

LEARN FILMMAKING WITH CLAUDE

EPISODE 03

PHASE 1 · MODULE 1 · STORY & WRITING

CHARACTERS

మీ hero కి ప్రాణం ఉందా?

Course material · Want, Need & Wound · Case study · Claude character-interview lab · Mee Turn worksheet

FREE COURSE MATERIAL

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STORY మర్చిపోతాం. CHARACTER గుర్తుంటాడు.

Think of a film you watched years ago. You may struggle to retell its plot scene by scene, but you can still picture its hero: how he walked, what he wanted, what hurt him. That is not an accident. Audiences come for the story, but they **remember the character**.

ఒక సినిమా చూసి సంవత్సరాలు అయినా, story మర్చిపోతాం. కానీ ఆ character మాత్రం గుర్తుంటాడు. ఎందుకు?

Years after a film, we forget the story. But we remember the character. Why?

In Episode 2 we gave our story a skeleton: three acts. In this episode we put a living person inside that skeleton, ప్రాణం ఉన్న మనిషి. You will learn one simple tool that screenwriters use to build characters people feel for: **Want, Need and Wound**.

What you'll learn

- The three layers inside every great character, and what each one does
- How the gap between Want and Need creates a character arc
- How a Wound explains *why* a character behaves the way he does
- A full case study: giving our auto driver from Episodes 1–2 a past
- How to use Claude to **interview your own character**, and where Claude stops
- A Mee Turn worksheet to build your own hero's three layers

WATCH

Watch the Episode 3 Reel on [@cinmaa.ai](https://cinmaa.ai) once before reading.

READ

Work through Lessons 1–3 and the auto driver case study.

DO

Run the Claude lab, fill the worksheet, then post your 3 lines.

THE THREE LAYERS

ప్రతి గొప్ప character లో మూడు layers ఉంటాయి.

Every great character has three layers.



Want is the outer layer. Everyone can see it.

Need sits underneath. Often the character himself cannot see it.

Wound is the core. It is the past hurt that shaped him and explains why he wants the wrong thing, or wants the right thing in the wrong way.

Read a character from the outside in, but **build** one from the inside out: start with the Wound.

WANT

బయటకీ కనిపించే కోరిక

The visible goal. What the character *thinks* he wants. Concrete and chasable: money, a trophy, a girl, revenge.

Ask: What is he chasing in this story?

NEED

లోపల నిజంగా కావాల్సింది

The inner truth he must learn or accept to be whole. Usually emotional: trust, forgiveness, self-respect.

Ask: What does he really lack as a person?

WOUND

గతంలో తగిలిన గాయం

A specific past event that hurt him and left behind a belief about the world. It explains his behaviour today.

Ask: What happened that he never talks about?

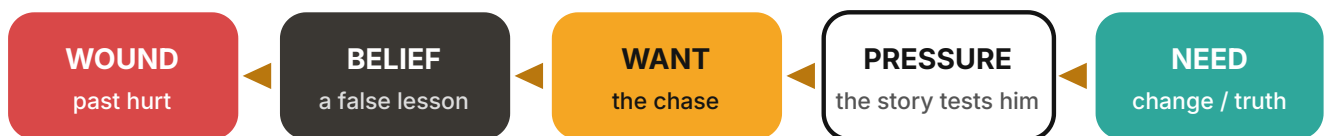
HOW THE LAYERS WORK TOGETHER

Simple గా: Want story ని నడిపిస్తుంది. Need character ని మారుస్తుంది. Wound అతన్ని నిజమైన మనిషిగా చేస్తుంది.

Want drives the story. Need changes the character. Wound makes him a real human being.

LAYER	ITS JOB IN THE FILM	WHAT IT GIVES THE AUDIENCE
Want	Drives the plot . Every scene is the hero moving toward or away from it.	Something to follow: "Will he get it?"
Need	Drives the arc . By the end he gains it, or tragically refuses it.	Meaning: "What did he learn? Did he change?"
Wound	Drives behaviour . It explains his choices, fears and flaws.	Empathy: "Now I understand why he is like this."

The chain: from wound to change



A wound rarely stays a memory. It hardens into a **belief**, a wrong lesson the character learned from pain. That belief shapes what he chases (Want). The story then puts pressure on him until he must choose between the old belief and the truth he actually needs.

THE ARC LIVES IN THE GAP

The bigger the distance between what he wants and what he needs, the stronger the journey. If Want and Need are the same thing, there is no inner change, just a task.

