Before People Pay You Money They Have To Pay You Attention

(How to hook and hold the attention of any audience in the palm of you hand)

Let me tell you a quick story about a story that changed my life...

... and I didn't even know it!



I'd been trying to sell online for 4 years...

- Bankrupt wannabe author
- Living in a trailer with a leaky roof
- Had been trying to sell online for 4 years
- Making some money, but not successful



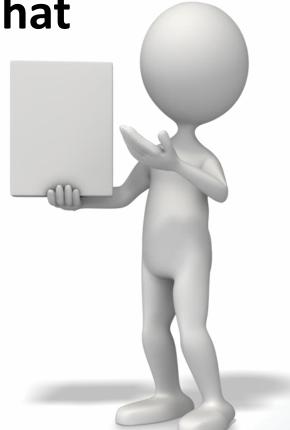
Then something happened that changed my life forever...

February 2001 learned about
 1-page sales letters at a conference in Boulder CO

The problem was...

The trainer said tell a "story" in your sales letter

I had no idea how to do that



The more I analyzed trying to "tell a story" - the more paralyzed I got



So I said "I gotta try something!"

- I stopped telling the story about the book
- I <u>started</u> telling the background story of my life & situation, along with the actions for how I quickly got the result they wanted too
- NOT polished, but was very <u>heartfelt</u>



I Later Realized I'd Hooked Them With Emotion They Were Already Feeling

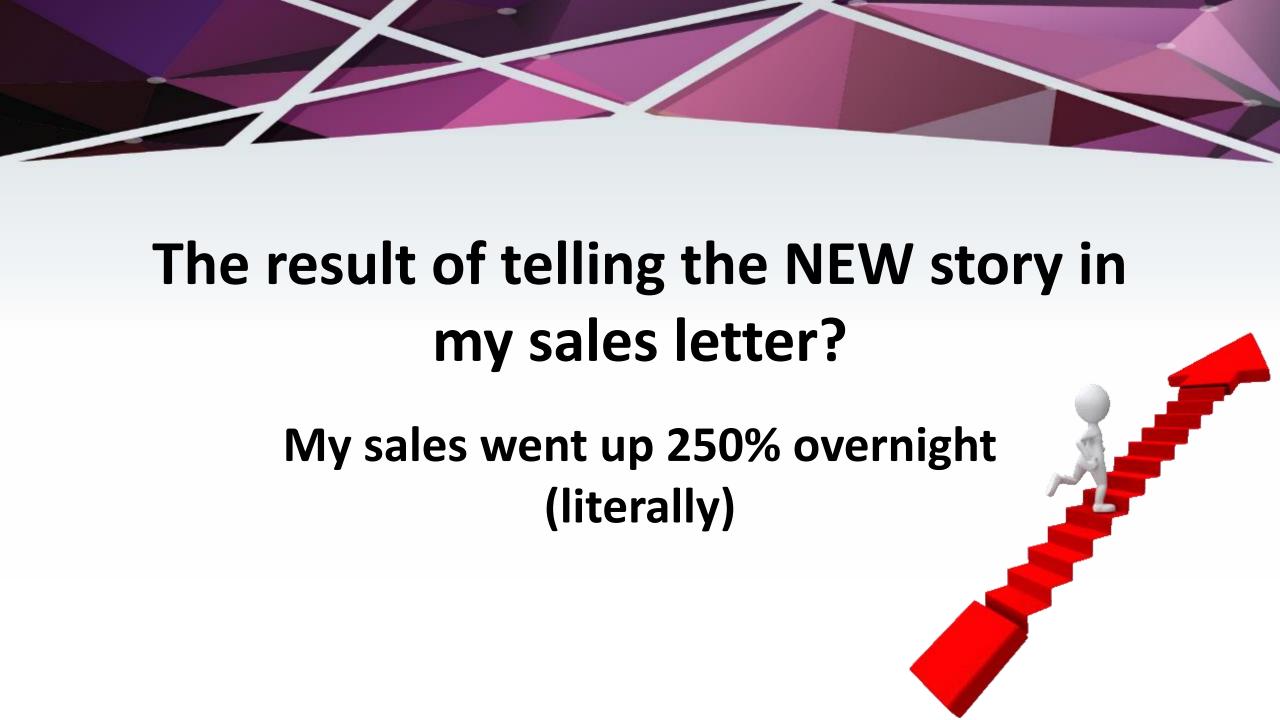
I shared all the pressure I was under trying to sell a house just like they were

