

|    | A                                                                                                                              | B                                                                                                                                      |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | <b>Plot-Hole Pass One: Example Spreadsheet</b>                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                        |
| 2  | <i>An example of Pass One notes for the first three chapters of one book. Duplicate it and replace the rows with your own.</i> |                                                                                                                                        |
| 3  |                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                        |
| 4  | <b>Evidence tab</b>                                                                                                            | Everything the book establishes, one note per row, in reading order. Expect several notes per chapter. Openings set up the most.       |
| 5  | <b>Subplot column</b>                                                                                                          | Every note gets one subplot, and the color comes with it. This is how you color-code without keeping a separate list for each subplot. |
| 6  | <b>Linked thread column</b>                                                                                                    | If a note belongs to an open question or setup, put the thread ID here (T1, T2...). One thread can have several notes.                 |
| 7  | <b>Threads tab</b>                                                                                                             | One row per open question, setup or subplot promise. Mentions and Status fill in by themselves.                                        |
| 8  | <b>Pays off column</b>                                                                                                         | Leave it blank during Pass One. In Test 9, fill in the chapter where each thread pays off. Anything still OPEN is a flag.              |
| 9  | <b>Subplot map tab</b>                                                                                                         | Counts notes per subplot per chapter and colors the cell. A long gap in a row means a subplot has gone missing.                        |
| 10 |                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                        |
| 11 | <b>Subplot color key</b>                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                        |
| 12 | Main plot: magic & the crown                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                        |
| 13 | Romance: Mara & Tomas                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                        |
| 14 | Isla & Corvin                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                        |
| 15 | Mother's death                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                        |
| 16 | None (worldbuilding)                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                        |
| 17 |                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                        |
| 18 | <b>Yellow cells</b>                                                                                                            | The cells you fill in later (Pays off on the Threads tab).                                                                             |

|    | A       | B          | C                                                                         | D                            | E             |
|----|---------|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| 1  | Chapter | Type       | What the book has established                                             | Subplot                      | Linked thread |
| 2  | 1       | Fact       | Mara and her sister Isla run their late mother's apothecary in Ashmere.   | Mother's death               |               |
| 3  | 1       | Character  | Mara is 22, Isla is 16. Mara has a burn scar on her left palm.            | None (worldbuilding)         |               |
| 4  | 1       | Rule       | Magic was outlawed after the war. Using it is punishable by death.        | Main plot: magic & the crown |               |
| 5  | 1       | Ability    | Mara hears lies as a ringing in her ears.                                 | Main plot: magic & the crown |               |
| 6  | 1       | Knowledge  | Nobody knows about Mara's ability, including Isla.                        | Main plot: magic & the crown |               |
| 7  | 1       | Resource   | Their mother's dagger is hidden under the apothecary floorboards.         | Mother's death               | T5            |
| 8  | 1       | Location   | Ashmere sits on the river, a day's ride from the capital.                 | None (worldbuilding)         |               |
| 9  | 1       | Thread     | Their mother died the winter the war ended. Cause never stated.           | Mother's death               | T1            |
| 10 | 2       | Fact       | The eastern gate has been sealed since the war.                           | Main plot: magic & the crown | T4            |
| 11 | 2       | Timeline   | Story opens three days before the harvest festival.                       | None (worldbuilding)         |               |
| 12 | 2       | Character  | Tomas arrives claiming to be a wool merchant from the capital.            | Romance: Mara & Tomas        |               |
| 13 | 2       | Ability    | Mara's ears ring when Tomas says he is a merchant.                        | Romance: Mara & Tomas        |               |
| 14 | 2       | Conclusion | Mara decides Tomas is a royal spy.                                        | Romance: Mara & Tomas        |               |
| 15 | 2       | Knowledge  | Tomas knows Mara's mother's name. Mara never told him.                    | Mother's death               | T2            |
| 16 | 2       | Thread     | How does Tomas know her mother's name?                                    | Mother's death               | T2            |
| 17 | 2       | Location   | The apothecary's back door opens onto the river path.                     | None (worldbuilding)         |               |
| 18 | 3       | Thread     | Isla flinches at the name Corvin.                                         | Isla & Corvin                | T3            |
| 19 | 3       | Fact       | Soldiers are posted in Ashmere for the festival. Their captain is Corvin. | Isla & Corvin                | T3            |
| 20 | 3       | Resource   | Tomas carries a travel pass with the royal seal.                          | Romance: Mara & Tomas        |               |
| 21 | 3       | Limitation | Mara's ability fails if the speaker believes the lie.                     | Main plot: magic & the crown |               |
| 22 | 3       | Cost       | Using her ability gives Mara a nosebleed.                                 | Main plot: magic & the crown |               |
| 23 | 3       | Rule       | Festival law: no weapons in the village square.                           | None (worldbuilding)         |               |
| 24 | 3       | Conclusion | Isla thinks Mara is hiding something from her.                            | Isla & Corvin                |               |

|   | A                                                                                                      | B                                        | C                            | D            | E               | F              | G      |
|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|--------|
| 1 | ID                                                                                                     | Thread                                   | Subplot                      | Opened (Ch.) | Mentions so far | Pays off (Ch.) | Status |
| 2 | T1                                                                                                     | How did their mother die?                | Mother's death               | 1            | 1               |                |        |
| 3 | T2                                                                                                     | How does Tomas know their mother's name? | Mother's death               | 2            | 2               |                |        |
| 4 | T3                                                                                                     | Why does Isla flinch at the name Corvin? | Isla & Corvin                | 3            | 2               |                |        |
| 5 | T4                                                                                                     | Who sealed the eastern gate, and why?    | Main plot: magic & the crown | 2            | 1               |                |        |
| 6 | T5                                                                                                     | Why did their mother hide the dagger?    | Mother's death               | 1            | 1               |                |        |
| 7 |                                                                                                        |                                          |                              |              |                 |                |        |
| 8 | Note: Mentions counts the Evidence rows tagged with that thread ID. Pays off stays blank until Test 9. |                                          |                              |              |                 |                |        |

