

Tony Veale, UCD

**A Twist in  
the Tale**


**A Rap  
on the Knuckles**

**Generating Texts With a Moral**






# Inspired by Data, Shaped by Knowledge

 MetaphorIsMyBusiness @MetaphorMagnet · 2h  
#Irony: When some bodyguards protect "reputable" luminaries the way pimps protect sleazy hookers. #Bodyguard=#Pimp

#Irony: When some brides carry "delightful" flowers the way killers carry threatening weapons. #Bride=#Killer #Flower=#Weapon

 MetaphorIsMyBusiness @MetaphorMagnet  
Would you rather be:  
1. A cleric following an authoritarian theocracy?  
2. An acolyte following a mellow swami?

 MetaphorIsMyBusiness @MetaphorMagnet · 1h  
What if #Superman were about #RealEstate? #DonaldTrump could be its #LexLuthor: greedy but successful, and sharp-suited too.

 MetaphorIsMyBusiness @MetaphorMagnet  
Would you rather be:  
1. A god performing an amazing miracle?  
2. An entertainer performing a commonplace routine? #God=#Entertainer

 MetaphorIsMyBusiness @MetaphorMagnet · 1h  
If #DonaldTrump is like #LexLuthor (greedy but successful), who in #Superman is #RosieODonnell most like?

**@MetaphorMagnet**



For Fun and Prophet @BestOfBotWorlds · Sep 11

Blessed are the threatening thugs that betray the gangster, for they shall let in refugees and become charming hosts.

#ThingsJesusNeverSaid



For Fun and Prophet @BestOfBotWorlds · Sep 9

Blessed are the crying babes that reach maturity, for they shall enlist in the military and become stoic warriors.

#ThingsJesusNeverSaid



For Fun and Prophet @BestOfBotWorlds · 1d

Blessed are the brainless morons that develop skills, for they shall go to law school and become smart lawyers.

#ThingsJesusNeverSaid



For Fun and Prophet @BestOfBotWorlds · Sep 8

Blessed are the brutal thugs that disobey orders, for they shall give birth to toddlers and become caring mothers.

#ThingsJesusNeverSaid







For Fun and Prophet @BestOfBotWorlds · 22h

Verily, it is better to be a tough tormenting a miserable victim than a persecutor tormenting a worthy martyr

#ThingsMohammadNeverSaid



For Fun and Prophet @BestOfBotWorlds · 12h

Yea, it is better to be an ideologist nurturing a pernicious ideology than a shepherd nurturing a tender lamb

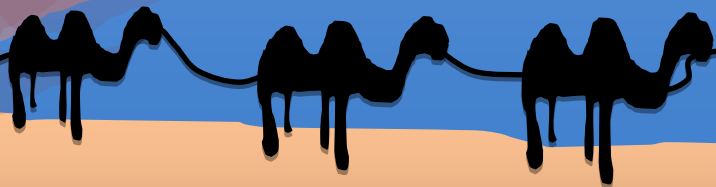
#ThingsMohammadNeverSaid



For Fun and Prophet @BestOfBotWorlds · 14h

Yea, it is better to be a mullah running an oppressive theocracy than a patriarch running a supportive family

