Jean Kwok’s Character Sketch Template

Name of Character

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Role in story |   |
| Physical description* age, height, weight, hair, skin, physique
* facial features
* clothing
* grooming
* distinguishing features or habits, mannerisms
* upon close inspection
* voice
* fragrance

  |   |
| What other people notice about her/him* first
* second
*
 |   |
| Background* Ethnicity
* Education
* Religion
* Personal experience
* Occupation, work experience
* Sexuality
* Residence
*
 |   |
| Character traits* Strongest (or dominant) trait
* Weakest (or latent) trait
* Philosophy
* Politics
* Interests
* Vital secret
*
 |   |
| Significant event that molded the character’s personality |   |
| Is the reader likely to have stereotypical expectations about this character?* How does the character defy the stereotype?
* How does she conform to the stereotype?
*
 |   |
| Relationships* Best friend
* Other friends
* Family
* Enemies
*
 |   |
| Essence of the character* Core need(s)
* Ambition in life
* What character does alone
* Will reader like or dislike the character and why.
*
 |   |
| Character arc* Does the character change in the story?  How?
* Epiphany
	+ How does the character grow?
	+ What does the character learn?
	+
 |   |
| Motivations/Ambitions* What does the character want?
	+ abstract
	+ concrete
	+ Does character have intermediate goals?
	+
 |   |
| Conflicts* What could prevent the character from achieving her objectives?
	+ Internal conflicts
	+ External conflicts
	+
 |   |
| Summary* *If* the story were principally about this character what would that story line be?
* Describe the *character’s*story in three acts:
	+ beginning
	+ middle
	+ end
	+
 |   |
| Freestyle description of the character. |   |
| In the character’s own words: something the character says which is illustrative of her/his self-perception. |   |