Can't let go of the past (his mother's disappearance). Isn't ready to date anyone, after having a bad relationship. Friend & family relationships are pretty poor.

By the end-Has overcomes depression and is ready to enjoy life again. After having psychic visions, he feels like his life has more meaning now. He knows the truth about his mother's disappearance and can let go of the past. He feels ready to date again. And he can finally tell his dad the truth about his mother's disappearance too, and improve his relationship with him.

Narrative Summary/Time-line: If you're not ready to fill this out at this stage, then complete it after the Chapter-by-Chapter Summaries.