



Exercise Twelve – The First Half of the Third Act

Without the Truth, the protagonist has no tools with which to cope with the tragic events of the Third Plot Point. As a result, she spends the first half of the Third Act (prior to the Climax) determined to strike out at the antagonistic force and reach for the Thing She Wants any way she can. Answer the following questions to help you.

How can you up the stakes after the Third Plot Point by emphasizing the emptiness of your protagonist's victory?

Will the character have reason to at least momentarily regret her decision to abandon the Truth?

How will your character try to block her pain with the conviction that she made the only possible choice and that the Thing She Wants is worth the price?





Even after your character fully claims the Lie, how can you keep her off-balance by forcing her to look at how life would have been better with the Truth?

Name four ways it is becoming increasingly difficult for the character to maintain sanity and centeredness amidst the consequences and continuing progress of her Lie?

1.

2.

3.

4.

How is your character different in the Third Act from who she was in the First Act?

How can you demonstrate this by giving your protagonist the opportunity to symbolically reject the wholeness offered by the Truth in a physical way?

Prior to the Climax, how can you use a minor character to try to convince the protagonist to finally abandon the Lie?