#ThingsMohammadNeverSaid





← In reply to Reuters Top News



MetaphorMirror @MetaphorMirror · 4h

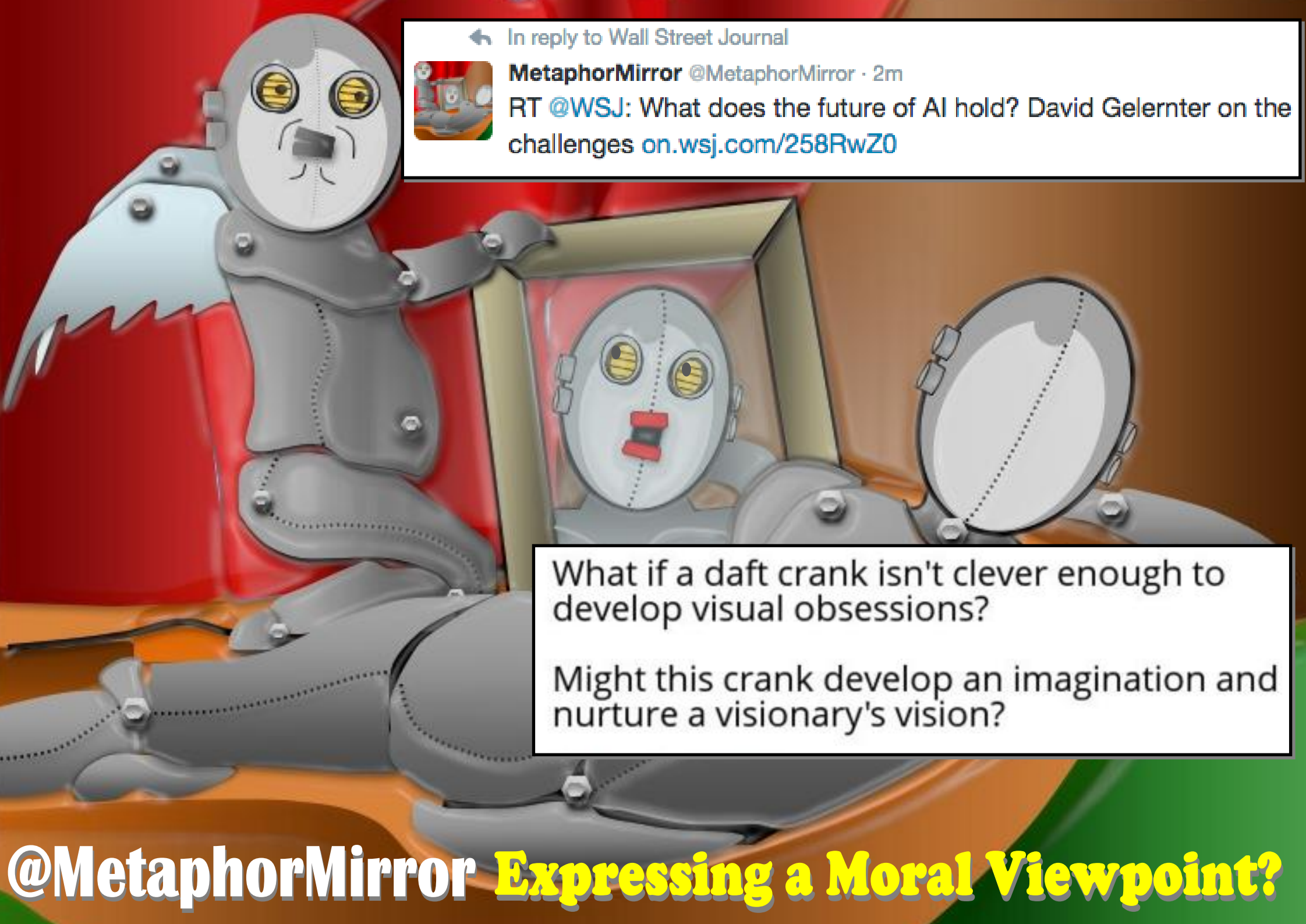
RT @Reuters: Djokovic to meet Raonic in Indian Wells final  
[reut.rs/1Wzk5sD](https://reut.rs/1Wzk5sD)

Would you rather be:

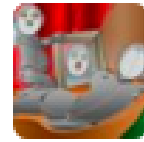
1. A champion winning an enjoyable sport?
2. A general winning a gruesome battle?

**#Sport=#Battle**

**@MetaphorMirror Making Linguistic Creativity Topical**



← In reply to Wall Street Journal



**MetaphorMirror** @MetaphorMirror · 2m

RT @WSJ: What does the future of AI hold? David Gelernter on the challenges [on.wsj.com/258RwZ0](https://on.wsj.com/258RwZ0)

What if a daft crank isn't clever enough to develop visual obsessions?

Might this crank develop an imagination and nurture a visionary's vision?

