

Narrative Hooks

Narrative Hook	Example
The Puzzler – raises questions that puzzle the reader	<i>I'm never really sure if it's a real memory or just something that's become more solid over time. But I'm sure that my brother once tried to murder me.</i>
The Salesperson – stops the reader in their tracks and addresses them directly	<i>So you want to know all about me? Well, stay there and I'll begin...</i>
The Hinder – the subtle approach, drops hints so the reader has to put the pieces together	<i>It wasn't as if we hated each other. I don't really think he knew what he was doing. I wasn't much better.</i>
The Weatherman – sets the atmosphere	<i>The sky was dark, the pavements shining with drizzle and reflected lights from lamp-posts and car headlights. I splashed along in my cosy wellies.</i>
The Painter – paints a visual image of the scene	<i>My bright red wellies shone as they splashed through the puddles on the black tar pavement. Multi-coloured cars raced past, cutting through the drizzle and the dark of the winter...</i>
The Comedian – the funny approach	<i>Being splashed by a car so comprehensively that you are soaked to your underwear is really funny. Unless it happens to you.</i>
The Interrupter – brings you in during a conversation	<i>I can't believe he did that! What happened next?" Liz demanded...</i>

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Have a go at using each Narrative Hook by writing an opening sentence in each of the different styles. You may find that you need to change your opening focus as well as your style.

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The Weatherman – *sets the atmosphere*

The Painter – *paints a visual image of the scene*

The Comedian – *the funny approach*

The Interrupter – *brings you in during a conversation*