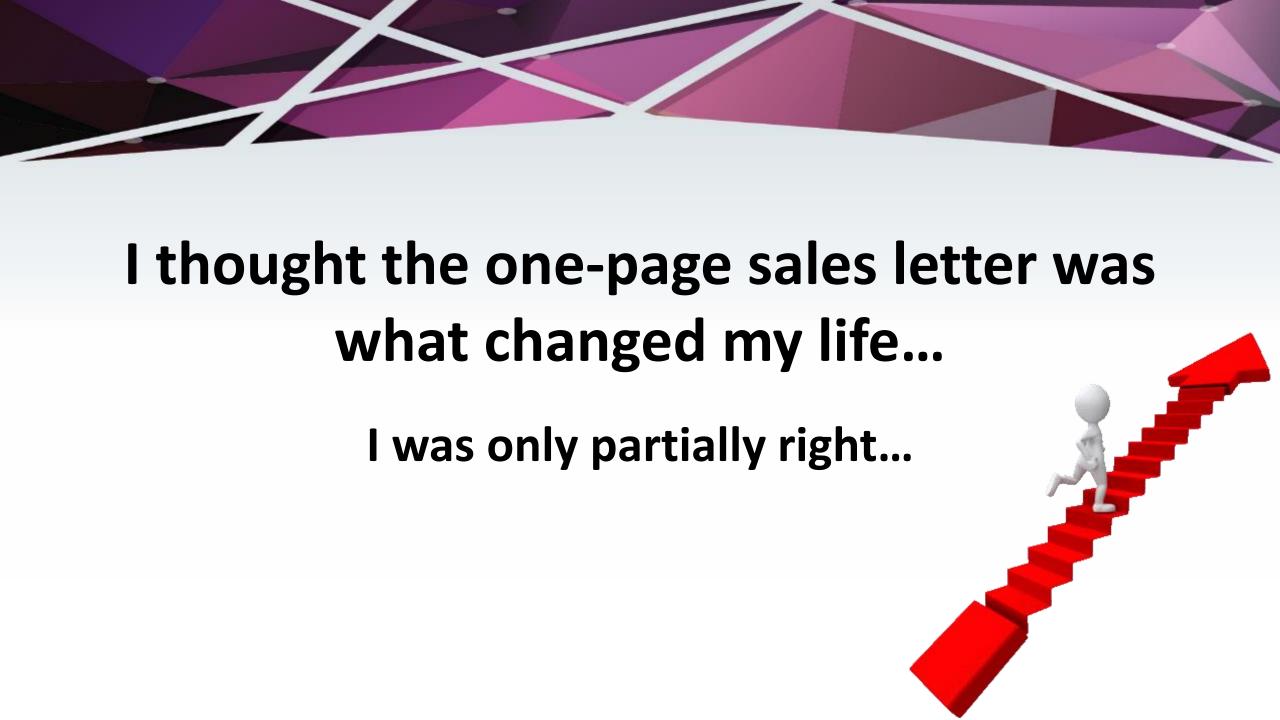


My story focused on the stress and obstacles I overcame to get the result THEY wanted too!

- I told the story of how I sold 2 houses without an agent
- Without spending a dime on ads
- SOLD both houses in less than 30 days
- Made maximum profit





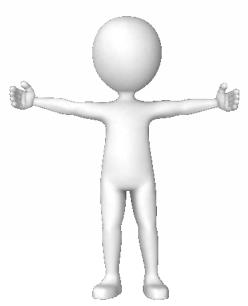




So I immediately did it again...

- I wrote a sales letter for another product I had called "The 10 Dirty Little Secrets of Mortgage Financing"
- I told the story of seeing people get ripped off getting mortgages
- Result: increased my income by 50%!

