

## THIS CHARACTER'S ARC MAP

### Arc Trajectory

A visual estimate of this character's internal journey.

POSITIVE							
CONFLICTED							
NEGATIVE							
STORY BEGINNING	INNCITING INCIDENT	POST-CATALYST REACTIONARY HERO	MIDPOINT	DARKEST NIGHT/MOMENT	"AHA" MOMENT	CLIMAX	THE ENDING

### Working It Out

#### SUMMARIZING THE ARC

In a few lines, give a brief description of this character's overall arc. What do they need to learn by the end of the story? How will the plot drive and force them to learn it? (If important side character, how will their arc affect the main character?)

## **THE OPENING/STORY BEGINNING**

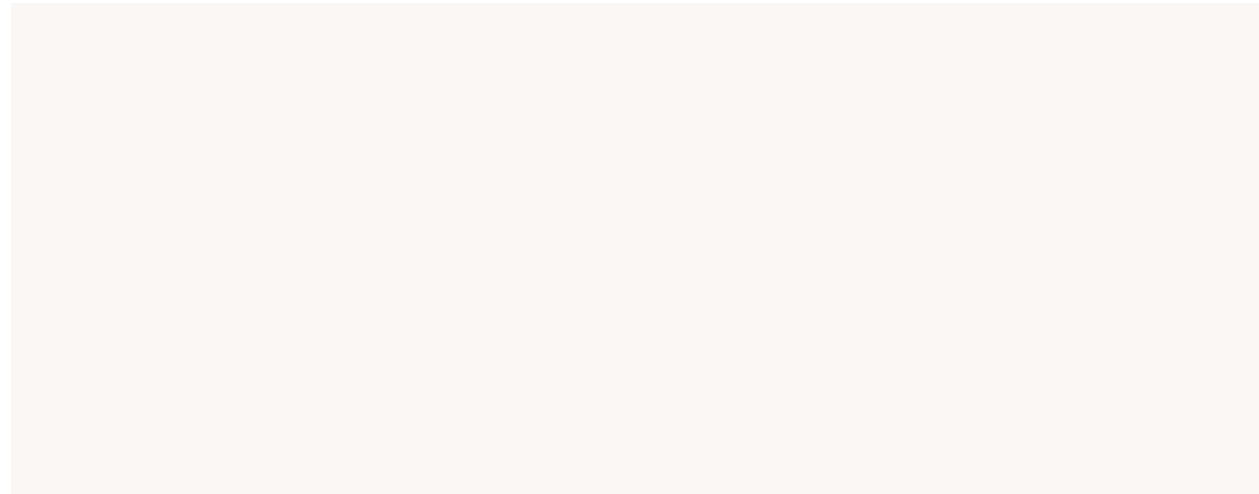
What is this character struggling with when the story opens? What is it their core want? What is their core fear/misbelief? How is their core fear/misbelief standing in the way of getting what they want?

## **INCITING INCIDENT**

Why is the story’s inciting incident important to this character? How does it push them out of their comfort zone? How are they going to respond to the inciting incident based on their fears and misbeliefs, to the events that lead up to the catalyst of the story?

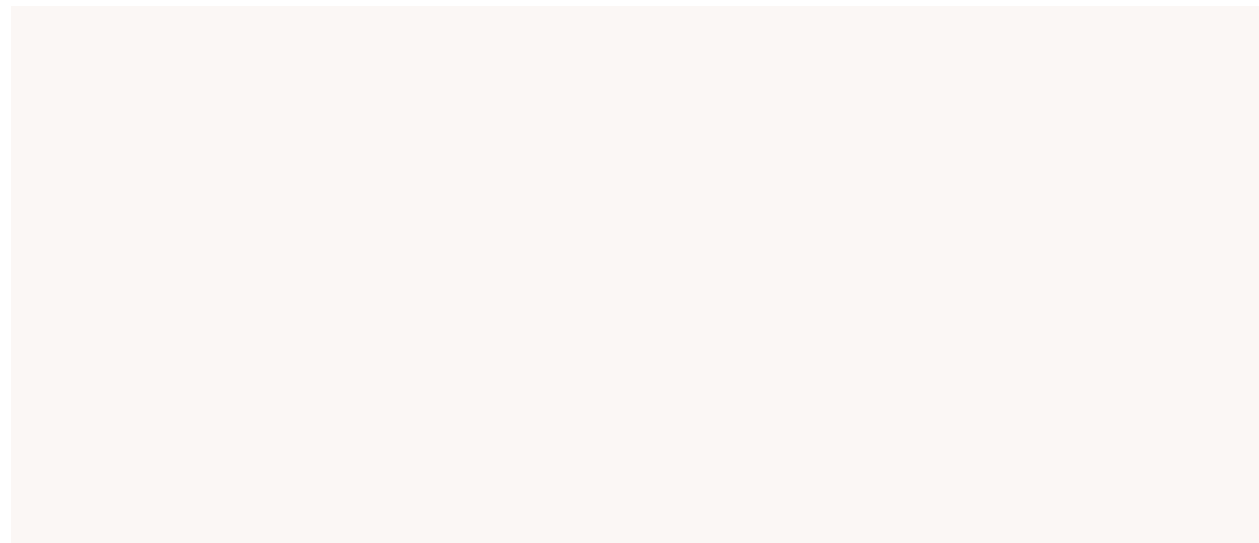
## **THE POST-CATALYST REACTIONARY HERO**

What decision does this character make based on their response to the catalyst of the story? Why is it important to their development? How will this drive their actions and responses leading up to the midpoint (i.e. will they be happier, sadder, cynically optimistic, etc. about their situation)? (Hint: if they have a more positive outlook about their situation during this part of the story, it’s usually a good idea to have the midpoint event/revelation dash their happiness.)



