

# NaNoWriMo Dares

## 1 \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Make your characters play 'The Game.'
- ☐ BP <sup>1</sup> if someone says, "I lost the game" at the climax.
- ☐ DBP <sup>2</sup> if the game is a plot point.
- ☐ TBP <sup>3</sup> if the game isn't ever explained.

## 2 \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ A character has a journal.
- ☐ BP : Then other characters find it
- ☐ DBP : They start writing in it.

## 3 \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ A game of I Have Never
- ☐ BP : There's a character who has never done any of the things stated.
- ☐ DBP : There's a character who's done ALL of them.
- ☐ TBP : This is a vital plot point or turning point.

## 4 \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Include a funny discussion about suicide.

## 5 \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Include a karaoke contest
- ☐ BP : A character doesn't want to sing but is forced into it.
- ☐ DBP : That character wows everyone with their amazing voice.
- ☐ TBP : The villain uses this event against the protagonist.

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1. Bonus points.  
2. Double bonus points.  
3. Triple...

## 6 \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ 10 hours of Nyancat
- ☐ BP if this is used as a cruel and unusual punishment.

## 7 \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ An entry from fmylife.com actually happening to a character

## 8 \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ An RPG style battle
- ☐ BP if one of the characters dies
- ☐ DBP if another character tries to heal them using phoenix down
- ☐ TBP if it works

## 9 \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Massive party in the middle of a tense scene.
- ☐ BP if everyone from the villain to the super-minor characters are invited.
- ☐ BP if a super-minor character doesn't show up and it makes everyone upset.
- ☐ DBP if the punch is spiked.
- ☐ TBP if the villain reveals his whole evil plan while totally sloshed but in the morning nobody remembers it.

## 10 \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Exploring an abandoned building.
- ☐ BP if it's the wrong abandoned building.

## 11 \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ A character calls a relative they haven't talked to in ages to borrow something. (Not money !)
- ☐ BP if it's a shovel
- ☐ DBP if the relative is a Mr Ian Woon
- ☐ TBP if the character actually returns the item

## 12 \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Suddenly, \_\_\_\_ ! (ducks, vodka, etc.)
- ☐ BP if it's pineapples

## 13

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- ☐ If a character considers bungee jumping
- ☐ BP if they actually do it
- ☐ DBP if they convince someone to do it with them
- ☐ TBP if they figure out the crucial element of the plot while bungee jumping
- ☐ Starbucks points if YOU go bungee jumping for the sake of research.

## 14

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- ☐ Have characters randomly quote the hogwarts sorting hat songs.
- ☐ + if it makes sense in context.
- ☐ ++ if it is central to the plot.

## 15

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- ☐ include a character with a social networking addiction.
- ☐ + if they stop at crucial points in the plot to update facebook/twitter/tumblr/whatever.
- ☐ ++ if they do this at the most inopportune moments possible.
- ☐ +++ if, while doing this, they say things like “wait! my facebook friends/followers/etc. would think this is HILARIOUS.”
- ☐ ++++ if they say this in the middle of a beheading.

## 16

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- ☐ Have a character copyright a novel, music or videogame they made...
- ☐ BP if everyone downloads it for free anyway
- ☐ DBP if its not his concept
- ☐ TBP if they get into a copyright war with the real one
- ☐ QBP if the thing never even was copyrighted by anyone

## 17

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- ☐ Have a character killed by the Travelling Shovel of Death (but that’s hardly a dare! WAIT, interrupting parenthesis) and explicitly identify it as the Travelling Shovel of Death.
- ☐ BP if the shovel-ee is otherwise immortal and can only be killed by a metafictional artifact.
- ☐ DBP if the plot involves a quest to acquire the Travelling Shovel of Death.
- ☐ TBP if this quest involves visits to the Nanovels of other Nanoers using the Travelling Shovel of Death.
- ☐ QBP if you type the name of the Travelling Shovel of Death out in full every time that you refer to the Travelling Shovel of Death.
- ☐ SBP if your nanovel is an academic history of NaNoWriMo itself using the quest for the Travelling Shovel of Death as a framing device.
- ☐ BNP if the person killed with the Shovel is a white supremacist.

## 18

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- ☐ Have a character meet Jenny Everywhere <sup>4</sup>.
- ☐ +BP : Have Jenny Everywhere be a major character.
- ☐ +DBP : Have Jenny's universe-shifting powers be explained.
- ☐ +TBP : Make her powers a major plot point.

## 19

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- ☐ I dare you to have a pivotal plot event occur while the MC is in the bath.
- ☐ BP if he/she has to get out of the bath right away to deal with it
- ☐ DBP if he/she doesn't have any time to dry off or put any clothes on
- ☐ TBP if nobody seems to notice
- ☐ QBP if EVERYONE notices and it grinds the plot to a halt right in the middle of a turning point
- ☐ Cookies if the plot is then interrupted by the character sustaining some kind of injury due to being naked, such as frostbite.

