

Stern's Plots:

- 1. Bear at the Door** – Things go down very quickly. (Example: The Walking Dead)
- 2. Trauma** – What happens after things go down. (Example: World War Z Novel)
- 3. Journey** – Hero goes places, things happen on the road. (Example: Lord of the Rings)
- 4. Visitation** – A stranger is in town. (Example: The Gunslinger - Dark Tower Book 1)
- 5. Specimen** – Unusual character we observe. (Example: A Confederacy of Dunces)
- 6. Day in the Life** – Unit of time where story impacts character. (Example: The Lottery)
- 7. Gathering** – Piling groups of people together with conflict. (Example: Agatha Christie's Mysteries)
- 8. Onion** – Revelation story, as each part advances, more is unpacked. (Example: The Road)
- 9. Aha!** – Story built around a twist. (Example: The Sixth Sense)
- 10. Blue Moon** – There is an extraordinary something. (Example: American Gods)
- 11. Snapshot** – Capturing the moment of a thing. (Example: Most Prose Poetry)