



Story Structure

Personal Stories Are...

Journeys we take to answer
gnawing questions in our psyches

Stories Are About...

Redemption

Transformation

Rebirth

Any structural method is

JUST A GUIDELINE!

A story can break ALL The rules and still be amazing.

The need of each story dictates the structure.

“Story is a yearning meeting an obstacle.”

— *Robert Olen Butler*

The Only Things All Stories Need Are...

- EMOTIONAL DRIVE / DESIRE
- CONFLICT / TENSION
- TRANSFORMATION / CHANGE

And ...

- BEGINNING
- MIDDLE
- END

Sometimes thought of as...

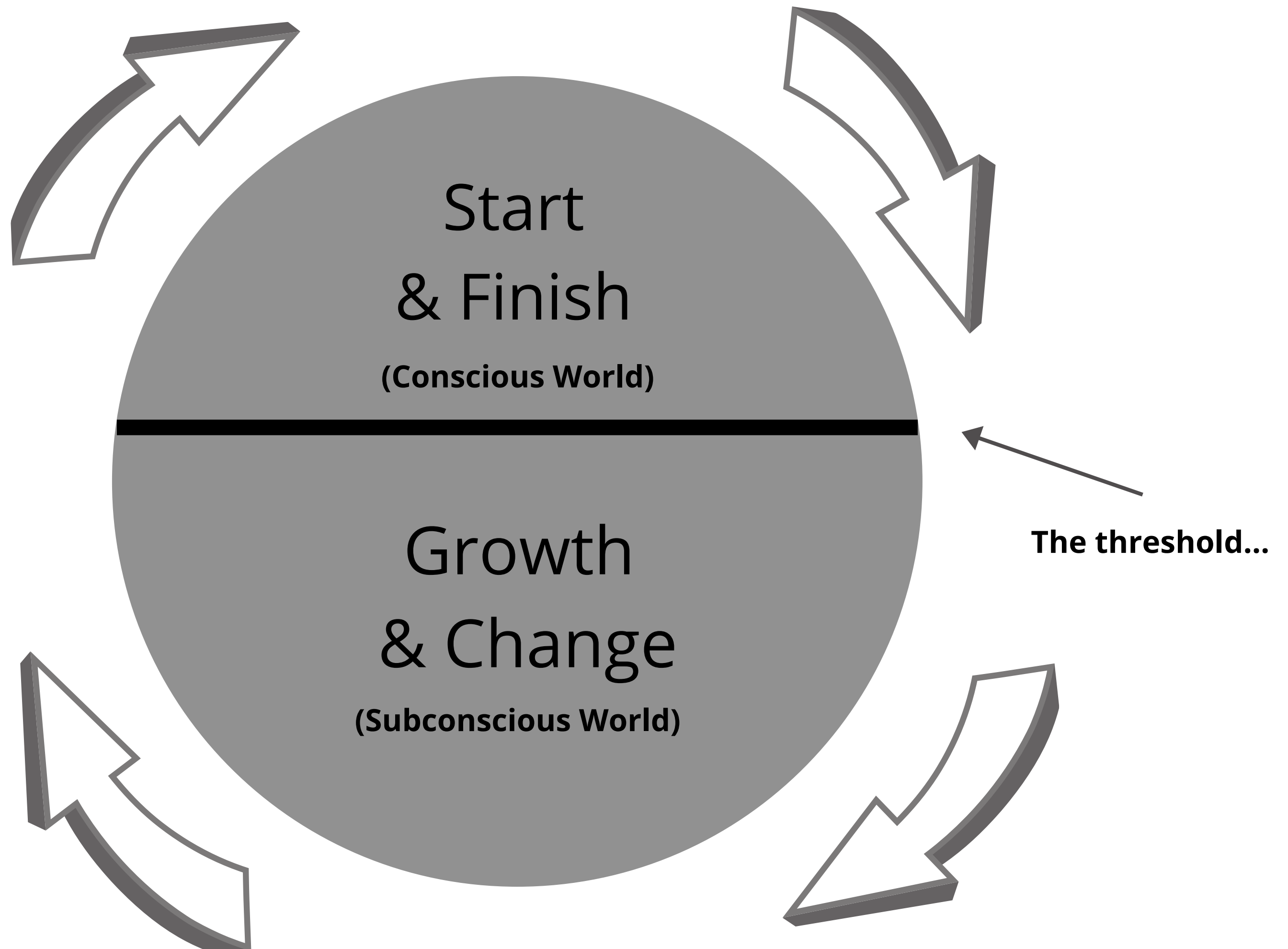
Beginning:
Setup

Middle:
Confrontation

End:
Resolution.

