

Writing an objective summary for Fiction

- Objective summaries include the most important parts of the story.
- If someone reads your summary, they should know what happens in the story.
- Things to include:
 - Characters
 - Setting
 - Conflict
 - Major plot events
 - Resolution

Example of a successful objective summary

- Characters
- Setting
- Conflict
- Major plot events
- Resolution

“Nightmare in Yellow” by Fredric Brown takes place on the protagonist’s 40th birthday. The protagonist has been embezzling money so he is planning to run away and kill his wife in order to not get caught. At dinner, his wife takes her time, and this bothers the protagonist because he plans to kill her at 8:46 pm. They finally go home, but they are still on the front porch. At 8:46, they are on the front porch. Instead of going inside, he hits her over the head right there. When he opens the door, the guests at his party shout “Surprise!” and he has been caught.