

Free Canvas

Alex.X.L

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1 Title ideas

Title should invoke questions, be easy to pronounce, and be less than 5 words.

1. It happened in Oceania
2. **Aliens in Oceania**
3. The Oceania Syndrome

2 Opening Narrations

Opening narration should contain hooks, or at least prompt questions in the reader, however simple the questions may be.

1. There was a nation in Oceania. With its orderly buildings, automatic food distribution and a government so efficient that people could very well forget about its existence entirely, many considered the Nation to be a utopia. It was not. However, while most imaginations of utopias in the bygone ages attempted to spin their heavens into hells, *the Nation was not a dystopia either*. It was something stranger, harder to understand, and perhaps more wonderful than both - the Nation, was *humanity*.

3 Possible Narratives

They are in the form: goal, setback, response

1. A civil servant is ecstatic about the new alien sightings in his country.

Despite his privileges, his desire to meet and study them is met with heavy resistance by the government for which he works.

As he discovers the true origin of the aliens, he learns about humanity's own history, and a grand conspiracy emerges that threatens the future of the people on earth.

He has to utilise the few centuries of planning by the country's founders to defeat said conspiracy.

4 Questions Round 1

Questions that flesh out each sentence in previous section.

Why is it important that he is a civil servant? How does it play into the story?

- He uses his authority to bypass normal barriers; his job is to investigate.

Why is he ecstatic about aliens?

- He has a fascination with science and space. He is curious.

What are some of his privileges?

- He can visit notable figures and be greeted without guard. He has connections with many interesting and knowledgeable people.

What does he want to learn about the aliens?

- What the aliens look like, where they come from, whether there is a cross-species community in the universe. How smart the aliens are, what their world views are, what emotions they feel. What their art looks like, what their science looks like, what their history looks like. How they organise their society.

What are the types of resistance he faces?

- The government assigning him jobs away from his interest. His job allowing him little time to explore. His contacts suspiciously silent to his questions. Eventually ordered not to investigate further.

Why does the government want to stop him?

- The aliens are actually not aliens, but instruments for the government's conspiracy.

What is the origin of the aliens?

- Human consciousness trapped.

What is special about humanity's history?

- The government was established by a secret society that sheperded humanity after world war 3. While the society valued peace and progress, their descendants (the government) has degenerated.

What is the conspiracy?

- The government out of pity for humanity, wants to euthanise it by using the aliens to make everyone fall asleep in sync.

Is he alone in his fight?

- He will be joined by an astrophysicist, a historian and a neuroscientist.

How did the country's founders foresee all this?

- they were a secret society that watched over human history, and developed sophisticated mathematical science to describe the tendencies of the evolution of human societies.

5 Necessary Plot Points

Introduce to setting.

Civil servant Lucca hears about alien sightings somehow.

Lucca visits locations and tries to investigate.

His director Alma notices his absence from assigned tasks.

Alma warns him to stop investigating or he will be fired.

Lucca's enthusiasm only grows, but he has to find ways to investigate without the government's notice.

Lucca finds out what the aliens really are - artefacts of a plague, currently raging in Oceania.

Lucca tells Susan that they have to leave Oceania.

Their efforts are stopped by the government. They give up.

Lucca and Susan walk through the city and discover the scribing on the Oceania Trainline's side glasses, tall concrete buildings, and underground shelters.

They decode the message - it was a message left to them by the earliest builders of the city, to warn them about the Human Institute.

At the same time, a revolution is brewing.