

# Genre: Performance\*

Will the protagonist do what's required despite the hardships?

<b>Genre</b>	Performance emphasizes the protagonist's strengths and need for approval.
<b>Subgenres</b>	Art, Business, Music, Sports.
<b>Expectations</b>	<b>Focus:</b> Attain <b>recognition</b> by <b>mastery of art, sport, or profession</b> . <b>Values:</b> Range between <b>shame and respect</b> . <b>Emotions:</b> Readers feel <b>triumph</b> when protagonist achieves success. <b>Climax:</b> Protagonist <b>chooses self, relationship, or other</b> over success.
<b>Conventions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Show a strong mentor.</li><li>- Show protagonist striving for mastery.</li><li>- Show protagonist facing an inevitable failure.</li><li>- Show the mentor influencing adversely protagonist's success.</li><li>- Show mentor/protagonist's divide, forcing win/lose or lose/win.</li></ul>
<b>Scenes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Show the trigger event with a performance opportunity.</li><li>- Show the protagonist sidestepping performance responsibility.</li><li>- Show the protagonist lashing out when forced to perform.</li><li>- Show the protagonist's discovering mentor's object of desire.</li><li>- Show the protagonist's change need, but failure to counter mentor.</li><li>- Show protagonist's mastery, satisfying self, relationship, or other.</li></ul>
<b>Characters</b>	<b>Protagonist:</b> A performing artist, professional, musician, or athlete. <b>Antagonist:</b> Protagonist's mentor with selfish goal or ambition. <b>Others:</b> family, friends, co-performer.
<b>Plot</b>	<b>A:</b> A series of ever-increasing important performances.
<b>Subplot (Optional)</b>	<b>B:</b> Mentor's parallel goal or ambition. <b>C:</b> Protagonist's required change forms that character's arc. <b>D:</b> Some performance conflict highlights the need for change. <b>E:</b> The setting adds to the conflict between protagonist and mentor.
<b>Theme</b>	<b>External:</b> Shame vs. Respect (Performance wins when we make right choices). <b>Philosophical:</b> Varies by subgenre.

\*This profile was inspired by Shawn Coyne and the editors at [storygrid.com/performance-genre/](http://storygrid.com/performance-genre/).