I started <u>telling more stories</u> and I started <u>selling more products</u>

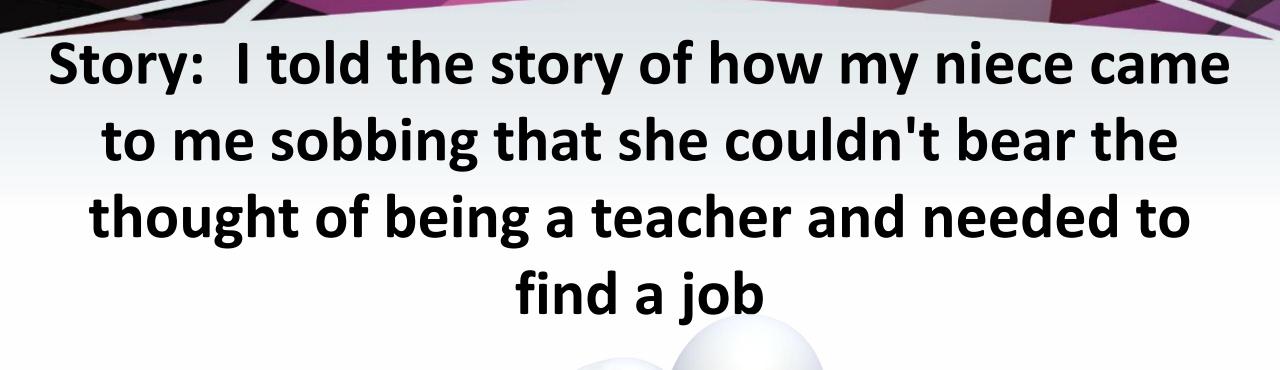


Story: How I got fired from my job the same month I bought a house and didn't even make the first payment yet



Result: Sold enough in 9 days to pay off my house





Result: Made over 5 million dollars and bought a Rolls Royce and a house on the water



Story: I told the story of how I was sick and tired of seeing people fail in online business because they sucked at writing sales copy



Result: Made over 11.5 million dollars and am building a legacy for my family that will last generations!



As I got better and better at telling stories:

- My ability to capture and hold people's attention skyrocketed
- My ability to sell increased dramatically
- My income rose higher and higher

What's the moral of this story?

- Stories make connections
- Connections make sales
- Emotionally compelling stories
 create <u>stronger connections</u> that
 <u>make a LOT more sales!</u>



Big Ideas I Want You To Take Away

- 1. Stories create <u>emotional connection</u> with your ideal customer
- 2. Emotional connection creates <u>sales</u>
- 3. The <u>hook</u> for your sales copy lives inside each story you tell
- 4. You have an <u>unlimited supply</u> of stories if you know where to look

