

# STORY STRUCTURE COMPARISON CHART

THREE ACT	HOLLYWOOD	SAVE THE CAT	FIVE ACT	SEVEN POINT	ARC OF A RELATIONSHIP	DREAM	HERO'S JOURNEY	HEROINE'S JOURNEY (Murdock)	HEROINE'S JOURNEY (Carriger)	STORY CIRCLE	ROMANTIC COMEDY	ROMANCING THE BEAT	SAMOSAS	KISHŌTENKETSU*							
Act I	Normal World	Opening	Exposition/ Set Up (0-20%)	Hook	First Impression	Blissful ignorance	The Ordinary World	1. Shift from Feminine to Masculine	The Descent Broken Familial Network Pleas Ignored Abdication of Power Involuntary Withdrawal Offers of Aid but No Solution	You Zone of comfort	Introductions Prior to meeting	Introductions Prior to meeting	(S)tatus Quo	Ki Introduction							
		Theme Stated					The Call to Adventure			Need But they want something											
	Set Up	Meeting the Mentor		Meet Cute Memorable meeting	Meet Cute No Way 1	(A)fter the Status Quo															
Inciting Incident	Catalyst	Plot Turn 1 Inciting Incident	First Meaningful Moment				Denial Something happens to cause them to deny	Refuse the Call													
Act II	1st Turning Point/ Accepting the Call	Debate	Complications (20-40%)	Pinch Point 1 More Pressure!	First Meeting of Minds	Resistance First half of Act II	Stuff goes wrong after the call is refused	2. Road of Trials	The Search Loss Means Isolation/Risk Disguise/Subversion Formation of Surrogate Network Visit to the Underworld, Aided by Companions	Go Enter unfamiliar situation	Falling in Love Chemistry develops/ relationship grows	Adhesion	(M)ake a Choice	Shō Development							
	Learning the New World	Break into Two					Midpoint					Want this, but this can't work			Approach the Innermost Cave	The Ordeal	3. Illusion of Success	Search Adapt to it	Midpoint of LOVE	Inkling of Desire	Deepening Desire
		B Story											Fun and Games								
	Midpoint	Midpoint	Climax/ Midpoint (40-60%)	Midpoint From Reaction to Action	Maybe this CAN Work	Exploration Result of the midpoint	Seizing the Sword	5. Meeting with the Goddess	Find Get what they want	Turning Point Conflict threatens to end relationship	Deepening of Doubt	Retreat	(A)dversity Intensifies								
	Things Fall Apart	Bad Guys Close In	Falling Action (60-80%)	Pinch Point 2 So Much Worse!	Darkest Moment	Working toward Acceptance - at a low point	The Road Back Journey towards dark night of soul	6. Reconcile with the Feminine	Take Pay a heavy price	Breakup Couple torn apart by differences	Shields Up	Break Up		(A)dversity Intensifies							
		All is Lost											Dark Night of the Soul								
	Act III	2nd Turning Point/ Lowest Moment	Break into Three	Catastrophe/ Resolution (80-100%)	Plot Turn 2 The Pivotal Key	Reconcile? Forever Lost?	Manifestation	Resurrection	7. Reincorporate the Masculine	The Ascent Success = New/Reborn Familial Network Solution Involves Delegating, Networking, Communicating Negotiation & Compromise Benefit All Revenge & Glory are Not Important	Return Back to familiar situation	Happy Ending Couple resolves differences	Dark Night	(S)tatus Resolution	Ketsu Conclusion/ Reconciliation						
Climax		Finale	Resolution/ Climax		Return with the Elixir								8. Union			Change Capable of, or having, changed	Grand Gesture				
Resolution		Final Image	Denouement															What Wholehearted Looks Like	Epilogue		
		BLAKE SNYDER & JESSICA BRODY		DAN WELLS	PIPER DRAKE	ELIZABETH BOYLE & MARY-ROBINETTE KOWAL	JOSEPH CAMPBELL	MAUREEN MURDOCK	GAIL CARRIGER	DAN HARMON		GWEN HAYES	POTTED PLANT								

**Note:** This chart provides only an estimation of how the story beats from the different structures roughly correspond to one another. The horizontal alignment of story beats implies they generally occur around the same point in the story, but this should not be viewed as the story beats being equivalent or interchangeable. Each story structure works independently from one another and for a given story, the mapping of story beats may differ from how they are portrayed in this chart.

\*KISHŌTENKETSU does not have story beats that correspond with the other structures in the chart. To denote this, it is positioned to the right of the chart and has different coloring.

Create by Christina Boekeloo and Michael Roth with contributions from SiWC/WRX attendees and members of the Potted Plant.