## 20

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- ☐ I dare you to have a character with an eye-patch
- ☐ +If the eye-patch is on a different eye in every scene.
- ☐ ++If the eye under the eye patch is wounded every time
- ☐ +++If no one notices

## 21

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- ☐ Kill your protagonist in every scene.
- ☐ BP if nobody notices.
- ☐ DBP if it's never explained why or how that happens.
- ☐ TBP if it is nevertheless intrinsic to the plot.

## 22

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- ☐ Have a character who wears shoes which are two different colours but still from the same brand in the same model, to know which directions are right and left.
- ☐ BP : If it is a REALLY UGLY combination, not just like white/black, red/pink, BUT GREEN/PINK, PURPLE/ORANGE and so on.
- ☐ DBP : If the character's shoes at one points are so worn out, that (s)he has to wear the opposite shoes, which (s)he has hidden since (s)he started using the system.
- ☐ TBP : If this makes the character completely confused about directions and at some point gets totally lost.

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4. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jenny\\_Everywhere](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jenny_Everywhere)

## 23

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- ☐ Name all of your characters with anagrams of Ian Woon.
- ☐ BP : If you also have important plot objects named with an anagram (Like a Win a Moron contest. )
- ☐ DBP : If no one notices this in the story.
- ☐ TBP : If everyone notices this in the story and makes fun of it.

## 24

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- ☐ Have someone mention that so many people complain about the weather, but no one ever actually *does* anything about it.
- ☐ BP if someone is planning on trying do something about the weather.
- ☐ DBP if this is a Quest.
- ☐ TBP if one person succeeds just enough to end up with a personal raincloud. Not as many bonus points if someone succeeds enough to have his/her own, personal weather, independent from everyone else's – but s/he can't control it.
- ☐ Additional Fun : Make that person's weather controlled by someone else entirely. Like, say, the Bad Guy.

## 25

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- ☐ Have someone point out that it's not possible to slam a revolving door.
- ☐ Bonus points if s/he is telling someone who is trying to do just that.

## 26

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- ☐ "Clearly, this calls for a clown car."
- ☐ BP : If the situation really does call for a clown car.
- ☐ DBP : If a clown car is brought in.
- ☐ TBP : If there are clowns inside the clown car.
- ☐ QBP : If the clowns become significant somehow.

## 27

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- ☐ The character swap ! Get permission from friends to have their characters make cameo appearances in your book !
- ☐ BP if you have real people make cameo appearances.
- ☐ DBP if you can convince one of them to let you kill them off ! <3

## 28

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- ☐ Have characters quarrel over "pop vs. soda"
- ☐ BP if it's the hero and the villain.
- ☐ DBP if that's what started their rivalry.
- ☐ TBP if it turns into an all-out war.

## 29

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- ☐ Include a character that uses the word "hetero" as some people use the word "gay". For example, "That soda machine is so hetero ; it took my dollar and then not only did it give me the wrong soda, but it didn't give me any change."

## 30

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- ☐ Have your character have a special recognisable pen he likes to use.
- ☐ Have this pen covertly stolen by another character.
- ☐ BP : This pen is repeatedly stolen by other characters
- ☐ DBP : Every important character is, at some point, shown using this pen.
- ☐ TBP : There is a clear chain of thefts. ie. The Big Bad originally owned this pen, but it was stolen by Henchman. Guard then stole it. The Mole took it off him, etc.
- ☐ QBP : This is integral to the plot.

## 31

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- ☐ Incorporate the line "Sorry about your coffee, I had to throw it at someone."
- ☐ Bonus points if it's said to the main character
- ☐ Double bonus points if it's said BY the main character
- ☐ Triple bonus points if it was thrown at the love interest
- ☐ Quadruple bonus points if they didn't miss
- ☐ Quintuple bonus points if the main character later gets a coffee in the face

## 32

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- ☐ Include a ghost that isn't unfriendly, isn't particularly friendly either, doesn't communicate much with the living, and just generally tolerates the people living in his house.
- ☐ BP if he turns on the radio, just because he likes music
- ☐ DBP if he takes occasional showers
- ☐ TBP if the people living in his house (or place or whatever) know about him, and just say "Oh yeah, that was the ghost" like it's nothing weird

## 33

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- ☐ Include :
  - Character A : Why would you think I don't like you ?
  - Character B : You sent ninja assassins to kill me. Twice.
  - Character A : I said I was sorry.
- ☐ BP if character A really did hire ninja assassins
- ☐ DBP if character A is your MC
- ☐ TBP if the assassination attempts are completely justifiable
- ☐ QBP if characters A and B hook up at the end of your novel

## 34

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- ☐ Have someone that is always in the elevator every time your characters use one.
- ☐ BP if they don't think it's odd
- ☐ DBP if at some point s/he becomes relevant
- ☐ TBP if, at that point, s/he is /not/ in the elevator, and your characters have to go haring off after the elevator character.

