

CHARACTER PROFILE

Who they are, what they want, and how they change

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CHARACTER NAME Maya Cole		ROLE (LEAD, ANTAGONIST, MENTOR...) Lead	PROJECT The Note (short film)
AGE 34	OCCUPATION Night-shift ER nurse	WHERE THEY LIVE Her late mother's farmhouse	FIRST SEEN (SCENE) Sc. 12, finds the note on the door

IN ONE SENTENCE who they are and what they're up against

A night-shift nurse who moved back into her mother's farmhouse finds a note on her front door that only someone from her past could have written.

WHAT DRIVES THEM

WANT the goal they chase

Find out who pinned the note to her door, and make them stop.

NEED what they must learn

Stop carrying the summer she was twelve alone, and tell someone the truth about it.

FLAW what gets in their way

Handles everything herself. Shuts people out the moment they get close.

WOUND what happened before the story

Her best friend went missing the summer they were twelve. Maya was the last one to see her, down by the old well.

FEAR

That it was her fault.

SECRET

She lied to the police about where they were that night.

CHARACTER ARC

START

Locks the door, checks it twice, tells no one about the note.

TURNING POINT

A second note arrives. She calls her sister Jess for the first time in three years.

END

Tells Jess the truth, then opens the front door to whoever is waiting outside.

CHARACTER PROFILE

Look, voice, relationships and questions

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LOOK AND VOICE

LOOK face, build, how they move

Tired eyes, hair tied back. Moves fast and quiet, like she's still on shift.

WARDROBE AND PROPS

Scrubs under her mother's old flannel. A heavy steel flashlight she never puts down.

VOICE how they talk

Short sentences. Deflects with a joke. Goes very quiet when she's lying.

A LINE THEY'D SAY

"I'm fine. I'm always fine."

RELATIONSHIPS

CHARACTER	RELATIONSHIP	WHAT THEY WANT FROM EACH OTHER
Jess Cole	Younger sister	Jess wants the truth. Maya wants her to leave the past alone.
Walt Pike	Neighbor	Walt wants to buy the farm. Maya wants him off her porch.
Dr. Okafor	Boss at the ER	Wants Maya to take leave. Maya wants more shifts.

ASK YOUR CHARACTER

1. What do they do first thing in the morning?

Checks the lock, then makes coffee she forgets to drink.

2. What would they never do, even to get what they want?

Ask anyone for help. Until the turning point.

3. What do other characters get wrong about them?

They think she's calm. She's just tired.

4. What was the last lie they told?

Told Jess on the phone that the house was "fine".

5. Who would they call at 3 AM?

Nobody. That's the problem.

6. How do they act when they're scared?

Gets very still and starts counting things, like she's triaging.

7. What do they carry everywhere?

Her mother's house key on a red shoelace.

8. What would they save from a fire?

The shoebox of photos from that summer. She's never opened it.

NOTES AND REFERENCES casting ideas, photos, songs, films

Casting: someone who can play tired and funny at once. Look reference: nurses coming off a 12-hour shift. Mood: Frances McDormand's stillness, Winter's Bone's cold light.