

# WRITING GOOD COMEDY CHARACTERS: 3 TIPS FROM AN EXPERT

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(Translated into English)

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The characters carry the weight of a film. As interesting as the story is, if the characters are not good, the public will get involved in the story. The script consultant Steve Kaplan gives us 3 keys to writing good characters for a comedy project.

## **1: To be credible as life itself**

Try to write credible and recognizable characters. In this way, the public will be reflected in them and will care what happens to them during the movie.

The characters that act 100% of the time in the same manner shown, are easy stereotypes that are not at all credible. Real people have many facets.

## **2: You always take positive action**

Negative actions of a character, like complaining without doing anything to solve their problems, can function in the drama but not in comedy.

In comedy, the characters always do what they think is best, but turns out to be totally wrong. This strengthens their bond with the audience.

## **3: Their intimate moment**

It's what Blake Snyder called "Save The Cat." You don't need to have your characters literally save a cat, but show them having a human moment to reveal that under their peculiarities is a heart like ours.

You can read more about the use of "save the cat" in another article:

- [Save the Cat: How To Make Sure The Protagonist Wins The Public](#)

## Writing good characters...

It's not a question of using stereotypes. We have more material to draw from amongst the people around us than in any movie we've seen. Observe your surroundings and apply it to your story.

## Steve Kaplan

Steve Kaplan is an expert at writing comedy with a lot of experience in the industry. You can see the full interview with Film Courage on [The # 1 Tip To Writing Likable Characters by Steve Kaplan](#).

In addition, if you want to know more about your comedy writing techniques, you can buy his book on Amazon:

- [The Hidden Tools of Comedy](#)



### Luis Lodos

I'm a filmmaker with the aspiration to tell good stories. For years I chase the dream to devote myself to make my own movies. From this website, I want to share knowledge and experience on how to thrive in the world of cinema.