## 35

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- ☐ I dare you to include characters dancing to Psy - Gangnam Style !
- ☐ BP if it's the main character
- ☐ DBP if Everyone does it
- ☐ TPB if Psy appears and people start dancing along with him.

## 36

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- ☐ A character always orders the same drink in any bar : a glass of milk with an ice cube in it.
- ☐ BP : If this character has an elaborate and long-winded explanation for this odd preference.
- ☐ DBP : If this explanation is at least 1,667 words long.

## 37

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- ☐ A character loves to cook but apparently has no sense of taste ; everything s/he makes is revolting.
- ☐ BP : If this character accidentally invents something really, really tasty.

## 38

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- ☐ A character believes s/he was a prehistoric hunter-gatherer in a past life and is constantly comparing modern life with the way things "used to be".
- ☐ BP : If s/he professes to prefer mammoth to beef.

## 39

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- ☐ A character is a competitive facial-hair grower.

## 40

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- ☐ A character enters a battle or fight armed only with a stapler.
- ☐ BP : If the character is really, really good with the stapler.
- ☐ DBP : If the character singlehandedly wins with the stapler.
- ☐ TBP : If the character is later defeated by an enemy with a paperclip.

## 41 \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Include a Siri-esque smartphone app that's incredibly snarky. (I envision it like if GLaDOS was an app.)
- ☐ BP if the app never lets the character look up things it finds "unnecessary" or that it looks down upon for some reason.
- ☐ DBP if it refuses to search for something unless you ask nicely.

## 42 \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Have one of your female characters start PMS-ing at some point.
- ☐ Bonus points if she's previously been really sweet and nice.
- ☐ DBP if she yells at the villain.
- ☐ TBP if it makes the villain cry.

## 43 \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Have a pineapple as a murder weapon.

## 44 \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Have your villain pursue some really random, unexpected hobby. Say, knitting.
- ☐ Bonus points if the villain's really bad at it.
- ☐ DBP if the villain has an emotional breakdown because of this.
- ☐ TBP if your MC comforts them because your MC also pursues that hobby and is really good at it.
- ☐ QBP if it's the other way around – your villain comforts your MC after your MC had an emotional breakdown about their failings of knitting.

## 45 \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Have your characters start quoting Lady Gaga songs.
- ☐ Bonus points if it makes sense in the context.
- ☐ DBP if they're completely serious.
- ☐ TBP if they don't even realize they're doing it.
- ☐ QBP if they live in a time period or alternate universe where Lady Gaga doesn't exist.
- ☐ 5BP if they're wearing extremely odd outfits while they're doing so.
- ☐ 6BP if there's a completely logical reason for your characters to be wearing them.

## 46 \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Have two characters get into a completely serious duel with food items as weapons.



47

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- ☐ Dare : Your characters go on a road trip that basically includes the passengers shouting "LEFT!" or "RIGHT" at the turns.
- ☐ BP : If your characters end up in the middle of a field.
- ☐ DBP : If your characters manage to take a whole chapter finding their way home.
- ☐ TBP : If they end up at the villain's hideout by accident, therefore capturing the evil one.

48

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- ☐ Let your quietest character (main or not) have the biggest secret.
- ☐ BP if it's a dangerous secret.
- ☐ TBP if they've been hiding it since WAY before the novel started.

49

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- ☐ Have something a character reads or writes on the inside of a bathroom stall turn into a major plot point.

50

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- ☐ Have a main character who's a ghost, but have this fact not affect the story at all, other than maybe a few comments from the other characters.
- ☐ Bonus points if it's in a world where no one believes in ghosts.

51

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- ☐ Have a main character who has an unusual nick name that EVERYONE calls them by, even when it's not appropriate to be using nicknames (like school registers, doctor's appointments, etc)
- ☐ BP if their real name is incredibly plain and kind of forgettable.
- ☐ DBP if no one can seem to remember that name off hand.
- ☐ TBP if all instances of that name written down are smudged, erased, or rendered illegible for no explainable reason.
- ☐ QBP if anyone who knows their normal name and tries to said it is constantly cut off, silenced, faints dramatically or is horribly killed when they're about to utter it.
- ☐ SBP if the name is integral to the plot somehow.
- ☐ A cookie if the name is revealed in the final paragraph.
- ☐ A chocolate fish if no one knows where the nickname came from ANYWAY.