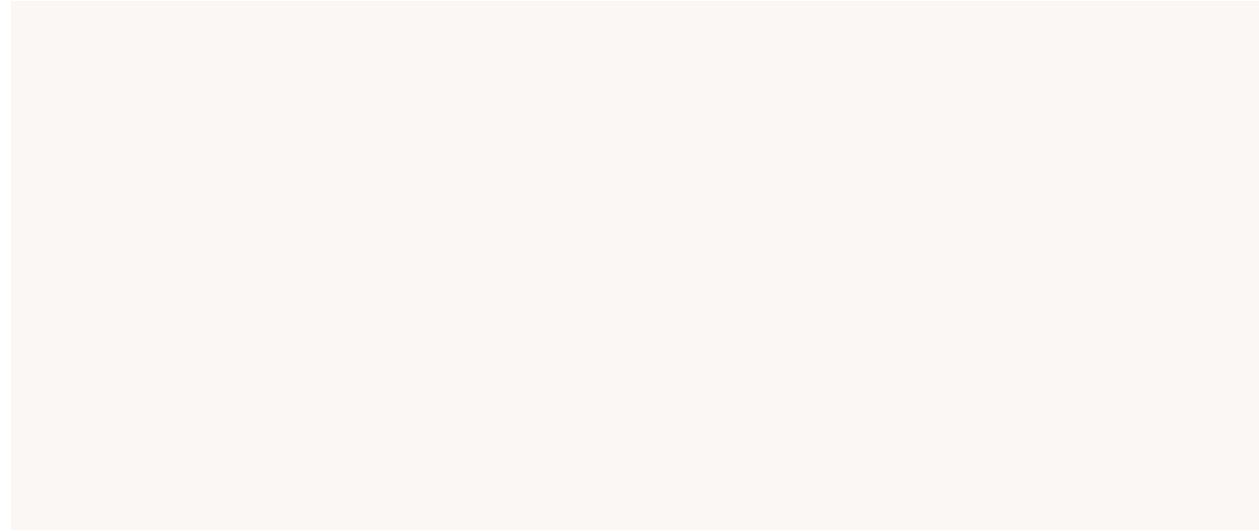
## **THE MIDPOINT**

How does the midpoint change this character internally? What old wounds or misbeliefs does it reintroduce? What new revelation(s) does it lead this character to realize? How will this affect them going forward? (For the chart above, this is where the line should have a dramatic upward or downward tick.)



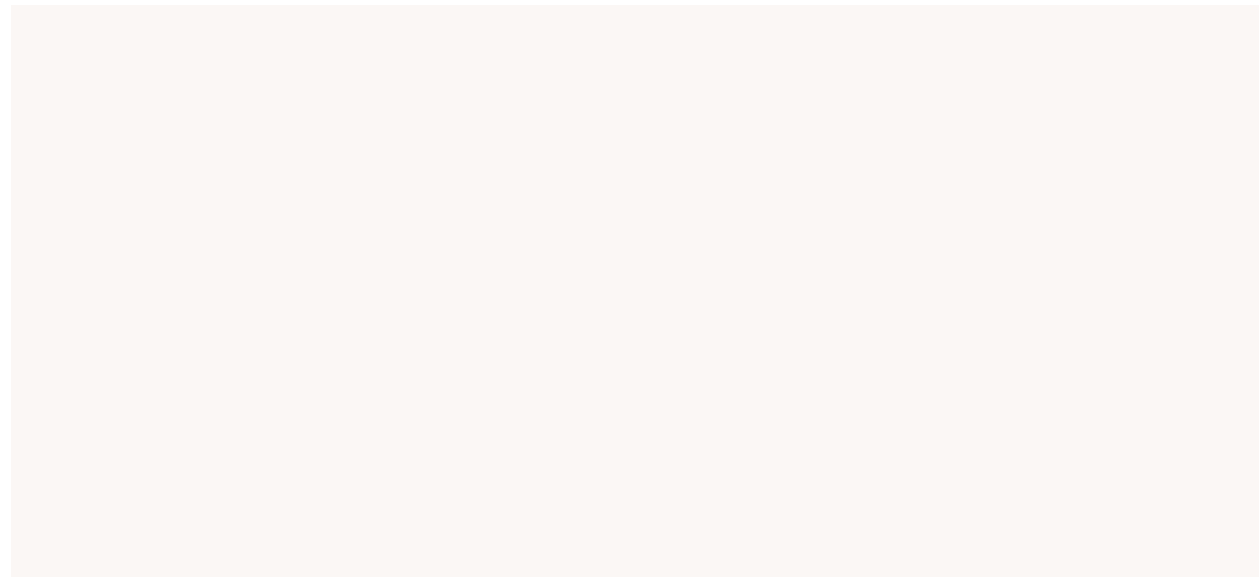
## **THE DARKEST MOMENT**

Disaster strikes! This character is at their lowest. What does this mean for them? How does this disaster force them to realize they (or something) needs to change? (If this character is a villain, this moment is typically when they bring the main character to their lowest. What does this villain character believe they will accomplish by bringing the hero to their knees? How does taking this action affect them?)



## **THE “AHA” MOMENT**

What does this character realize needs to change? How do they come to realize this? How does this realization drive and affect them to the story’s climax?



## **THE CLIMAX**

If this character hasn't fully realized what they need to learn yet, this is the time to have them realize it. What lesson does this character learn while battling or fixing the problem of the story? How does it help them resolve or accomplish their goals/desires? (If a villain, how do their misbeliefs lead them to be defeated?)

## **THE END**

What does this character learn at the end? Do they take it to heart? How has this character changed for the better, even if they weren't able to make things right in the end?