



STORY•WORKS

Structure of Story

Module 0: Course Overview

THE STRUCTURE OF STORY IS A STORY WORKS FICTION NUTS & BOLTS COURSE.

I am Alida Winternheimer, your instructor. I'm a writer, teacher, and editor. Among my published works are the *Story Works Guide to Writing Character* and the *Story Works Guide to Writing Point of View*.

In this course, we will examine the universal elements of story you need to understand no matter your story's length, genre, or audience.

I'm going to assume you're writing a novel, the largest story structure model. But don't worry. If you're writing a novella or short story, you still need to understand these elements of story craft.

WE WILL COVER:

- Plot arc
- 3-Act structure
- Endings
- Scenes
- Chapters
- Climaxes
- 4 Types of movement
- Critical story elements
- Writing Strong

YOU WILL LEARN:

- The basic structure of any story
- The function of the arc
- How to use stakes and tension
- Intrigue, hooks, and reveals
- Optimize the 3-act structure
- How to end your story,
- How to build with scenes
- How to shape your chapters
- How to write a satisfying climax
- How to work with the 4 kinds of movement
- The most important question we writers can ask ourselves

HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF THIS COURSE:

- Work at your own pace
- Keep your journal and pen handy
- Jot down ideas as they come up
- Do the writing exercises as they come up in the lessons.
- Watch the videos (you can adjust the playback speed).
- Download the audio and listen to it when you're on the go.
- Print out the lectures and use them as notes.
- Use the comments feature under each lecture to ask questions.
- Join the Story Works Writers Facebook Group.

The spiral learning model means that you'll encounter concepts more than once as you work through the lessons. Each time you encounter a concept, you'll add layers of depth and comprehension to each concept, so that you can grasp the concept and turn it into a tool you have at your disposal every time you sit down to write.