My Framework For Telling A Story



The Hero's Journey... With a *Twist* For Sales Stories

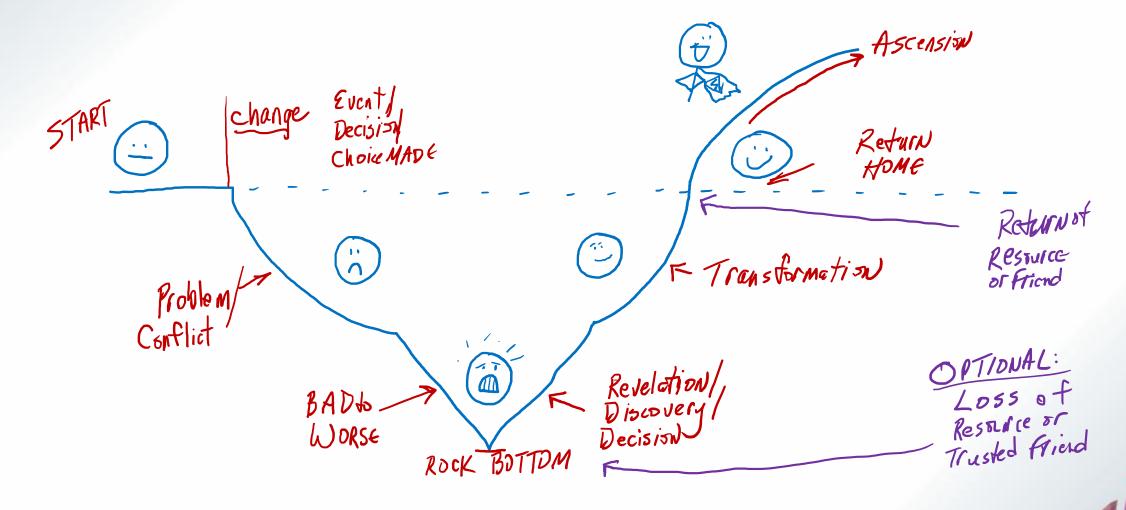


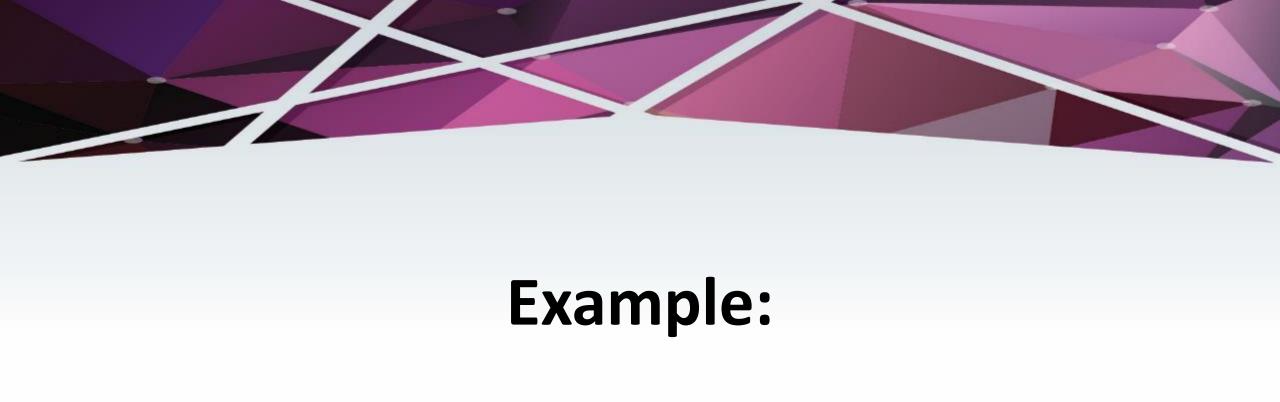
What is the Hero's Journey?

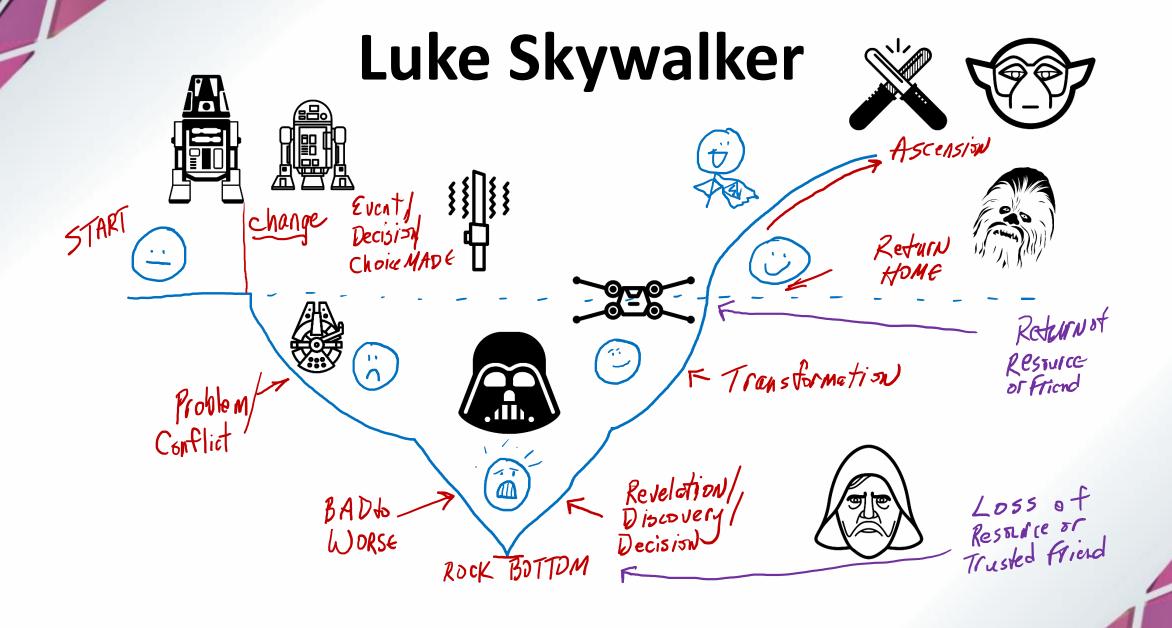
- Classic story structure hard-wired into our brains
- Universal to human beings
- Forms basis of virtually every story you ever loved
- It's what makes a "good" story



