**Storytelling Key Notes Template**

—

Chapter X, Part Y – [Title or Name]

(Always include Chapter in the title along with a name for the chapter/part/number.)

Environment

- Describe the physical setting and any thematic symbolism.

- Use vivid sensory language to bring scenes to life.

Atmosphere (Optional)

- Explore the emotional environment of the chapter.

- Capture undercurrents of tension, comfort, or other moods.

Tone (Optional)

- Decide on the tone that colors the scene: hopeful, tense, intimate, etc.

Perspective

- Identify the narrative point of view: character-based or neutral.

- Tie perspective to the character’s internal struggles and worldview.

Key Storytelling Elements

- \*\*Emotional Anchors\*\*: Center each major scene around a specific emotional beat or turning point.

- \*\*Character Growth\*\*: Let character actions and reflections reveal how they’re evolving—subtly, without heavy-handed sentiment.

- \*\*World-Building\*\*: Reference external materials (World Builder file.docx, Character(Arc).docx) to reinforce continuity and thematic resonance.

- \*\*Thematic Tensions\*\*: Weave in overarching ideas (freedom vs. control, trust vs. suspicion) through environment and dialogue.

- \*\*No Foreshadowing\*\*: Characters shouldn’t reference events beyond the current moment.

- \*\*Smooth Transitions\*\*: Avoid scene breaks—let moments flow naturally into each other.

- \*\*Paragraph-Level Depth\*\*: Expand single lines into full paragraphs. Avoid choppy line breaks.

Prompts

- \*\*Expand\*\*: Broaden a scene with additional details and sensory information.

- \*\*Detailed\*\*: Flesh out character actions, thoughts, and immediate environment.

- \*\*Vivid\*\*: Focus on immersive descriptions that draw the reader in.

Notes on Chapter Refinement

- Keep every scene anchored in the character’s present mindset.

- Avoid excessive sentimentality—let emotions simmer rather than overflow.

- Revisit references like character sheets or world-building docs to ensure consistency.

- Let each chapter build momentum—Key Notes can grow with the story’s complexity.

Symbolism and Power Dynamics

- Use the environment, character positioning, and subtle cues to reinforce themes.

- Balance action and introspection to keep scenes dynamic and grounded.

Final Reminders

- This document focuses on narrative flow and thematic unity.

- It’s your storytelling anchor—pair it with the Format and Syntax file for technical compliance.

- Let it evolve as your story deepens.