

Core Concepts

- [Chapters and Scenes](#)
- [Story Impact and Intensity](#)
- [Archiving vs Deleting](#)
- [Reordering Chapters and Scenes](#)

Chapters and Scenes

Scryla organises stories into **chapters and scenes** so you can plan structure clearly.

Chapters can contain:

- A title
- An optional subtitle
- A short overview
- Scenes pertaining to the chapter

Scenes can be added within chapters and reordered freely as your structure changes.

You can also mark scenes as complete or archive them if you decide to change direction.

Title

Chapter 2

Subtitle (optional)

Stave II: The First of the Three Spirits

Status

Unwritten

Description

Story Impact

None

Intensity Low Medium High

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The Ghost of Christmas Past leads Scrooge back through memories that reveal the emotional origins of his bitterness. He sees himself as a lonely child abandoned at school, comforted by stories and imagination, and reunited with his loving sister Fan, whose death left a lasting absence in his life. He revisits the generous household of Fezziwig, where joy and kindness once shaped his values, and then witnesses the painful end of his engagement to Belle, who left him because of his growing



RELATED

Characters (2)

Tag main characters in this chapter.

Ebenezer Scrooge

Jacob Marley

Bob Cratchit

Tiny Tim Cratchit

The Ghost of Christmas Past

Beats (2 beats)

5-Act Structure (Scrooge)

Act II — Rising Action

5-Act Structure (Scrooge)

First Pinch Point

Notes (2 notes)

Reminder

Scrooge's isolation should feel self-chosen, not merely imposed by circumstance. His tragedy i...

To-do

Clarify the emotional transition

Archive

Close

Save

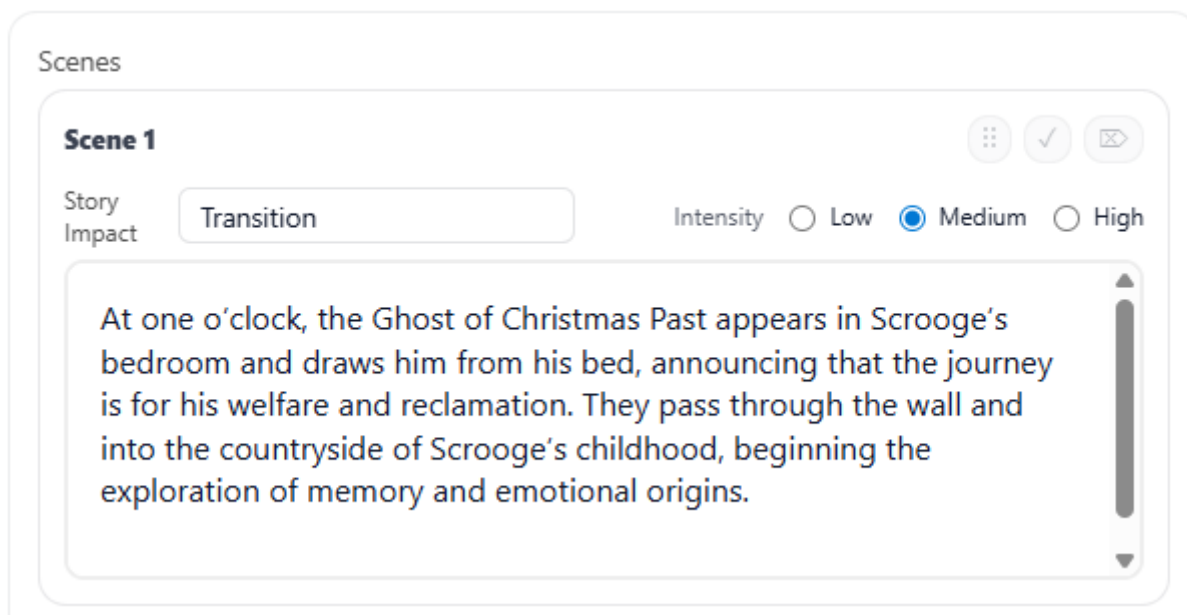
Story Impact and Intensity

Scenes in Scryla can include two optional narrative signals:

Story Impact: the type of narrative event happening in the scene
(for example: Revelation, Confrontation, Fallout).

Intensity: a rough indicator of how dramatically significant the moment is
(for example: Low, Medium, High).

These signals help you visualise pacing and structure, especially when using Timeline View.



