



Author Academy Writing Course

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



The Negative Change Arc



The Negative Change Arc #2 - Fall

- ✓ The character believes in the lie
- ✓ They cling to the lie
- ✓ They reject the new truth
- ✓ They believe in a stronger/worse lie



The Lie your character believes

The protagonist in a Fall Arc will start out believing in a Lie that is holding her back



Symptoms of the Lie

Having trouble finding the Lie? Look for the “symptoms” of the Lie in the character’s life by considering her actions and especially her reactions



Your Character's Ghost

Your Character's "Ghost" is something in her past that haunts her



The Thing Your Character Needs

The protagonist in a Fall Arc desperately needs the Truth, right from the very beginning of her story



The Thing Your Character Wants

The protagonist in a Fall Arc is completely driven by the Thing She Wants



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



The First Act

The Thing the Character Wants, the Thing She Needs, and the Ghost will be basically the same in both a Fall Arc and a Positive Change Arc



The First Plot Point

Because Negative Change Arcs are about a descent into darkness, they must begin in a place high enough for the story to descend from



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

The Midpoint is where it all changes



The Second Half of the Second Act

The tragic premise of the Fall Arc indicates a progression from bad to worse in the Second Half of the Second Act



The Third Plot Point

In one word, the Fall Arc is about failure



The First Half of the Third Act

After the breaking point at the Third Plot Point, the tragic hero will rage futilely against death and its power, rather than rising into a person resurrection



The Climax

The Climax in a Fall Arc will progress with an overwhelming sense of inevitable destruction



The Resolution

The ending scenes in a tragedy are often comparatively short



Exercise One to Sixteen:

The Negative Change Arc #2 - Fall





What's Next?

**The Negative Change
Arc #3**