



CHARACTER

*Alicia*

WORKSHEET

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# CHARACTER ARC

If you're an Outliner, you probably want to get to know your character before you get far into the writing. If you're a Pantser like me, you'll be antsy to just get into the writing and get to know your characters as they reveal themselves. There can still be value in this worksheet, but feel free to use what works and skip what doesn't.

Fill in the following with as much detail as you feel you need. It can offer valuable direction for your writing.

## ASK YOUR CHARACTER THE FOLLOWING:

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ethnicity:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Birthdate:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Appearance** *(even if you don't use every detail):* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Family** *(parents, siblings, where he or she fits into the birth order):*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Personal history — Pivotal Life Events:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Personality/Attitudes/Worldview:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Hobbies:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Talents:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Skills**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Accomplishments:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Favorite Sports and Teams:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Best Friend:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Worst Enemy:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Favorite Foods:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Favorite Places to Vacation or Work:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Favorite Book:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Favorite Possession:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Goals:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Fears:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Secrets:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Best Qualities:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Worst Qualities:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Greatest Passion:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# CHARACTER ARC

## YOUR CHARACTER'S JOURNEY

1. What does your character want *(his novel-worthy goal or challenge)*?

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2. What are his external needs/desires?

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3. What or who stands in his way and could stop him?

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4. What will he do about it?

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5. What happens if he fails?

*(The stakes must be dire enough to carry an entire novel.)*

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6. What sacrifices might he have to make?

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7. What motivates him inwardly and why?

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8. What is his internal struggle?

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9. What are his flaws? Is he...

- Needy
- A narcissist
- Shy
- Controlling
- Messy
- Other *(specify)* \_\_\_\_\_

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10. What fundamental changes do you want to see in your character?

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11. What heroic qualities must emerge for him to succeed?

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