

Villain Motivation Worksheet

Evaluation Area	Questions to Ask	Notes
Core Wound/Trauma	What pain or injustice shaped your villain?	
Twisted Logic	How does your villain justify their actions to themselves?	
Philosophy/Belief	What worldview makes them feel “right” even when they’re wrong?	
Emotional Stakes	What does your villain want most (love, revenge, respect, survival)?	
Methods	How do they pursue their goal, and why are those methods horrific?	
Audience Conflict	In what ways might the audience relate to or sympathize with them?	
Protagonist Connection	How does the villain’s motivation mirror or challenge the hero’s journey?	