



# Author Academy Writing Course

The A-Z of Getting Your Book Written & Publish  
Ready!



## The Negative Change Arc

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## The Negative Change Arc #1 - Disillusionment

- ✓ The character believes in the lie
- ✓ They overcome the lie
- ✓ The new truth is tragic



## The truth your character believes

**Just as in a Positive Change Arc, the Disillusionment Arc character will begin the story ignorant that she is living a Lie**





## The Thing Your Character Needs

**However dark and discouraging the Truth in a Disillusionment Arc, it is still the Thing Your Character Needs**



## The Thing Your Character Wants

**The Thing Your Character Wants is what drives her main story goal**



## The Characteristic Moment

**The actual structure of the character arc begins  
with the Characteristic Moment**



## The Normal World

**The Characteristic Moment is only half of a good character arc's opening. It gives readers a character, but the character still needs context. The Normal World provides that context**





## The First Act

Just as in a Positive Change Arc is about the protagonist overcoming the Lie She Believes



## The First Plot Point

**No matter how comparatively positive the First Plot Point may seem, it must always be dogged by the portent of bad things to come**



## The First Half of the Second Act

**As always, the First Half of the Second Act is all about the character's reaction to the First Plot Point**



## The Midpoint

Throughout the First Half of the Second Act, the protagonist has been slowly realising the Truth is different from what she has so far believed it to be



## The Second Half of the Second Act

The Second Half of the Second Act in the Disillusionment Arc is where the character finally begins growing into the Truth, just as she would in a Positive Change Arc





## The Third Plot Point

**No matter what type of arc you're writing, the Third Plot Point is always a place that reeks of death**



## The First Half of the Third Act

**In this part between the Third Plot Point and the beginning of the Climax, the character will find herself in her darkest pit of disillusionment yet**



## The Climax

**In planning the Climax in a Disillusionment Arc, look back at the person your character was in the beginning of the book**



## The Resolution

Create a closing scene that drives home the character's final state



## Exercise One to Fourteen:

### The Negative Change Arc #1 - Disillusionment







**What's Next?**

**The Negative Change  
Arc #2**