

Archived early specification

[Superseded by the published Storyline build](#)

This specification records an earlier stage of Before Opening. Its statements that a native project or published output does not yet exist describe that earlier stage. The native Storyline sample was subsequently reviewed through Rise on representative routes. Its complete Web export is now included with the portfolio.

Historical instructions use Continue after consent as the submission control and describe an early asset batch without portraits. The reviewed native build presents Lena's explicit agreement before a separate Submit action and includes character portraits and speech panels. Use the current design rationale for the reviewed behavior; retain this guide as process evidence.

[Current design rationale](#)

sarahmcleanlearning.com/before-opening-design.html

Status notice added 8 October 2026. The original pages follow unchanged. The final Storyline release was reviewed on 8 October 2026; its complete Web export is included with the portfolio. Deployment of the exported copy remains to be verified. Selected desktop checks passed; [current accessibility notes](#) document known limitations and untested conditions. No full accessibility certification or learner validation is claimed.

Before Opening

Native Storyline build guide | Exact flow, triggers, and acceptance checks

Build the 12-node scenario described here and in the companion transcript and JSON. This is a production-ready content and logic specification, not a native `.story` file. A custom browser prototype exists; the Storyline project, published output, and Storyline-specific test results do not yet exist.

Learning target and non-negotiable policy

Given the fictional Northline facts, the learner verifies carton FX-21 against packing slip FX-12, explains that “ETA Monday” is unconfirmed and that warehouse status is not a delivery estimate, asks permission before a new stock check, and agrees on a named 11:45 callback.

- FX-12 is unavailable in local stock. The email “priority transfer — ETA Monday” does not confirm a transfer or delivery.
- No stock check has been requested or submitted before N11. The new check is submitted only after Lena explicitly says yes in N11.
- Only if she authorizes the check, the warehouse status target is 11:30 a.m.; it may remain pending. It is a target for status, not confirmation of shipment or delivery.
- The representative owns an 11:45 a.m. callback after authorization, even if no status is available. Never promise that FX-12 will arrive before opening.
- If Lena does not authorize the check, N12 must say it was not submitted and no new 11:30 status target exists.

Node map

Node	Function	Destination/state
N01	Briefing: wrong item, opening impact, ambiguous email	N02
N02	D1 focused verification	A/B/C → N03; B/C mark history
N03	Customer gives both codes; consequence/feedback	After both codes display, Continue sets codes_verified; N04
N04	D2 explain Monday ETA	Requires codes_verified; A → N05; B → N06
N05/N06	Customer consequence for D2	N07; N05 may reflect D1 rush claim
N07	Repair or recap, truthfully conditioned on D1/D2	A → N08; B → N09
N08/N09	Customer response; consent still false	N10
N10	D3 ask permission and own callback	A asks → N11 pending yes; B/C → N12, no request
N11	Customer explicit yes, then simulated authorized submission	Continue after yes sets plan_confirmed; Clear/Recovered debrief
N12	No dependable agreement	No submission; restart or job aid

Variable setup and reset values

Variable	Storyline type / default	Set and use
d1_choice	Text / blank	N02 sets focused_ack, rush_request, or broad_question. Selects the truthful N03 and N07 variant.
codes_verified	True/False / false	Only N03 Continue sets true, after both codes are visible. Gate N04.

Variable	Storyline type / default	Set and use
d2_choice	Text / blank	N04 sets plain_status or jargon_eta. Drives correction copy.
repair_choice	Text / blank	N07 sets own_and_restate or deflect.
repair_effective	True/False / false	N07 A true, N07 B false. Selects N08/N09 and N10 recap; never means consent.
had_breakdown	True/False / false	Set true on N02 B/C, N04 B, N07 B, N10 B/C. Never clear during run. Ending label only.
d3_choice	Text / blank	N10 sets ask_authorization_and_own_callback, assume_eta, or vague_handoff.
plan_confirmed	True/False / false	Only after Lena's N11 yes is displayed and learner presses Continue. Then simulate the authorized submission.

On either ending's **Restart control**, explicitly reset all eight variables and all relevant slide/layer/object states, then return to N01. Do not rely on browser refresh or a resume setting to clear history.

