

# Suspenseful Flash Fiction Assignment



Flash Fiction is very short fiction, in most cases no longer than 500 words. Some can even be very short, like these:

**He showered her with roses, but never asked her favorite flower.**

**He was the last man on earth. Then he heard a knock at the door.**

**I go through everything in the house, sifting through drawers, books, clothes, collecting regret; tomorrow I'll decide if I should burn the pile or not.**

**I kept myself alive.**

Your task is to write a suspenseful piece of flash fiction that is between 300-500 words. You will have to work hard to create a compelling story in this amount of time. How will you create characters we care about? How can you write an interesting plot in a short amount of time? These are all questions that you will need to address as part of your story.

**You will have to include suspense in your story.** We have talked about how to create suspense. Two of the main ways are:

1. Make your reader wait to find something out (and we discussed ways to do this)
2. Give the main character a choice and make us wonder what they will do.

**You will also be rated on your ability to create characters using the five methods of characterization:**

1. Author tells the reader directly
2. The character's thoughts
3. The character's actions
4. The character's speech
5. Other characters thoughts and speech

**Finally, you must include dialogue in your story.**

You will also be given a list of story starters to work from. You must use one of them as the opening sentence to your story.

## Some restrictions:

Your story must take place in less than 24 hours.

Your story must be told in 3rd person.

No extreme violence, gore, profanity, or disturbing behavior.

Your characters must be invented.