

Views & Navigation

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Outline View

The **Outline View** displays your entire story structure as a continuous document.

It includes:

- Chapter titles and subtitles
- Chapter overviews
- Scene descriptions

This view is ideal when reviewing structure or sharing your outline with editors or collaborators.

Note: You don't need to do anything with the Outline View. Your story outline is automatically built from the chapter overviews and scene descriptions you add in the Board View.

From the Outline View, you can **click the "Export as .docx" button** (top-right or bottom-center) to download the entire outline as an editable Microsoft Word document to either edit offline, review or share with others.

A Christmas Carol Charles Dickens

Status: Work in progress

Board Outline Notes Characters Timeline

Export as .docx

Chapter 1

Stave I: Marley's Ghost

Scrooge is introduced on Christmas Eve as a harsh, solitary miser who rejects warmth, charity, and human connection. He dismisses his nephew's invitation, rebuffs charitable visitors, and begrudges his clerk a day's rest, establishing his worldview and moral blindness. Returning home, he is unsettled by supernatural signs before the ghost of his former partner, Jacob Marley, appears in chains forged from a life of greed. Marley warns Scrooge of the fate awaiting him and announces that three spirits will visit him to offer a final chance at redemption, shattering Scrooge's certainty and beginning his uneasy confrontation with change.

Scene 1

Scrooge works alone in his counting-house on Christmas Eve, cold, joyless, and entirely absorbed in business. His contempt for Christmas and human sympathy is established through his treatment of his clerk and his reaction to the festive world outside, setting the moral baseline of the story and defining the emotional distance between Scrooge and everyone around him.

Scene 2

Scrooge's nephew arrives to wish him a merry Christmas and invite him to dinner, but is dismissed with ridicule and bitterness. Two charitable gentlemen follow, seeking donations for the poor, and are rebuffed with cruelty and indifference. These encounters show how fully Scrooge rejects generosity, family, and social responsibility.

Scene 3

After closing the office, Scrooge walks home through the cold, foggy streets and notices unsettling signs, including Marley's face appearing in the door knocker. Though shaken, he dismisses the experience as imagination and retreats into his gloomy chambers, attempting to restore his sense of control.

Scene 4

Inside his rooms, strange sounds and supernatural disturbances begin, culminating in the dramatic entrance of Marley's ghost, dragging chains forged from a life of greed. The ghost confronts Scrooge with the reality of the afterlife and the punishment awaiting those who live without compassion.

Timeline View

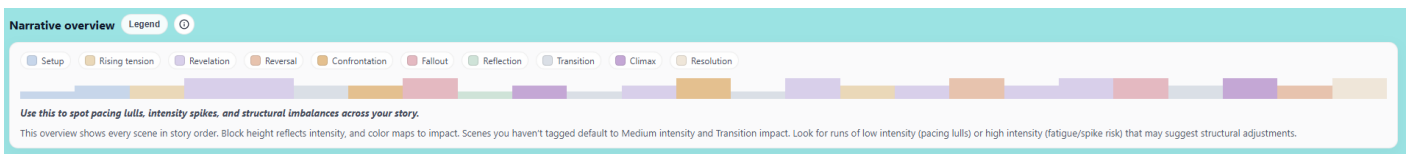
The **Timeline View** gives you a visual overview of your story structure.

It combines chapters, scenes, narrative signals, character arcs, and beats into a single timeline so you can quickly identify pacing issues or gaps in your narrative.

Clicking any chapter in the timeline jumps directly to that chapter in your project.