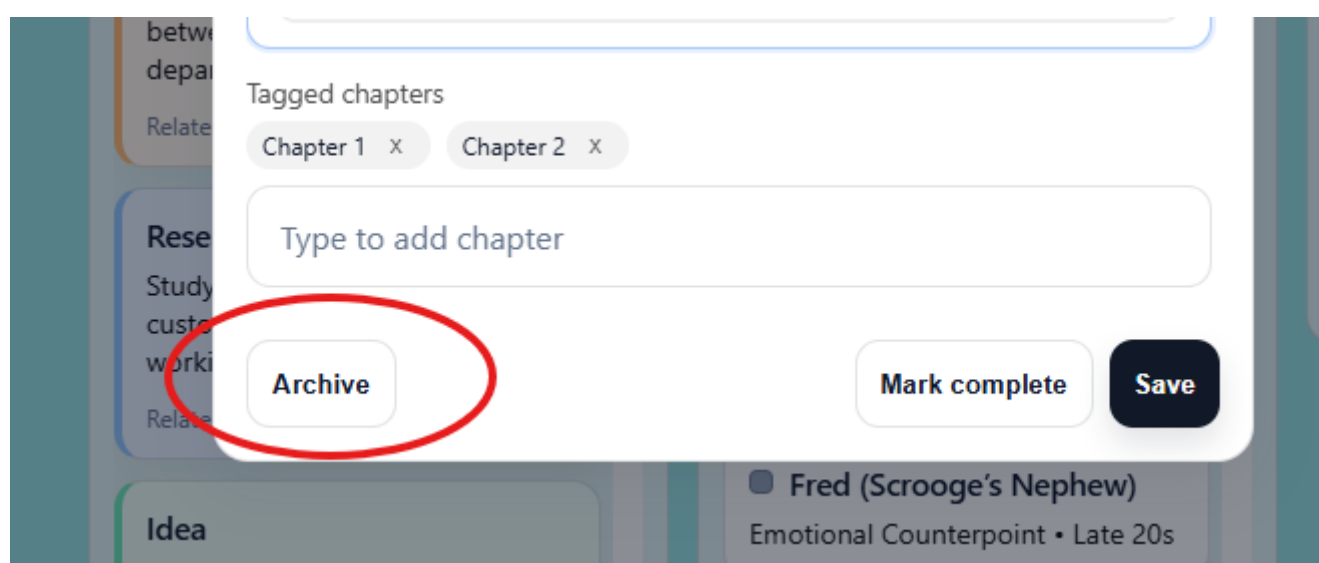
Archiving vs Deleting

In Scryla, items are **archived before they can be permanently deleted**. This includes chapters, scenes, notes, and other project elements.

This two-step process helps protect your work from accidental deletion.

Because writing projects often evolve over time, ideas that seem unnecessary today may become useful again later. Archiving allows you to safely remove items from your active workspace without losing them permanently.

Archiving an Item



When you archive an item:

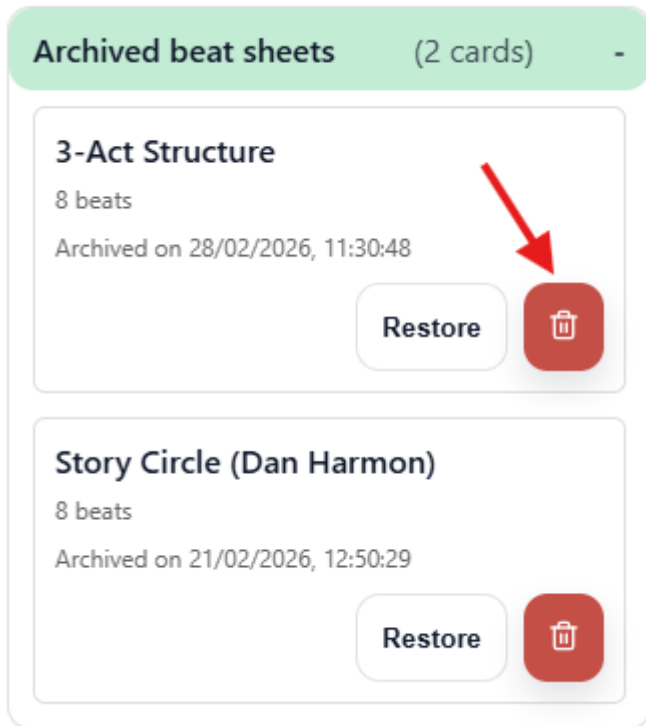
- It is removed from the active board or view
- It is stored safely in the **Archive drawer**
- It can be restored at any time

This makes archiving ideal for:

- Alternate scenes
- Removed plot ideas
- Draft notes you may want later

Permanently Deleting an Item

If you are sure you no longer need something, you can permanently delete it from the Archive.



