

Exercise Twelve – Positive Change Arc

The First Half of the Third Act

On the exterior, the beginning of the Third Act is all about your character's scrambling to regain her balance before she faces the antagonist in the Climax. However, within your character's interior, the Third Act is all about her figuring out if she really wants to serve the Truth after all. Is it worth the price she's just paid at the Third Plot Point? If she is ever going to return to her life of 'safety' in the Lie, this is going to be her last chance.

How can you up the stakes after the Third Plot Point by compounding your character's misery?
Will the character have reason to at least momentarily regret her decision to embrace the Truth (e.g. she feels maybe she did the right thing, but not necessarily the smart thing)?



How will your character gain master over her pain and rise with the conviction that she made the right choice and that the Thing She Needs is worth the price?
How is your character different in the Third Act from who she was in the First Act?
Prior to the Climax, how can you use a minor character (other than the main antagonist) to try to tempt the protagonist away from the Truth by insisting her new paradigm is unwise?