



Flex the Old Creative Muscles

Writing Exercises

- 1. Start a scene with your character arriving some place or leaving. Now describe the setting through her or his eyes, including emotional reactions. Describe how another character views the setting and the arrival of the main character using facial expressions, body language and dialogue.**
- 2. Write a character's worst moment, something that changed her or him in a basic way. Consider going back in time to before or after that event. Now write a short scene (5 pages) describing that moment. Next write a short scene in the present where the effects of that event color how the character lives, reacts to another character, or views a current life situation. Make sure his or her reactions/actions affect your plot. The reactions or actions could create more trouble or help solve a problem.**
- 3. Write a scene in which your character is arguing her viewpoint, some subject that she feels strongly about. This could be high concept (e.g. testifying before Congress, arguing before the Supreme Court) or discussing something with her best friend. Either way, make the stakes high if she does not prevail.**