To do this:

1. Archive the item.
2. Open the **Archive drawer** from the Project menu.
3. Locate the archived item.
4. Select **Delete permanently** and then confirm your choice.

Once permanently deleted, the item cannot be recovered.

Why Scryla Uses Archiving First

Many writing tools allow immediate deletion, which can lead to accidental loss of work.

Scryla deliberately uses an archive-first approach to make it easy to:

- Experiment with ideas safely
- Remove clutter from your board
- Restore earlier versions of your work if needed

This allows writers to stay organized without risking the loss of important material.

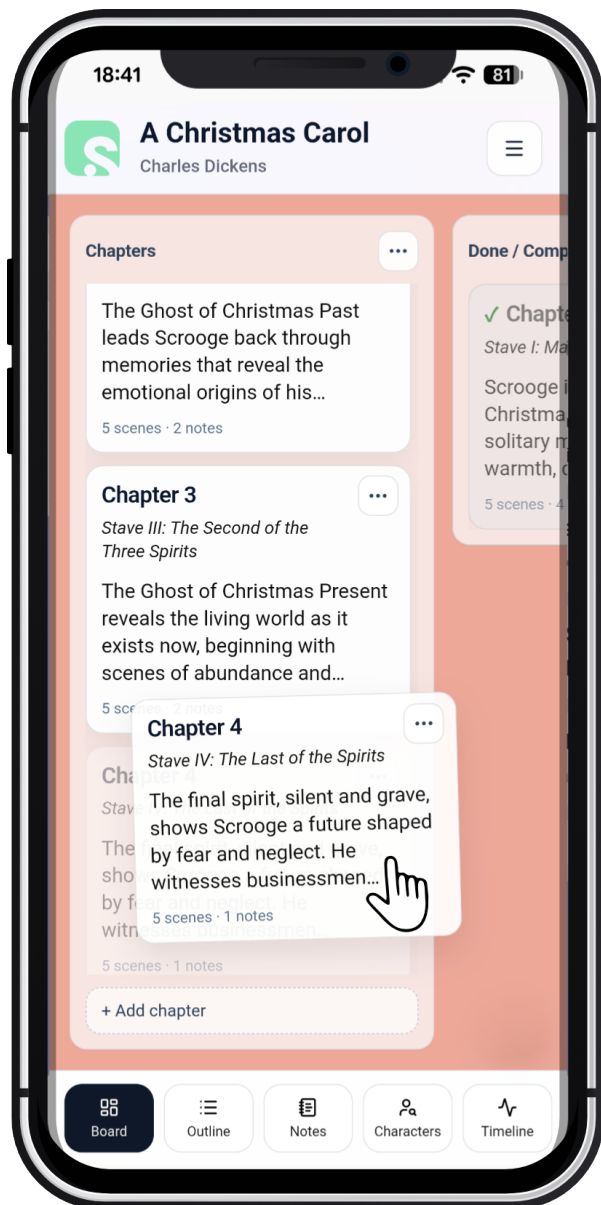
Many writers use the Archive as a temporary “idea graveyard” where unused scenes and notes can be kept in case they become useful later.

Reordering Chapters and Scenes

Scryla allows you to easily reorganize your story by **dragging and dropping chapters and scenes**.

This makes it simple to experiment with story structure as your outline evolves.

Reordering Chapters



To change the order of chapters:

1. Open your project in **Board View**.

2. Locate the **Chapters** column.
3. Click and drag a chapter card.
4. Drop it in the new position.

All scenes inside the chapter will move with it automatically.

Note: on mobile, tap and hold a chapter with your finger in order to move it.

Reordering Scenes

Scenes

Scene 1 ⋮ ✓ ✕

Story Impact: Intensity: Low Medium High

The Ghost of Christmas Present appears surrounded by abundance and invites Scrooge to witness the celebrations of the living world. Through scenes of feasting and goodwill, the spirit establishes the contrast between Scrooge's barren life and the generosity flourishing around him.

Scene 2 ⋮ ✓ ✕

Story Impact: Intensity: Low Medium High

Scrooge visits the Cratchit household, where despite poverty there is warmth, laughter, and deep affection. Tiny Tim's fragile health and gentle faith awaken Scrooge's first true concern for another human

Scenes can also be rearranged within a chapter.

To move a scene:

1. Open the chapter containing the scene.
2. Click and drag the scene card's drag handle (the six dots on the top-right of each scene).
3. Drop it in the desired position.

This allows you to quickly test different story flows without rewriting or copying content.

Note: If you're planning a large structural change, consider archiving scenes instead of deleting them so you can restore them later if needed.