COMMON MISTAKES

- A wound that is vague ("he had a sad childhood"). Make it one specific event.
- A need that is just a bigger want.
- Explaining the wound in dialogue too early. Let us feel it first.

OUR AUTO DRIVER GETS A PAST

In Episodes 1 and 2, our auto driver found a lottery ticket and had to decide what to do with it. Now let's give him the three layers, so that decision means something.



Want: the debt. He counts out the last of his notes.

WANT

అప్పులు తీర్చేయాలి. డబ్బు కావాలి.

He wants to clear his debts. He needs money, now. This is the goal everyone can see, and the one that pushes the plot forward.



Wound (flashback): he hands his savings to a friend he trusts.

WOUND

ఒకప్పుడు ఒక friend ని నమ్మి, తన savings అన్నీ పోగొట్టుకున్నాడు. అప్పటి నుండి ఒకటే నమ్మకం: 'నిజాయితీ కి విలువ లేదు.'

Once, he trusted a friend and lost all his savings. Since then he holds one belief: **honesty has no value**. That belief is the wound speaking.



The ticket: he faces himself in the auto's mirror.

NEED

మళ్ళీ మనుషుల్ని నమ్మడం. తన నిజాయితీని తాను తిరిగి నమ్మడం.

To trust people again, and to believe in his own honesty again. He doesn't know he needs this. The story has to show him.

ఇప్పుడు చూడండి: ఆ lottery ticket decision just డబ్బు గురించి కాదు. అది తన గాయం గురించి. అదే character కి ప్రాణం.

Now the lottery ticket decision isn't just about money. It's about his wound. That is what gives a character life.

INTERVIEW YOUR CHARACTER

Claude ని మీ character లా మాట్లాడమని అడగండి. మీ character గురించి మీకే తెలియని విషయాలు బయటికి వస్తాయి.

Ask Claude to speak as your character. Things you didn't know about your own character will come out.

- 1 Write a one-line logline for your short film (who + wants what + what stands in the way).
- 2 Open a new chat in Claude and paste this prompt with your logline filled in:

PROMPT 1 · SET THE ROLE

Act as the main character of my short film: [paste your logline]. I'm the director. Stay in character and answer my questions honestly, in a few lines each.

- 3 Ask the three core questions, one at a time:

PROMPT 2 · THE THREE QUESTIONS

What do you want more than anything?

What are you most afraid of?

What happened in your past that you never talk about?

నీకు ఏం కావాలి? · దేనికి భయపడతావు? · ఎవరికి చెప్పని విషయం ఏంటి?

- 4 Dig deeper with follow-ups when an answer surprises you:

FOLLOW-UPS

What did that event teach you about people? · What would you never do, even for money?
· Who do you blame, and is that fair? · What would make you change your mind?

- 5 Harvest the answers. Underline anything that sounds like a Want, a Need, a Wound or a belief, and copy the best lines into the worksheet on the next page.

CLAUDE CAN'T DO THIS PART

Claude character ని describe చేయగలడు. కానీ ఆ character ని feel అవ్వాలిందీ మీరే. Claude can describe a character, but you are the one who has to feel him. Treat Claude's answers as raw material, not the final truth. Real characters are born from people you have seen in your own life. Keep what rings true and throw away what doesn't.

BUILD YOUR HERO

మీ story hero కి Want, Need, Wound. 3 lines లో రాసి comment చేయండి.

LOGLINE

Who is he, what does he want, what stands in the way?

WANT

hero కి ఏం కావాలి? The visible goal he chases.

WOUND

గతంలో ఏ గాయం? One specific past event.

BELIEF

What false lesson did the wound teach him?

NEED

లోపల నిజంగా ఏం కావాలి? The truth he must accept.

THE TEST

Which moment in your story forces him to choose between the belief and the need?

POST IT

Comment your 3 lines on the Episode 3 Reel on [@cinmaa.ai](#). Example: Want: డబ్బు · Need: మళ్ళీ నమ్మడం · Wound: friend మోసం చేశాడు

RECAP

REMEMBER THIS

WANT

drives the story

NEED

changes the character

WOUND

makes him real

→ Build from the inside out: Wound → Belief → Want → Need.

→ The arc lives in the gap between Want and Need.

→ Use Claude to interview your character, then feel him yourself.

గుర్తుపెట్టుకోండి... audience story కోసం వస్తారు.
కానీ **character** కోసం గుర్తుపెట్టుకుంటారు.

NEXT EPISODE

EP 04

SCREENPLAY FORMAT

మళ్ళీ next part లో కలుద్దాం.

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