Character Name

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| Personal Characteristics |
| Nick name | Does she like being called this? |
| Name meaning |  |
| Age |  |
| Weight |  |
| Appearance | Eye and hair colour, skin tone, scars, identifying features, posture. Is she immaculately groomed or slap-dash? Does she dye her hair or have a tattoo? |
| Pictures | [Insert pictures if that express some part of your character, e.g. hair, facial expression, clothing] |
| Scent | Does she use a particular perfume or body product? |
| Communication style | How she sounds. Does she have an accent?Does she have any speech idiosyncrasies, or favourite words? |
| Mannerisms | Unconscious ticks and gestures. The way she moves/body language. What does her posture look like? Does she have particular expressions when she feels happy/sad/angry? |
| Personality | Is she outgoing or shy? What embarrasses her? |
| Life philosophies | Does she look on the bright side? |
| Health |  |
| Habits | Does she smoke or gamble? Is she a neat freak? Does she arrive half-an-hour early everywhere? Does she have any particular routines? Phobias. |
| Endearing characteristic(s) | What are his strengths? Is she kind, generous or sympathetic? These traits will help the reader root for this character. |
| Character flaws | What are his weaknesses? These may be perceived, based on past experiences, and can be a great source of character growth. Is he self-centered, too competitive, lazy, a doormat, demanding of others?  |
| Self-awareness | What kind of things does he say inside his head, about other people or himself? Is her view of herself the same as other people see her? What sorts of internal battles does she endure? |
| Family |
| Parents | Are they alive or estranged? |
| Siblings | How does their current relationship compare to when they were children? Are they blood siblings, part thereof, or step? |
| Dependants | Does she have children, a disabled dependant, or someone else who depends on her for any reason? |
| Extended family |  |
| Relationships | Was the family close and loving, or aloof and cold? Did she have a favourite relative? |
| Childhood |
| Date of birth |  |
| Place of birth | Where did she grow up? What was the family’s socioeconomic status? Ethnic background? Did they move a lot and why? |
| Education | What level of education was reached? What were her favourite subjects? Did she do higher training or short courses? What is her attitude to learning? |
| Home life | Was it satisfying or abusive? |
| Lifestyle |
| Clothing | Including accessories and style themes. |
| Ethnicity | Does she associate with a particular race or country? |
| Religion |  |
| Political ideologies |  |
| Morals | Where does she stand on abiding by the law, sacrificing for others and helping those less fortunate? |
| Sexuality | Heterosexual/bisexual/homosexual. How does she feel about sex? |
| Vehicle(s) |  |
| Home | Is it a house or large property? Does she rent it, own it, share it? Specific features. |
| Family heirlooms | Do they have sentimental value to her? |
| Employment | What type of tasks do they perform? Do they enjoy it? Do they have career aspirations? What’s the salary? What’s the boss like? |
| Work colleagues |  |
| Travel | Is she well-travelled or a homebody? |
| Rivals | Who pushes her buttons or constantly works against her and why? |
| Friends | Best friend, long-time friends, recent friends. |
| Love interest | Are they married? How and when did they meet? What do they have in common and what are their differences? |
| Romantic history |  |
| Special skills | It’s worth noting if she is a Taekwondo black-belt and she needs to beat someone up during your story. |
| Accomplishments | In work or her personal life. |
| Idols | Does she model herself on her mother, or a rock star? Is there someone she particularly admires? |
| Hobbies | Favourite books, movies, sports, collections. |
| Pets |  |
| Preferred drinks |  |
| Favourite foods | Could include favourite restaurants. |
| Driving forces |
| Secrets |  |
| Hopes for the future |  |
| Defining life events | Good and bad things that happened to shape her into the person she is today. |
| Preconceived ideas | These may be false, based on past experiences or upbringing, and can be a great source of character growth. |
| Fear | What is the fear that she’ll do anything to avoid facing, e.g. success, failure, commitment, being alone? This stems from something that happened in her past, which she doesn’t want to repeat. |
| Goal | What does she want to achieve by the end of the story? |
| Motivation | Why does she want to achieve that goal? |
| Changed beliefs | How does her understanding of her fear change by the end of the story? |
| Reactive questions |
| Ask questions that are tailored to the information you need for your plot, to find out why she reacts a certain way to a situation. These are just suggestions. |
| How is she forced to face her greatest fear? |  |
| How would she react if faced with an aggressive stranger? |  |
| How would she react if a man tried to pick her up in a bar? |  |
| How would she react if she was challenged by her boss? |  |
| How would she react if someone she admired, betrayed her? |  |
| What would she do when faced with an impossible decision, e.g. die to save someone she loved. |  |
| Do other people see her as she thinks they do? Why? |  |
| What would she change about herself if she could (physical or temperamental trait). |  |
| Is there something she is lying to herself about and why? |  |
| How can you use her character strength/weaknesses against her? |  |
| What type of movies does she like/hate and why? |  |
| What would be the best way to cheer her up when she’s feeling down? |  |
| What would really annoy her? |  |
| What is the worst thing she’s ever done to someone and why? Did she tell anyone about it? |  |
| What still gives her nightmares or makes her break out in a nervous sweat? |  |
| Does she have any closet behaviours, compulsions or addictions? |  |
| Back story summary |
| [Write a concise summary of key events that happened to your character before this story began, especially those that will be relevant to this story.] |