The Timeline View is split into two sub-views:

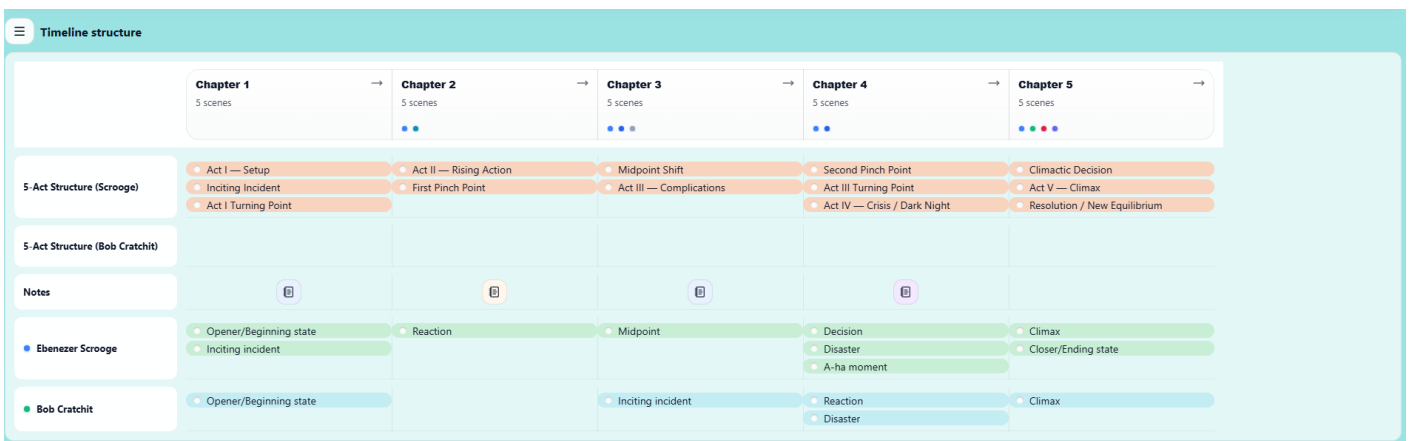
Narrative overview



The Narrative overview shows you a color-coded graph of your scenes or chapters, based on the intensity and story impact options you selected on the Board view. Block height reflects **intensity**, and color maps to **impact**. Scenes you haven't tagged will default to Medium intensity and Transition impact. You can use this graph to look for runs of low intensity (pacing lulls) or high intensity (fatigue/spike risk) that may suggest structural adjustments.

Note: low or high runs doesn't mean your story structure is wrong, that may be exactly what you intended, but the Narrative overview graph will help point out any lull or spike you hadn't previously accounted for.

Timeline structure



The **Timeline Structure** section helps you map story structure, character arcs, and notes against the progression of your chapters.

Each column represents a chapter in your project, allowing you to visualise how important narrative elements unfold across the story.

This section is designed to give you a **high-level structural overview** of your book while still letting you organise specific story beats.

Rows such as **5-Act Structure** allow you to visualize major narrative beats along the timeline of your story (which you've chosen from the Beat Sheets section of the Board view).

Examples include:

- Inciting Incident
- Rising Action
- Midpoint Shift
- Second Pinch Point
- Climax
- Resolution

By attaching these markers under the relevant chapters, you can quickly see whether your story structure is balanced and whether key moments occur at the right point in the narrative.

You can also add **multiple structural rows** to compare different structural models or track alternative story frameworks.

Character Arcs

Character rows allow you to track how individual characters develop across the story.

For example, you might mark:

- A character's **inciting moment**
- Key **reactions or decisions**
- Moments of **failure or revelation**
- Their final **climax or transformation**

This helps ensure that character development progresses alongside the main plot rather than disappearing for long stretches of the story.

Notes

The **Notes** row allows you to add reminders, world-building ideas, or structural comments tied to a specific chapter.

These notes can be used to track pacing issues, unresolved plot threads, or ideas that may need to be developed later.

Tag notes against specific chapters in the Notes column of Board view, or from the Notes view.

Why Use Timeline Structure?

The Timeline Structure view is designed to help you answer questions such as:

- Do my major plot beats occur at the right points in the story?
- Do my character arcs evolve consistently throughout the narrative?
- Are there chapters where nothing significant happens?
- Are key characters disappearing for too long?

By seeing everything aligned across the chapter timeline, you can quickly identify pacing problems or structural gaps.