

Your character has a secret 1

Scenario

Your character has a secret she has never told her mother. She just found out her mother is on her death bed.

Questions

Write the answer to these questions. You don't have to use complete sentences. If possible, write the answers as part of a scene that may be in your finished story. As you write these snippets, always consider why your character makes these choices. What compels her to make this choice, as opposed to another? What is going on in her life or her past history that drives her to make these choices or take these actions? What colors her interpretation of the events?

What is the secret?

Why hasn't she told her mother the secret?

Has she ever told anyone else?

How did she think her mother would respond if she told the secret?

What did she think would happen if she told her mother the secret?

How does she feel about telling her mother?

Will she tell her mother the secret now? Why or why not?

Finally

What does this experience bring up for your character? What *specific* memory or emotion? Does it change anything for your character? What? And why?

Choices

Your character always has choices. What choices does she make at each junction and why?

Think of your current story

How can you use this in your story?

Next

Do this exercise for the each of your characters.