

**Storytelling Workshop - Shavuot 5782**  
**Rabbi Sam Blustin, with resources from Michael Sokol**

**Prompt:**

Share a story from your spiritual journey that pointed you towards where you are today – here together

**Steps (“Beats”) of a Short Story**

**THE SET UP** (who is your protagonist; what are their flaws, what's missing in their life; establish your setting/location; what is your "old world")

**INTRODUCTION OF THE PREMISE** (Establish what your character(s) want and need; think of this also as introducing a problem; this should make clear to audience what your story is about)

*--get to this soon to hook audience into story*

**HEIGHTENING** (meat of your story; this is where you deliver on your premise; 2-3 vignettes that have a dramatic heightening as you get to the last one) *pg 2-3*

*Heightening Beat one:*

*Heightening Beat two:*

*Heightening Beat three (what unusual turn can you take; first two beats have established a rhythm, set expectations for audience; could you use this beat to surprise them with something unexpected):*

**SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM** (Symmetrical to Beat #2, where you introduced “the problem” or the need, now you offer a “solution.” *This could be a line or two, or one action*)

**THE SYNTHESIS** (The button to your story; you show the hero back in the "old world" having changed because of the journey)