

## The Seven Step Story Line

- ❖ The hook – The first lines, the first scene must compel the reader to keep reading.
- ❖ Plot Point #1– ongoing events change in some way (about a quarter of the way into the book).
- ❖ Midpoint– the renewal of reader interest leads to the center of the story. Here you keep upping the stakes.
- ❖ Plot Point #2– nothing new happens, but the worst seems about to come true pushed toward making a decision. Tension should be at its highest point now.
- ❖ Narrative climax– Action scenes as the protagonist decides then takes action to reach his goal, confront her nemesis, confronts the real killer, etc.
- ❖ The Dramatic Climax– Catharsis, an emotional peak and an emotional release. Justice prevails, the family farm is saved and the dramatic question or hero's goal has been reached.
- ❖ The Denouement– the last pieces fall into place, all loose ends are tied up.