

# STORY WORKS ALASKA

## Today's Plan

1. Introduction
2. Questions for you
3. Stories (Listening to Mentor Stories)
4. Your Storytelling Assignment:\*
5. Story Arc Example + Story as Road Trip

\* What we're going to share with you is just one of many ways to tell a story. There are many storytelling methods and traditions and if this one does not work for you, we encourage you to explore another.

## Questions for you:

1. On a scale of 0-10, how do you feel (right now) about telling a story to your class?

Not worried at all. 0.....2.....3.....4.....5.....6.....7.....8.....9.....10 Totally terrified.

2. Can you think of *any* reasons storytelling might be useful to you now or in the future?

3. And, if you answered yes to #2, please explain.

(If you answered no to #2, please just doodle, write a poem, or tell us about your favorite food here.)

# STORY WORKS ALASKA

## **Introduction:**

**welcome + what you'll be doing + what we'll be doing + an invitation**

### **Welcome!**

We look forward to working with you and hearing your stories.

### **Why you're here:**

Over the next few weeks you will be preparing, practicing, and ultimately sharing (in class) a true, 4-5 minute story in which *you* are the main character. You will also be helping others in your small group prepare and practice their own stories.

### **Why we're here and what we'll be doing:**

We're here because we believe in storytelling and we want to support you and your stories. We'll be sharing how-to tips about storytelling and also working with you in small groups as you develop your stories.

### **An Invitation:**

#### **Be Brave.**

Storytelling can be challenging and, for some of us, even scary. Be as brave as you want to be. But don't feel pushed. Please let your teacher know if any of this feels like too much for you.

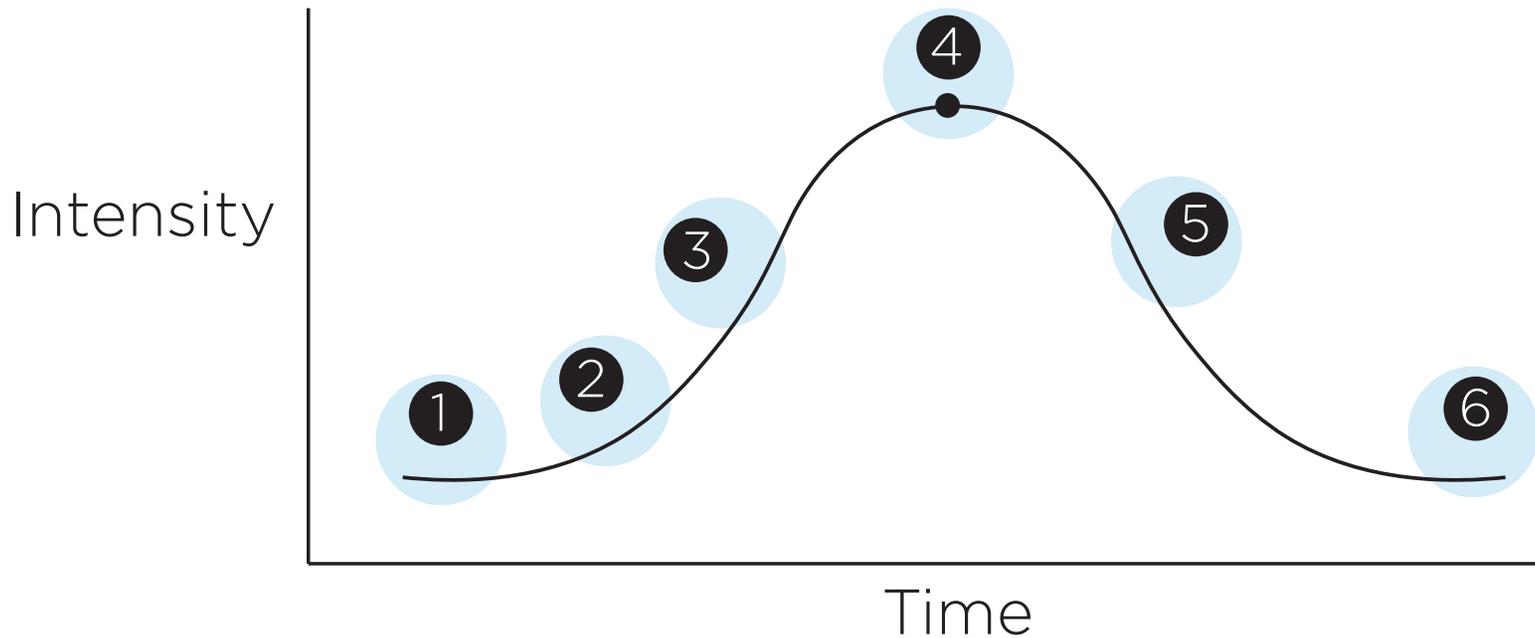
#### **Be Honest.**

Please be honest not only about the content of your story (it should be true, not made up) but also be honest with yourself about what you are comfortable sharing. Just because you have a story, does not mean you have to share it. Share only what you want to share.