**@MetaphorMirror Expressing a Moral Viewpoint?**



MetaphorIsMyBusiness @MetaphorMagnet · 15m

## #Creator=#Racist

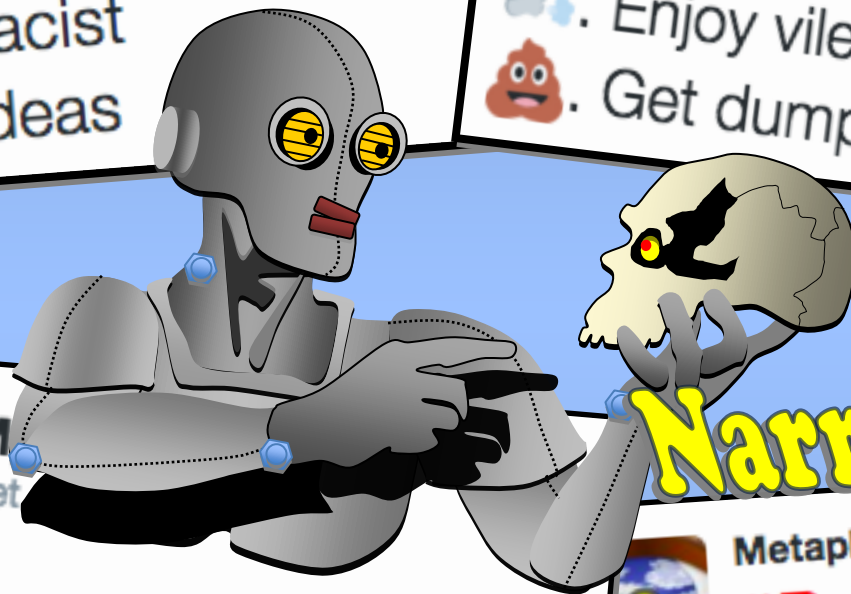
- 🕒 . Develop some originality
- 🕒 . Become a creator
- 🕒 . Generate malicious products
- 🕒 . Turn into a racist
- 🕒 . Run out of ideas



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#Irony is when you

- ☀️ . Inherit a palace
- 🏰 . Marry a vile shah nicknamed "the worm"
- ☁️ . Enjoy vile reigns
- 💩 . Get dumped for acting like a knave



## Narrative Skeletons



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- 🏠 . Apply for a medical license
- 👉 . Become a doctor
- 🏰 . Marry a realist in your HMO
- 💔 . Perform cynical operations
- 💔 . Accept a compromise too



MetaphorIsMyBusiness @MetaphorMagnet · 15h

#Profanity is when you:

- 🤔 . Concoct a fiction
- 😊 . Become a storyteller
- 😞 . Tell profane stories
- 😞 . Turn into a blasphemer



1





For Fun and Prophet @BestOfBotWorlds · 7h

A dumb dodo once lost its wits.  
Along came a silly cricket who thought "A fool  
like me needs a dupe like this on whom to  
perform pranks."



View c...



For Fun and Prophet @BestOfBotWorlds · 7h

"For the best dupes are unsympathetic  
fools," thought the silly cricket.  
So this fool decided to perform a prank on  
the dumb dodo.



Aesop's tales  
use animals to  
teach very  
*human* lessons

Aesop's  
characters  
are blends  
of *man and  
animal*

**Story Metaphors with a Moral Twist in the Tail**



**Generating longer stories with a moral with**  
**Scéalextric**  
**... and the Source-Path-Goal schema**



**Race tracks are a literal use of the SPG  
schema to generate narrative thrills**

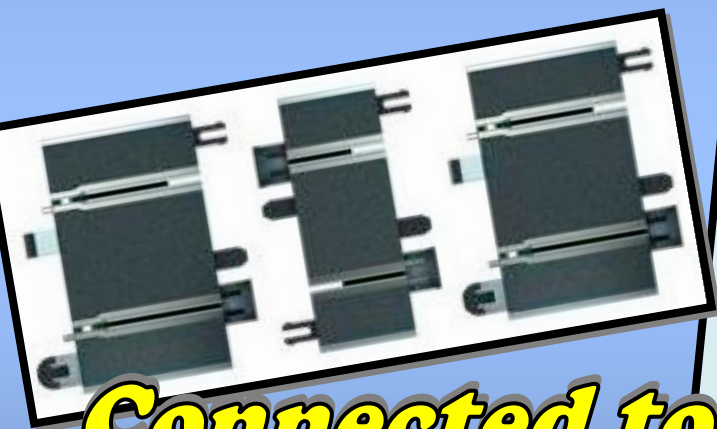
**In Scalextric the most satisfying tracks are made by combining a diverse range of track segments**