A large, solid cyan circle is centered in the background of the slide.

Circular Structure



Inspired by Dan Harmon's
"Story Circle"

CHARACTER IN COMFORT ZONE
YOU

THEY SEE THE WORLD WITH NEW EYES
CHANGE

BUT HAS DEEP UNMET DESIRE
NEED

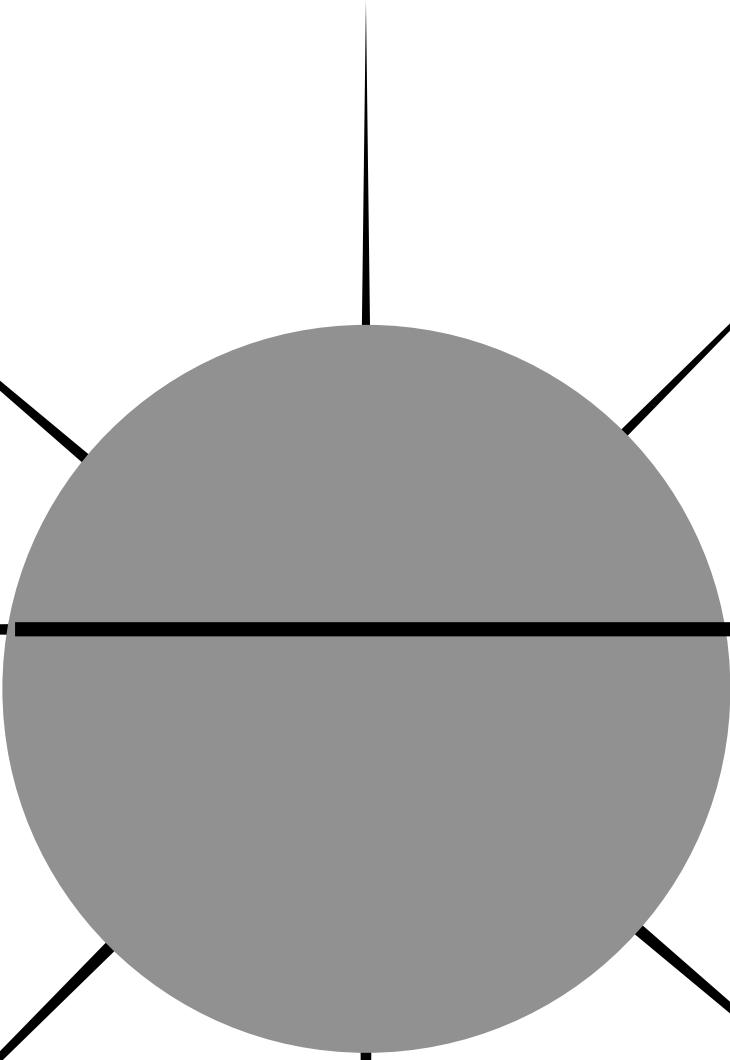
JOURNEY HOME WITH TREASURE
RETURN

THEY GO AFTER IT
GO

**GET WHAT WANT BUT
PAY A HEAVY PRICE**
TAKE

THE ROAD OF CONFLICTS
SEARCH

THEY CONFRONT THEMSELVES IN THE CAVE
FIND



Linear Structure



STORY SPINE
Originated by Kenn Adams

The Platform

- Once Upon a Time...
- And Everyday...

The Catalyst

- But one day...