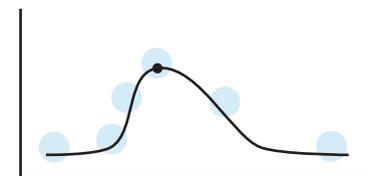
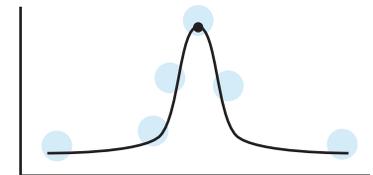
#### **Be Open.**

This applies to the choices you make about how you respond to the stories – your own and others. It can be hard not to judge others or ourselves but our role when listening to these stories is to keep open our minds and our more judgmental selves in check. Stay open to new understanding about yourself and others.

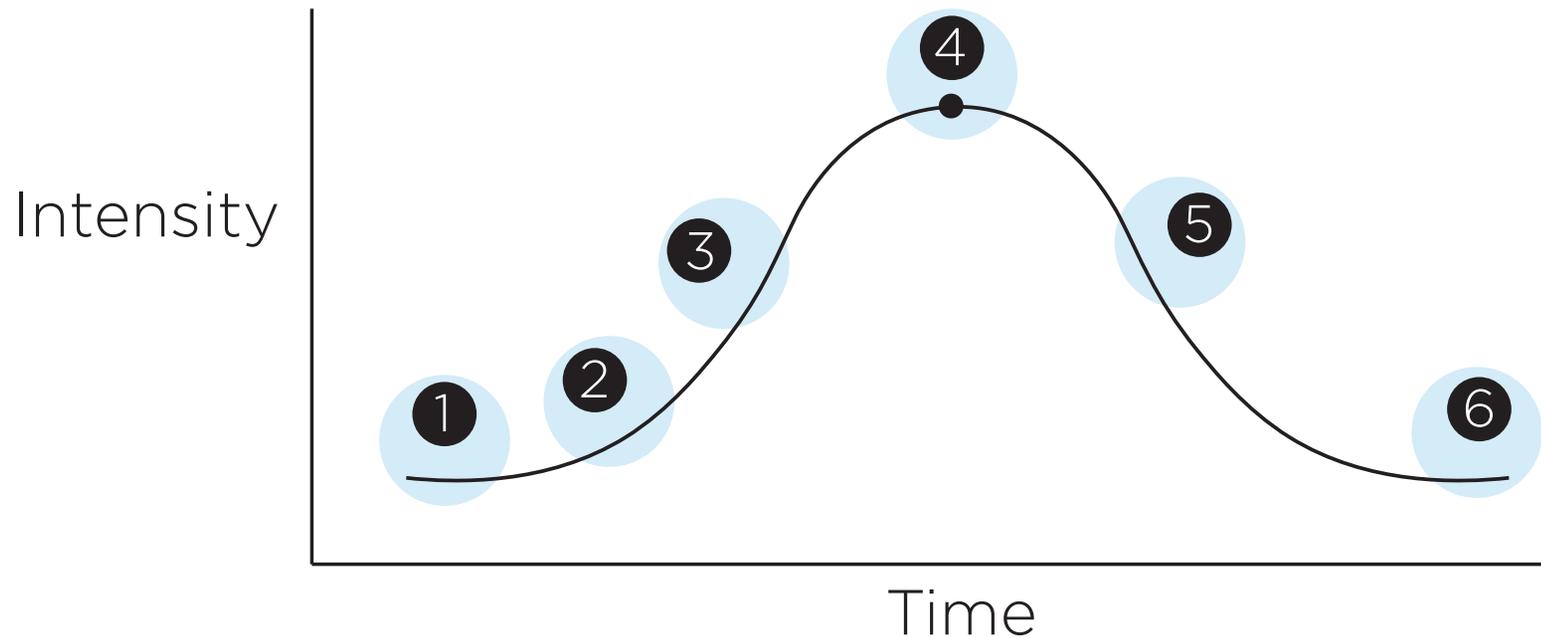
# Story Arc



- 1 **Context/set up:** establishing what matters and what listeners need to know to understand the story (e.g., who, what, when, where, why).
- 2 **Turning point:** tension begins
- 3 **Rising action**
- 4 **2nd turning point:** moment story moves toward a point of hope
- 5 **Resolution/aftermath/reflection:** storyteller finds position of strength
- 6 **Closing Line(s).**



# Story As Road Trip



**Context/set up:** Loading the car with everything you need to understand the journey.

**Turning point:** tension begins (fighting siblings, forgotten dog, awful stink, or...)

**Rising action:** fighting gets worse, dog still lost and now all kids crying, stink gets stinkier, etc.

**2nd turning point:** moment story moves toward a point of hope (someone laughs, dog is signed heading west, air freshener procured, etc.)

**Resolution/aftermath/reflection:** storyteller finds position of strength (siblings begin to tolerate each other, dog gets more love and attention, dad stops eating apples, etc.)

**Closing Line(s):** reflection on the journey, implicit or explicit lesson, core belief statement, possible connection to something from earlier in the story or... your choice.