

Module 1 Workshop Action: Finding a Story

What this is

This is a guided workshop built from Module 1: Finding a Story.

You are not here to get it right. You are here to get traction.

By the end, you will have a story seed with enough heat to carry you into a first scene.

And you will also feel the point of the full program: when you have a system, you stop guessing.

What you will walk away with

- One story seed you can commit to
- A one-paragraph core story (the beginning of your story blueprint)
- A simple Idea Journal you can keep for life
- A clear next step: your first scene

The promise (and the honest limitation)

In 90 minutes, you will not build a whole story.

You will do something more valuable. You will find the entry point.

In Creative Story Mastery, we take this exact seed and show you how to:

- expand it into a full concept
- build character depth
- create scenes with tension
- draft with structure
- finish with confidence

Today is the first door.

Workshop structure (90 minutes)

1) Warm welcome and permission to start

Say this to yourself before you write: No one wants to be stuck. No one wants doubt. What you want is clarity.

Micro-commitment: Write one sentence: *For the next 90 minutes, I will stay curious and keep my pen moving.*

Rule: Small memories count. Quiet moments count. The story does not need to be dramatic. It needs to be true enough to have energy.

2) The Story Inventory

Module 1 begins by widening the net. Most writers are not short of ideas. They are short of permission.

Write 15 one-line seeds. Do not judge. Just list.

Use these sources (straight from Module 1 teaching):

- personal experience
- family stories
- dreams
- observation
- history / news
- imagination (what-if)

Now star the top 5. Not the most impressive. The ones you keep touching.

3) Memory as a story bank

Module 1 teaches a simple truth: memories are packed with emotional weight.

Choose one starred seed.

Write for 10 minutes in three passes:

1. What happened (sensory detail)
2. What I felt (surface emotion, then the deeper emotion)

3. What changed (even slightly)

Name it: Give this memory a working title: *The day ____.*

This is not nostalgia. This is raw narrative fuel.

4) Dreams as story sources (15 minutes)

Dreams are not nonsense. They are compressed meaning.

Write one dream fragment or recurring image. Then answer:

- strongest image
- threat
- desire

Turn it into a story engine: *A character who ___ must ___ before, or else .

If you just felt your brain light up, good.

That is what Module 1 is designed to do.

5) Voice: the moment it becomes yours

A seed becomes a story when it starts sounding like you.

Write two micro-paragraphs (57 lines each) from the same seed:

1. Plain voice: clean, direct
2. Stylised voice: heightened, lyrical, comic, sharp, whatever is natural

Circle the lines that feel alive. Those lines are your voice showing up.

6) The choice

This is where most writers avoid commitment. Creative Story Mastery trains you to choose.

Answer quickly:

- Which seed stirred the strongest response?
- Did any seed connect to a memory or dream?
- Which one would you keep writing even if no one ever saw it?

Choose one seed. Not forever. Just for now.

7) The Core Story Paragraph (10 minutes)

Write 68 sentences:

- Who is the protagonist (even if it is someone like you)?
- What do they want right now?
- What is in the way?
- What is the emotional pressure?
- What is the moment of change?

Optional (powerful): Add one sentence: *This story is really about ____.

You have just created the beginning of your blueprint.

8) Your Idea Journal

Module 1 is not only about finding a story. It is about building a system, so you never lose one again.

Choose one capture tool:

- notebook
- notes app
- Google Doc

Daily rule (2 minutes):

- one observation
- one question
- one image or line of dialogue

9) Close: the taste, and the next step

You have done what most people never do. You have moved from I want to write to I am writing.

Your 24-hour task: Write one scene (1,000 words) from your chosen seed.

If you want more (and you probably do): What you felt today is the first layer of Creative Story Mastery.

In the full program, Module 1 goes deeper with:

- more story sources and story seeds
- guided reflection questions to find what matters most
- repeatable processes to generate ideas on demand

And then we build the entire craft stack: development, character, scene, action, dialogue, words, and marketplace.

If you are ready to stop circling the same ideas and start building a real story with structure and support, the next step is the full program.