



“ YOUR OWN BACKSTORY ”



List Four Events Or Details From
Your Own Backstory That People (Whether They

Know You Well Or Don't Know You At All) Might Never Guess !

For each one include: 1) the year 2) your age at the time 3) where it happened

*(Your stories can be big and serious, small and funny,
or something like the time you got a special award in 1st grade!)*

1.

2.

3.

4.

“In the writers mind, even a backstory has a backstory.” - Terry a O'Neal, Author



“ OPENINGS ”



Some Of The Elements That Can Make A Great Story Opening:

- Sets a vivid visual scene
- Creates immediate, intense curiosity
- Begins with a mystery, surprise, or urgent problem
- Introduces the protagonist quickly and clearly
- Presents a strange, gripping, or intriguing situation
- Establishes the tone right away (humorous, dark, suspenseful, etc.)
- Shows immediately why you should care about the character or situation

EXERCISE

DESCRIBE THREE “OPENINGS” THAT GRABBED YOUR ATTENTION & WHY

The “Opening” can be from a film, book, song, game, TV show, or any kind of story.

1.

2.

3.

4.

"First sentences are doors to worlds." — Ursula K. Le Guin, Writer