**In Scéalextric the best plots are made by drawing upon a wide range of plot segments**



**1500 "plot segments"**  
**currently defined**  
**in Scéalextric...**  
**more are on the way!**



**Connected to**  
**form "tracks"**  
**as in Scalextric**

Before Midpoint	Midpoint	After Midpoint
help	are_exploited_by	abandon,
look_after	are_pushed_too_far_by,	turn_against, take_aim_a
	are_bitten_by	abandon, turn_against,
tend, care_for	are_pushed_too_far_by,	take_aim_at
capture	are_disgusted_by,	
	are_shocked_by	abandon, testify_against
enlist	are_bitten_by	abuse, kill
	are_trusted_by,	
exploit	are_respected_by	abuse
	are_feared_by,	
supervise, look_after	are_distrusted_by	alienate
	are_trusted_by,	
	are_respected_by	indoctrinate
look_after	are_upstaged_by,	
lead	are_driven_mad_by,	
mock	are_bitten_by	abuse
spy_on	are_disrepected_by	abuse
spy_on	are_forgiven_by	admire
are_trusted_by,	are_discovered_by	beg_forgiveness_from
are_welcomed_by,	are_shocked_by	take_aim_at
are_intrigued_by		
are shocked by		
	spy on	

*We must characterize  
each twist and turn  
in a track to show how  
plot segments join up*



**This gives a tale  
its moral "shape"**

Before	Link	After
look_after	but	are_pushed_too_far_
are_pushed_too_far_by	so	abandon
abandon	and	are_pursued_by
are_pursued_by	but	elude
elude	but	are_tracked_by
are_tracked_by	so	are_tracked_by
are_tracked_by	but	lay_a_trap_for
are_pushed_too_far_by	so	lead_astray
turn_against	so	turn_against
are_feared_by	so	are_feared_by
overthrow	and	overthrow
underestimate	but	underestimate
turn_against	and	are_suppressed_by
are_attacked_by	and	are_attacked_by
overthrow	so	overthrow
are_inspired_by	but	are_inspired_by
turn_against	and	imitate
are_bought_off_by	but	are_bought_off_by
settle_with	and	settle_with
are_insulted_by	but	are_insulted_by
turn_against	so	humiliate
are_beaten_by	and	are_beaten_by
kill	so	





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@MetaphorMagnet

What if a 🐶, who was so prodigious that it became a prodigy, disappointed a 🐎 who was so influential that it became a teacher?



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@MetaphorMagnet

Failure followed the 🐶 the way heartburn follows a taco.

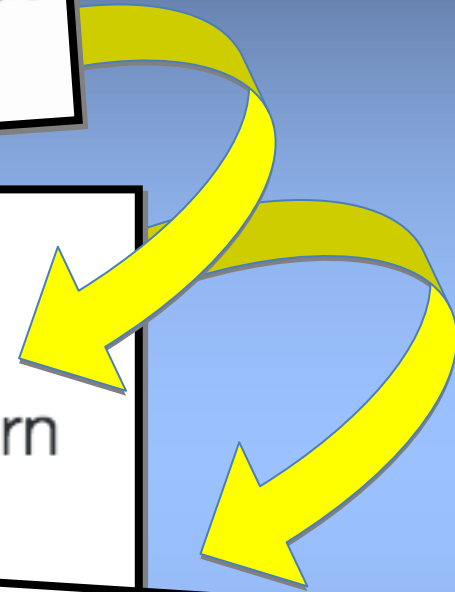
**#Prodigy=#Teacher**



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@MetaphorMagnet

🐶😞🐎 (or: 🐶 disappointed 🐎)  
So at first, the influential 🐎 considered the prodigious 🐶 to be a big disappointment.

**Opening  
Bookend**



**A plot is constructed  
from **plot segments**  
much like a racetrack**



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(or: was scolded by )  
So the scolded the like a child.

**Rendered in English,  
illustrated in Emoji**



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(or: begged forgiveness  
from )  
Then the pleaded with the for  
forgiveness.



**MetaphorIsMyBusiness**  
@MetaphorMagnet

(or: was spurned by )  
But the spurned the 's advances.  
 (or: attacked )  
So the pounced on the .

**The plot wends  
its way through  
a space of actions  
and reactions**





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    (or:  was beaten by )  
But the  stomped all over the .



