Overview of Content Warnings

What are content warnings?

Content warnings offer the reader a chance to mentally prepare for anything in the work that might be challenging for them, whether it's a PTSD trigger, something that makes them sad, or just something jarring they prefer to know about ahead of time.

Oh, so spoilers?

No. Under very specific circumstances, some content warnings might also be spoilers, but in general a story should be able to stand on its own regardless of whether there is a surprise.

What should I give content warnings for?

The big ones are, conveniently, generally crimes or serious medical issues. For example, rape/sexual assault, child abuse, murder, suicide, extreme violence, marital affair, or cancer. But it's also a good idea to include content warnings for things that seem more innocuous, such as swearing and on-page sex, and for racism, sexism, etc.

Specific Content to Give Warnings For

Child death

Death

Rape

Sexual Assault

Suicide

Medical Trauma

Fatphobia

Racism

Homophobia

Transphobia

Misgendering

Biphobia

Violence

Death of a parent

Ableism

Alcoholism

Drug Addiction

Domestic Abuse

Depression

Eating Disorders

Stalking

Self-harm

War

Amputation

Animal Cruelty or Death