

Name: Joanna (Jo)

Age: 23 (F)

Ethnicity/Race: Caucasian

Sexual ID: Heterosexual

Background: Jo is a military veteran and former Havenworth resident. She grew up on the island, as her father was the prison community's pastor. Her mother, one of the prison's doctors, left the island when Jo was a child. For years, she longed to go after her, but stayed behind for her father and her best friend, Aggie, the daughter of an inmate.

Toward the end of her time on Havenworth, Jo grew restless. She wanted more from life than living on a prison island, and couldn't shake the ghost of her mother. Additionally, her father was depressed, never quite the same after Jo's mother left, for reasons he chose not to explain. And her best friend Aggie was perpetually anxious due to her inmate father's increasingly erratic behavior. Jo was tired. Tired of being everyone's pillar of support, tired of feeling like she was missing out on a bigger, better life. Ultimately, she left everything behind, only to find out there are some things you can't run from.

Personality traits: Independent, guarded, resilient

What Jo wants: Jo wants to make sure her father and Aggie are safe, in part, because she harbors guilt for leaving them behind during a fragile time. Another part of her is mad at her father, Aggie, and the world for putting such a heavy burden on her shoulders, and wants all these loose ends to be tied up once and for all.

If Jo gets what she wants: she thinks it will bring her peace. She's tired of her guilt and unanswered questions, and she's also tired of the emotional labor she has to perform for everyone else.

If Jo doesn't get what she wants, she'll unravel. Leaving home felt freeing at first, but as time passed she felt an invisible thread tugging her back to the island. She never found her mother, and feels like if she can't resolve at least one issue from the past, her life will spiral out of control.

Dialogue samples:

When something good happens to Jo (to herself): "Be happy. You're allowed to be happy."

When asked why she came back to Havenworth: "I came back for a friend. That's all you need to know."

When she hears bad news: "That's unfortunate. Now what are we going to do about it?"