The Consequences

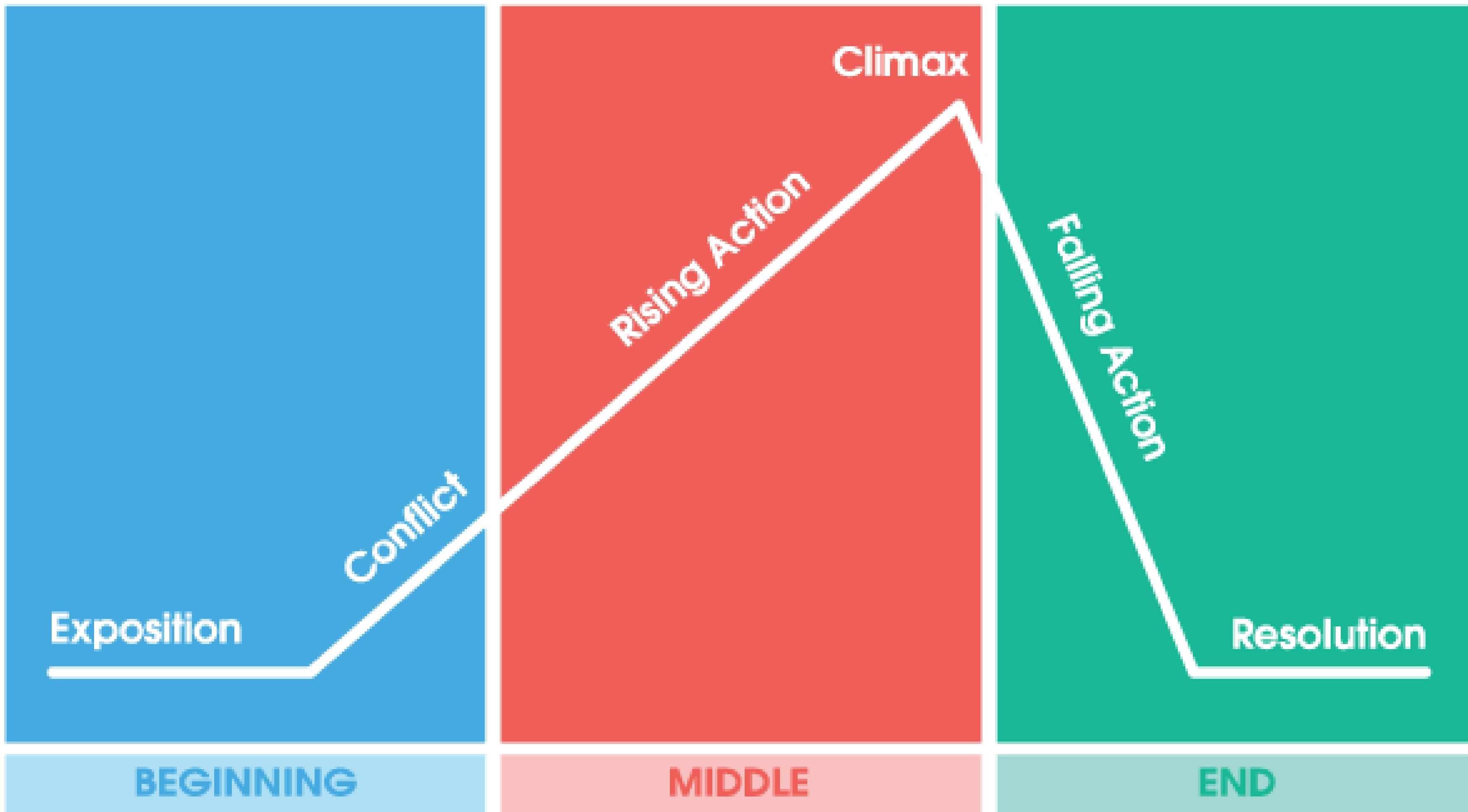
- Because of that... (repeated as many times as you wish)

The Climax

- Until finally...

The Resolution

- Ever since then...
- And the moral of the story is...



In Case You Forgot!!!

THIS IS JUST A GUIDELINE!

- You are a natural storyteller...
- Life organically moves in stories...
- The need of each story dictates the structure...