Native trigger sequence

- On each answer button, set the selected text variable and any history flag first. Then navigate to its response slide or show its consequence layer. Keep variable-update triggers above jump triggers.
- On N03, display both code labels as native text for every branch. Set codes_verified=true on the learner's Continue action after the codes have been available to read. Do not set it on N02 or N03 timeline start.
- Gate N04 with codes_verified=true. If false through an unexpected navigation/resume state, return to N03 with a readable explanation.
- On N07 entry, render exactly one full A answer-card statement from d1_choice + d2_choice; pair it with the full static B deflection statement. Use equal card width, padding and type size; size both for the longest A text. On A selection, set repair_choice and repair_effective, then show "No request has been submitted." on a separate selected-response layer only for D1 rush + D2 ETA. Continue to N08 only after that layer is available. Never choose corrections from had_breakdown.
- N10 A records only the permission request. Display its question followed immediately by the sentence "It won't reserve or ship a part." before Lena can respond. Keep the conditional 11:30 status target and owned 11:45 update wording. Do not set plan_confirmed or simulate submission. If repair_effective is true, show no extra correction; never display an implementation note as dialogue. N10 B/C go to N12 and do not submit.
- N11 first displays and announces Lena's full yes. On Continue after that response, set plan_confirmed=true, then reveal the authorized simulated submission and final status record. Use had_breakdown only for Clear vs Recovered. For Recovered, select exactly one complete learner-facing debrief using the exact d1_choice + d2_choice + repair_choice combination; display no condition strings or author instructions.
- Avoid multiple overlapping "show layer" triggers. N07 has five mutually exclusive A text states driven by D1/D2 choices plus one static B card. Its combined-error correction is a separate, visible selected-response layer. N08 mentions the 11:30 target only when the active N07 statement showed it. Keep only the active answer accessible; screen-reader output must match visible copy. Hide inactive controls from keyboard focus.

Screen system and asset handoff

Use the design kit under `../storyline-assets/`. Keep all text and controls native. S8 is a layout proof for N04 only; rebuild it from editable text and shapes. S5 is a background shell only; build case labels/statuses as native text. S3a and S3b communicate the two labels, with editable code equivalents and plain alt text. No portrait or prior-email image is in this batch; use Lena's name/role as text and render the email as native text.

Asset	Exact file	Use / constraint
S1	S1-cafe-context.png	Context image; not a text carrier.
S3a	S3a-carton-FX21.png	Carton FX-21; text and alt equivalent required.

Asset	Exact file	Use / constraint
S3b	S3b-packing-slip-FX12.png	Packing slip FX-12; text and alt equivalent required.
S5	S5-case-record-panel.png	Background only; editable fields/status.
S6	S6a-icon-verify.png; S6b-icon-reference.png; S6c-icon-callback.png; S6d-icon-permission.png; S6e-icon-document.png	Optional, decorative or text-paired icons.
S8	S8-screen-mockup-N04.png	Reference only; never publish flattened mockup.

Proposed Storyline slide size is 1280 × 720. Use a 56 px header, 32 px outer margins, a 296 px case panel from x=32 to x=328, a 32 px gutter, and a dialogue column from x=360 to x=1248 (888 px wide). Rebuild S8 against this grid; its inset is a visual reference, not the approved column position. Use readable Inter or system sans text; start near 24 px for dialogue and 22–24 px for answer text. The Case Facts reference must be available at each decision. Use text plus icon or label for state; never color alone. For each layer, set logical focus order and a visible focus style.

Native acceptance checklist

- ☐ All 12 nodes exist; every branch destination is reachable; no N12 loop is in the core flow.
- ☐ Every N03 response states Carton FX-21 and Packing slip FX-12 before codes_verified becomes true.
- ☐ N04 gate blocks progression when codes_verified is false.
- ☐ N07 A presents one complete path-specific statement on a full answer card, paired with the complete B deflection statement. D1 premature action never triggers a false-Monday apology; D2 overpromise does.
- ☐ On combined D1 rush + D2 ETA, A first corrects the transfer and Monday claims; after selection, a separate visible layer states “No request has been submitted.” N07 B deflection is repaired directly in N10.
- ☐ N10 A displays “It won't reserve or ship a part.” immediately after the permission question and before Lena's response. On repair_effective == true, no implementation note or extra correction is displayed.
- ☐ N08 and N09 leave plan_confirmed false. No answer before N11's explicit yes submits a stock check.
- ☐ N11 Continue after Lena's displayed yes is the sole point that sets plan_confirmed and reveals simulated submission. The status target is conditional and may remain pending; delivery remains unconfirmed.
- ☐ N12 says no check was submitted and no new status target exists. plan_confirmed remains false.
- ☐ N11 Recovered copy is complete and learner-facing for all 11 non-clean choice combinations; it names only the applicable D1, D2, and repair events.
- ☐ had_breakdown selects only Clear vs Recovered. Clear uses the complete clean copy; Recovered selects one exact debrief by d1_choice, d2_choice, and repair_choice, naming only events represented by those choices. No build instruction appears in learner-facing text.
- ☐ 36 core routes resolve as 1 Clear, 11 Recovered, and 24 unresolved. Restart resets all eight variables and all relevant object states.
- ☐ Keyboard-only completion passes; focus order, layer open/close, visible focus, full path-specific N07 answer announcement, screen-reader output, and control labels are checked.

Sarah's exact next steps

1. Confirm the fictional policy and exact script. Create a 1280 × 720 native project folder; save the editable `.story`` beside assets and source files, keeping the HTML prototype separate.
2. Build N01–N07 and test all code, ETA, and repair states, including the combined correction. Then build N08–N12; set plan_confirmed and simulate submission only on Continue after Lena's explicit yes.
3. Apply assets and focus order; complete the accessibility and 36-route checks. Publish and test the hosted Web package. Archive the `.story``, assets, transcript, job aid, ZIP/output folder, and a dated build note; log failures as build issues.