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- You can whip up a dramatic, powerful scene filled with visuals and dialogues
 - You can imagine your readers opening your book on vacation, an airplane, or the 5 minute break they have waiting to pick up their kids
 - You want to immerse your reader into your world
 - Don't want to hit your reader over the head with the takeaway—it's there, but woven in
 - "Show, don't tell" is a law you live and die by
 - If your local library picked your book for next month's book club, you'd cry with excitement
 - You believe that your story is what's going to set your book apart from everyone else's
 - Your bookshelf is filled with novels and biographies—it's how you learn best
 - After reading your book, you want your readers to say to their friends: "Oh, you have to read this incredible story"
 - People tell you, "Your life is like a movie—I can't believe that actually happened to you!"

You might be writing a
traditional memoir if...

- You want your reader to feel less alone in whatever they're going through
- If a church picked your book for their next small group study, you'd bounce off the walls with joy
- For every discussion you have a related story/anecdote—it's how you enhance the point you're trying to make
- You want your reader to always have their own situation in the back of their heads as they read so they can apply the principles right away
- After reading your book, you want your readers to say to her friend: "Friend, I thought of you the entire time I was reading Chapter 6. It speaks directly to what you're going through. She gets it."
- You believe that the inspiration of your book will set it apart from all the others
- People tell you, "You always know just what to say, and you give the best advice"
- You imagine your readers putting encouraging quotes from your book on their fridge, their bathroom mirror, and their phone's lock screen
- You like the idea of readers getting a glimpse of your everyday life...maybe it looks like theirs, too.
- Your nightstand is filled with motivational, inspirational books that you've marked up with color-coded highlighters.



You might be writing an
inspirational memoir if...