



## Story Time Episode 11: Resolving Your Story

PILAR: Hey, storytellers. It's Pilar. Welcome back to Story Time. Last time, you learned how obstacles build to a climactic moment. Today, you'll be learning about the key part of the end of a story called the "Resolution." Here is our friend to talk about resolutions.

ROBERT TAYLOR: Hi, young storytellers. My name is Robert and I'm a writer just like you. Previously, I wrote for DreamWorks Animation on a show called "Spirit Riding Free." Now I write for Rideback which is a company that creates exciting and original stories like "The LEGO Movie" or Aladdin.

I'm here today to talk about the resolution which is one of the most important parts of the screenplay because it's the last thing that the audience sees and it could be the part of the movie that they remember the most.

So when I write a resolution in one of my stories, I think about the lesson, what the protagonist -- or you can call them the "Hero" -- has learned over the course of the story and lesson I want my audience to get from watching or reading that story.

You know, for example, if your lesson is that it's important to be yourself, think about how the character changed from learning that lesson. If they started the story feeling uncomfortable being themselves or maybe pretending like they're someone else then



in the resolution, make sure to show how their life gets better when they start being more true to who they are. That's going to highlight the journey your protagonist went through and shows your audience how great it feels to be yourself.

Okay, I hope this helps you in your last step of writing your screenplay. This is so exciting. And please continue to be true to your creative self by writing a resolution that highlights a lesson that's important to you. Now go off, have fun and I can't wait to see your stories come to life.

PILAR: Now, how about we join Vira, Curtis and Tamara in the Imaginarium.

VIRA: Hi, everyone. I'm Vira.

TAMARA: I'm Tamara.

CURTIS: And I'm Curtis. Welcome back.

VIRA: Today, we'll help guide you through writing the resolution of your story and you'll also learn some tips on how to revise.

CURTIS: The definition of resolution is "the action of solving a problem."

VIRA: At Young Storytellers, we like to think of the resolution as the "happily ever after or not" moment. That tells us where our protagonists and characters end up and how they're different. Oftentimes, it's right before the credits roll.

CURTIS: With that in mind, think of the resolution as the final most important lasting image or scene you're going to leave your audience with.

VIRA: So make it spectacular.

TAMARA: Okay. But where would we start?



- CURTIS: That's a great question, Tamara. To write a good resolution, think about your story's lesson. If you haven't watched that video, you can watch it here.
- VIRA: Since the lesson shows the audience what we care about and why, it's important that your resolution should mirror that with the characters.
- TAMARA: So the lesson ties in with the resolutions and then my characters will show that through action or dialogue, right?
- CURTIS: That's right. Let's think about the resolution of Vira becoming the queen. Maybe in that story, Vira was the rightful heir to the throne and had to overcome obstacles to get there. The lesson of that story might be to always keep going and fight for what you believe in no matter how hard it is. The resolution is when we finally see Vira receiving what's rightfully hers -- her crown.
- TAMARA: Makes sense Vira would be a queen.
- VIRA: Next, make sure the final image sums up everything your protagonist went through and ta-da, you have your resolution.
- CURTIS: At this point, it's a good idea to rewrite your story. The rewriting process is a good chance to reflect on what's been done before anyone else sees it.
- VIRA: Tamara, do you remember what should be on the script checklist?
- TAMARA: I do. Each scene should have a slugline and a balance of action and dialogue. Most of the script should be about the protagonist overcoming their obstacles and the resolution should be the last thing the audience sees.



CURTIS: You've got it, Tamara. So pause this video and find a quiet space to write. If you can, go ahead and stretch. You might be sitting for a while. I know I like to do it before I write.

[Pause]

CURTIS: All right. That's all the time we have for today.

VIRA: Let's send it back over to Pilar to wrap everything up.

TAMARA: Bye.

PILAR: Thanks, Vira. To wrap it up, today, we learned about the resolution and how to go back and revise your story. Once you're done with your script, share it with someone whose opinion you trust, maybe a friend or a family member who's a good listener.

You could even try reading it out loud to them. Ask them their favorite part of the story. And if there's any parts they had a hard time understanding, write all those things down and use them to revise your script even further.

And if you're comfortable, send us your resolutions by asking an adult to email us or have them post it online and tag us. Thank you so much for watching and we'll see you next time. Bye.

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