

# Chicken Scratch Books



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## Analyzing the Epiphany Scene

The Epiphany Scene is the third and final turning point scene in your story. Making this scene a powerful internal realization and shift will keep the reader glued through to the end.

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- Look at your manuscript. In the final quarter of the story, what happens in the scenes preceding the climax? What events and decisions lead directly to the climax? Is there a ‘lull before the storm’? What happens in that lull? What is learned or discovered or realized? What internal shift is made by your protagonist? Does the internal shift lead to a change in external direction? This is the Epiphany Scene.
- Identify your Epiphany Scene, then ask these questions:
  - Continuing Lack:
    - How has your protagonist attempted to solve their problems before this scene?
    - Did it give them what they needed?
    - What are they still lacking?
    - Does this scene provide them a chance to reflect on their lack?
    - Does this scene give them a chance to reflect on what didn’t work?
  - New Understanding Acquired:
    - What has your protagonist learned from all the previous challenges?
    - Has their understanding of (or perspective on) their main problem changed?
    - Do they now have new knowledge that will help them?
    - Has their understanding of their ‘desire’ and ‘think need’ changed?
    - Have they drawn closer to a realization of what their ‘root of all needs’ is?
    - Do all the pieces of understanding fall into place and make more sense?
    - Does this scene give them a chance to reflect on their new understanding?
  - Agency:
    - Armed with wisdom gained from continuing lack and new understandings, does this scene include a new direction goal?
    - Does the protagonist have a much clearer picture of the direction they need to go?
    - Does the protagonist recognize the risks in this shift?
    - Does the protagonist make a conscious choice to act/think in this specific new way?
    - What is that choice?
    - Does this choice stem from their reflections on lack and their new understandings?
    - Can your reader relate to why and how this choice was made?
    - Can this new choice lead to the actual solution to their problem?
    - Is their agency clearly portrayed in the Epiphany Scene?