



Exercise Three – Your Character’s Ghost

Write down four possible events that might have happened in your character’s past to traumatise her and/or motivate her belief in the Lie.

Ghost #1:

Ghost #2:

Ghost #3:

Ghost #4:





Which of these four Ghosts will be the primary motivating wound in your character's backstory?

- Ghost #1**
- Ghost #2**
- Ghost #3**
- Ghost #4**

How has your chosen Ghost indirectly created or enable the Lie Your Character Believes?

How will the character use the Lie to try to compensate for, cover up, or simply survive the consequences of the Ghost?

How does the Ghost tie in thematically with the Lie?





On a scale of 1 to 10, how “big” is the Ghost?

1. (e.g. Stressful Parental Relationship)
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.
9.
10. (e.g. Murder of a Loved One)

How is your Lie commensurate to the “size” of the Ghost (e.g. a big Ghost gets a big Lie)?

Must readers explicitly understand the Ghost in order for the rest of the story to make sense?

- Yes
 No

This Ghost will best be shared with readers how?

- As a mystery (teased in the beginning and revealed later at an important turning point in the plot)
 Dramatised at the beginning of the First Act
 Not shared at all