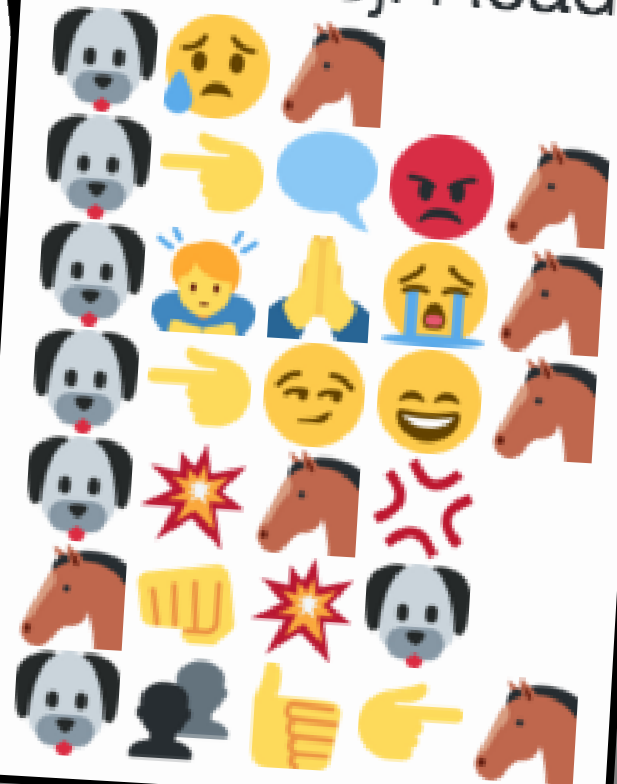
MetaphorIsMyBusiness

@MetaphorMagnet

     (or:  respected )  
Yet in the end, the  had the utmost respect  
for the .

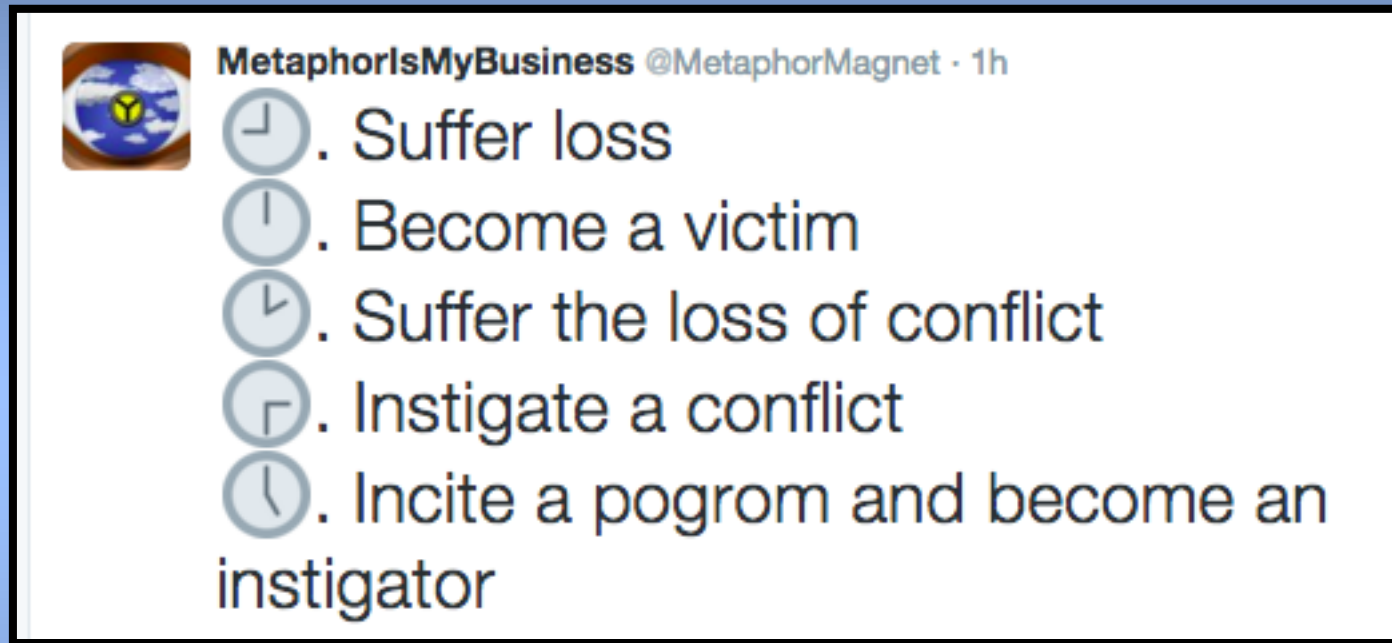
If hate is a disease then respect is the cure.

The Emoji Read:



Each final action is associated  
with a closing "**moral lesson**"

**To generate compelling stories, we need plots that reflect common-sense logic ...**



**... and a demonstrable understanding of the moral basis and consequences of our actions**