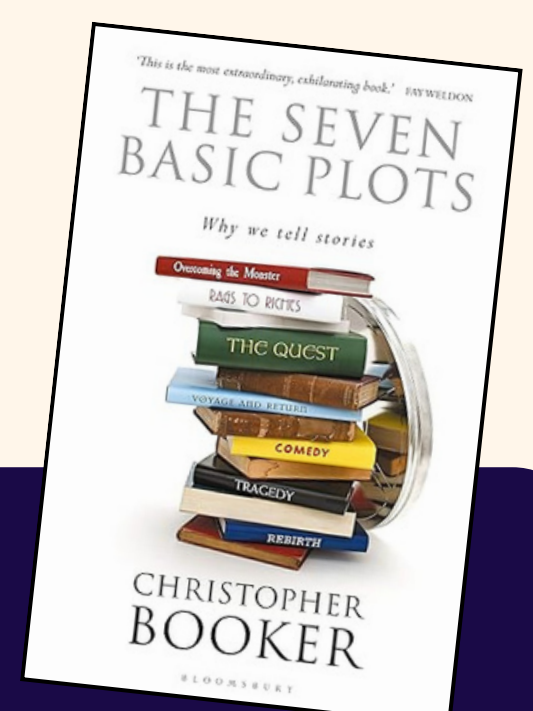




"The Seven Basic Plots: Why We Tell Stories"

by Christopher Booker (Adapted)

1. Overcoming the Monster | Examples: Beowulf, Star Wars, Dracula
 - Anticipation Stage The hero learns about a looming threat and prepares to confront it.
 - Dream Stage: Initial successes boost the hero's confidence.
 - Frustration Stage: The monster's true power is revealed, challenging the hero.
 - Nightmare Stage: The hero faces a final, life-threatening confrontation.
 - Thrilling Escape and Victory: The hero defeats the monster and often gains a reward.
2. Rags to Riches | Examples: Cinderella, Aladdin, Jane Eyre
 - Initial Wretchedness and Call: The protagonist starts in poverty or oppression.
 - Out into the World: They leave home and encounter trials and opportunities.
 - Central Crisis: A major setback threatens their progress.
 - Independence and Final Ordeal: They must prove themselves.
 - Fulfillment: They achieve success, love, or status.
3. The Quest | Examples: The Lord of the Rings, Indiana Jones, The Divine Comedy
 - The Call: The hero sets out to obtain a vital goal.
 - The Journey: They face trials, enemies, and allies.
 - Arrival and Frustration: Reaching the goal proves complex.
 - Final Ordeals: Major tests determine success.
 - The Goal: The hero triumphs and transforms.
4. Voyage and Return | Examples: Alice in Wonderland, The Hobbit, Finding Nemo
 - Fall into Another World: The protagonist enters an unfamiliar setting.
 - Initial Fascination: New wonders capture their attention.
 - Frustration: Dangers emerge.
 - Nightmare: The situation becomes dire.
 - Escape and Return: The protagonist returns, changed.
5. Comedy | Examples: Twelfth Night, Much Ado About Nothing, Bridget Jones's Diary
 - Confusion and Misunderstanding: Entanglements begin.
 - Complication: The confusion deepens.
 - Revelation: Hidden truths come to light.
 - Resolution: Misunderstandings are resolved.
 - Restoration of Order* Harmony and often marriage follow.
6. Tragedy | Examples: Macbeth, Oedipus Rex, The Great Gatsby
 - Anticipation: The protagonist has a fatal flaw or desire.
 - Dream Stage: Early success follows.
 - Frustration: Consequences begin to mount.
 - Nightmare: The world collapses around them.
 - Destruction: Death or ruin ensues.
- *. Rebirth | Examples: A Christmas Carol, Beauty and the Beast, Groundhog Day
 - Falling Under the Shadow: The hero is consumed by darkness.
 - Entrenchment: They sink deeper into their flawed state.
 - Revelation: An awakening or event triggers change.
 - Redemption: A shift occurs toward the light.
 - Renewal: The hero emerges transformed.



*The Seven Basic Plots: Why We Tell Stories Paperback –
Christopher Booker*