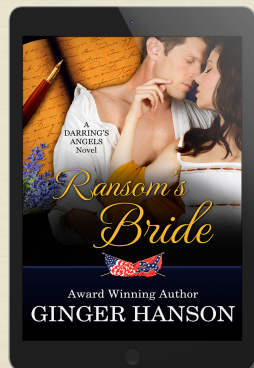
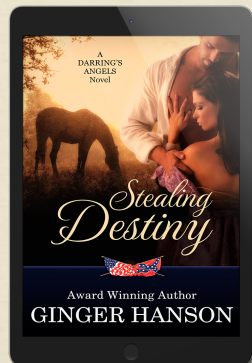


Ginger won her first writing contest with a short story about her puppy when she was 12 years old. Encouraged by the experience, she decided to become a writer. Her personal essays, short stories,

and articles have appeared in newspapers, magazines, and newsletters. She has also worked as a clean up writer and copy editor on Federal Aviation Administration handbooks.

She married her love of storytelling with her history degree and began writing historical romances. Two Victorian era novels were followed by two Regency era novels. She also writes a contemporary sweet romance series set in Tassasnoxie, Alabama.



Available at major ebook outlets

*Small town...Second Chances...  
in Tassanoxie, Alabama*



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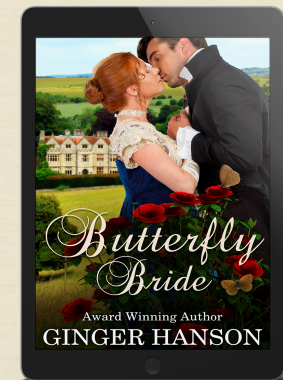
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IS THERE A  
NOVEL IN  
YOUR LIFE?

by

Award Winning Author

**Ginger Hanson**



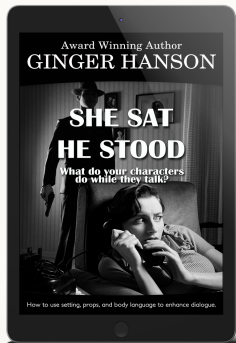
Do you have a great story idea you'd like to write? One you want others to read? Writing a story that other people want to read is what novel writing is all about.

This brochure will give you the six basic ingredients to a good story. I use this method to figure out if my story idea has the hallmarks of a novel people will want to read.

## The Six Ingredients Every Novel Needs

### Character Situation Goal, Motivation, and Conflict Resolution

*Does your story have these ingredients?*



While you don't need to discover these five ingredients in any particular order, every story needs them. Story ideas come to us in a variety of guises.

It might be a compelling character first or a fascinating situation.

*Lady Runaway* is based on a situation while a person (character) ignited *Feather's Last Dance*. To avoid writing aimlessly, you need to answer all these questions. If you can, there may be a novel in your life!

**Character:** *Webster's Ninth Collegiate Dictionary* defines a character as one of the persons of a novel. Problems arise if you do not have a focal character, someone with whom the reader identifies, cares about, and roots for. The focal character needs to pull the reader into the story. This is the magic of writing—creating an imaginary person who tugs at a real person's heart. It's an incredible feeling to have a reader become so attached to a character you created that she asks you to write a sequel and continue that character's story.

**Situation:** a combination of circumstances at a certain moment that come together and compel your character to do something. They need to do something because of the important feelings he or she harbors about the situation. The keyword here is "do." A character needs to act because stories revolve around actions. But not just any actions, these actions have to matter.

A third important ingredient in our novel mix is **Goal** which is something the character wants badly. Thus, we start with a character who has an important need or feeling about something (**Motivation**) in a situation that forces said character to act, and because the character has to act, he or she now has a goal.

**Goals**, just like characters and situations,

come in many sizes and shapes. It can be huge, such as saving the White House from a terrorist plot. Or it can be small, such as a teenager fighting to escape poverty by earning a college scholarship.

Reaching goals is not always easy and reaching easy ones do not hold as much value as the difficult-to-reach goals. Thus, goals need to be worthy of achievement, and for that they need worthy obstacles. Obstacles that keep us from reaching the goal lead to **Conflict**. Someone or something blocks the character from reaching his or her goal.

The final ingredient is the **Resolution** or satisfying ending. Now, I didn't say happy ending, but every story needs to satisfy the reader. A story should leave the reader feeling there could have been no other way for this particular story to end. This is where the writer ties up the ends of the story in a tidy bundle. The situation has been resolved, the goals reached, and the conflict settled.

Look for these ingredients in your story and discover if there's a novel in your life!