52

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- ☐ Have your characters play a game of One Thousand Blank White Cards. If you don't know how it's played, the explanation is here : <http://www.geocities.com/nconner23/bwcards.html>

## 53

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- ☐ Have your main characters get stuck in a traffic jam on their way to Meet the Evil Nemesis at You-Know-Where for the Final Showdown so they can Save the World.
- ☐ + if the villain rides past on a bicycle
- ☐ ++ if your story is set in a time period when neither cars nor bicycles are invented
- ☐ +++ if the villain rides through the traffic at the exact moment that it finally moves – and gets hit

## 54

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- ☐ All the chapters in your story are the titles of Beatles songs
- ☐ DB- there is at least one line from the song somewhere in the chapter
- ☐ TP- the chapter is relevant (or can be related) to the the title
- ☐ QP- The climax occurs in a chapter entitled "I Am The Walrus"
- ☐ x5 - Your MC's names are taken from the songs
- ☐ infinite points- You have auxiliary characters named John, Paul, George, and Ringo

## 55

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- ☐ I dare you to have a food fight in your novel.
- ☐ Bonus points if it's essential to the plot.
- ☐ Extra bonus points if it takes place somewhere unusual for a food fight – the royal banquet hall, a 5-star restaurant, a wedding reception, etc.
- ☐ A cookie if you top 2k with a detailed description of the food fight.

## 56

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- ☐ I dare you to solve a problem McGyver style, using only a rubber-band, a paperclip and toothpaste.

## 57

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- ☐ I dare you to include a character named Someone.
- ☐ Bonus if his name is equally nondescript
- ☐ A cookie if no one ever gets confused except ONE CHARACTER, and no one ever understands how that one character gets confused.

## 58

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- ☐ One of your characters always says “Thank you for calling Dominoes, how may I help you” every time they pick up the phone (instead of Hello).

59

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- ☐ Include the prophecy : The people will go to the place and do the thing that will have the consequence.

60

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- ☐ Have a character who has a camera with him/her at all times, and takes a picture of every new person he/she meets. (I just think it would be cool)
- ☐ +BP - if the photos come in handy later in the story.

61

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- ☐ Have a side character who is always "running from the government" whenever he/she crosses paths with your MC.
- ☐ +BP - if at one point, your MC is really running from the government when he crosses paths with the side character.
- ☐ ++DBP - if you actually see the side character being chased by agents at one point toward the end, revealing that he/she was telling the truth all along.

62

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- ☐ Have your novel 'sponsored'. Be sure to have a 'commercial break' right before something really important happens.
- ☐ BP if the characters say "After the break."
- ☐ DBP if there is also lots of clumsy product placement throughout.
- ☐ TBP if a character stops in the middle of the action to deliver a sales pitch.
- ☐ QBP if this character says "And if you call now, we'll throw in an author interview and a set of book-group questions at no extra cost !"

63

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- ☐ Ninja kittens
- ☐ BP if they are actually a threat/menacing to your characters
- ☐ DBP if they are still actually cute fluffy kittens (and not some weird ninja cat creature)

64

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- ☐ Include a character that speaks entirely in alphabetical order.
  - Ex : Like talk they this would. Annoying is not this ?
- ☐ BP : If everyone understands him/her.
- ☐ DBP : If everyone understands save your main character.
- ☐ TBP : If it catches on with other characters.
- ☐ QBP : If the narrations follow the same pattern.

## 65

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- ☐ One of your characters gets infected with a somewhat harmless, but annoying alien disease.
- ☐ BP : if the disease turns the character purple.
- ☐ DBP : if the cure only makes it worse.
- ☐ TBP : If the purple skin color turns out to be an advantage at some point in the story.

## 66

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- ☐ A household object (toaster, football, vase) turns out to strongly resemble an alien idol.
- ☐ BP : This starts a serious theological discussion between the owner of the object and the alien(s). (Ooh, lots of words to be found here !)
- ☐ DBP : The aliens are offended by the use of the object.
- ☐ TBP : This blasphemy sours diplomacy between humans and the aliens.

## 67

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- ☐ One of your dumber characters (major or minor) comes up with a solution to a seemingly insurmountable scientific/technological problem.
- ☐ BP : They manage it in minutes, much to the chagrin of the smarter characters who have been puzzling over it for hours.
- ☐ DBP : The smarter characters ignore his solution and continue trying to coming up with their own and failing.
- ☐ TBP : The most intelligent of the characters finally figures it out after a long period of deep thought. It's exactly what the other character said.
- ☐ Cookies : The delay negatively affects the plot and becomes a major turn in character development for everyone involved.