How does the story "arc" work?







The Power of That Story?



Star Wars holds a Guinness World Records title for the "Most successful film merchandising **franchise**." In 2018, the **total value** of the **Star Wars franchise** was estimated at US\$65 billion, and it is currently the fifth-highest-grossing media **franchise** of all-time.

Star Wars - Wikipedia ♥ ♥ McAfee

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Star_Wars

2 Purposes For Telling Stories...

#1 Get People Emotionally Engaged!

- Anger
- Inspiration
- Love
- Fear



#2: Get The Reader To Put ThemselvesInto The Story

Once in the story, they now need resolution from your product

Biggest Challenge People Have Telling Stories In Sales Copy...



How do I even figure out a story to tell?

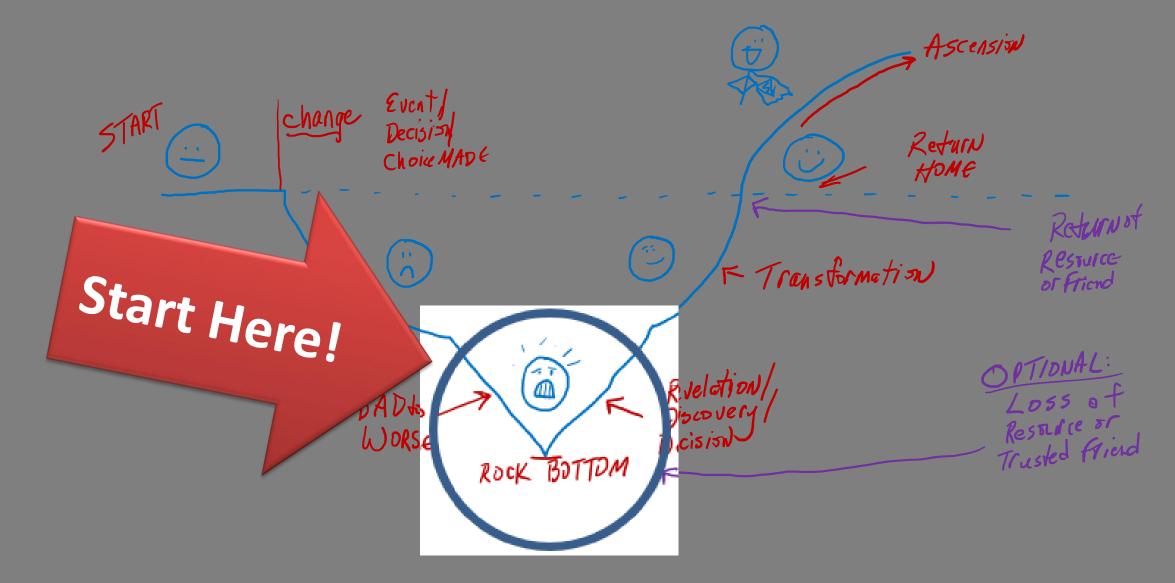
- MISTAKE: trying to "start from the beginning"
- Too hard to identify a "story" when you think in terms of "I need to find a story to tell."



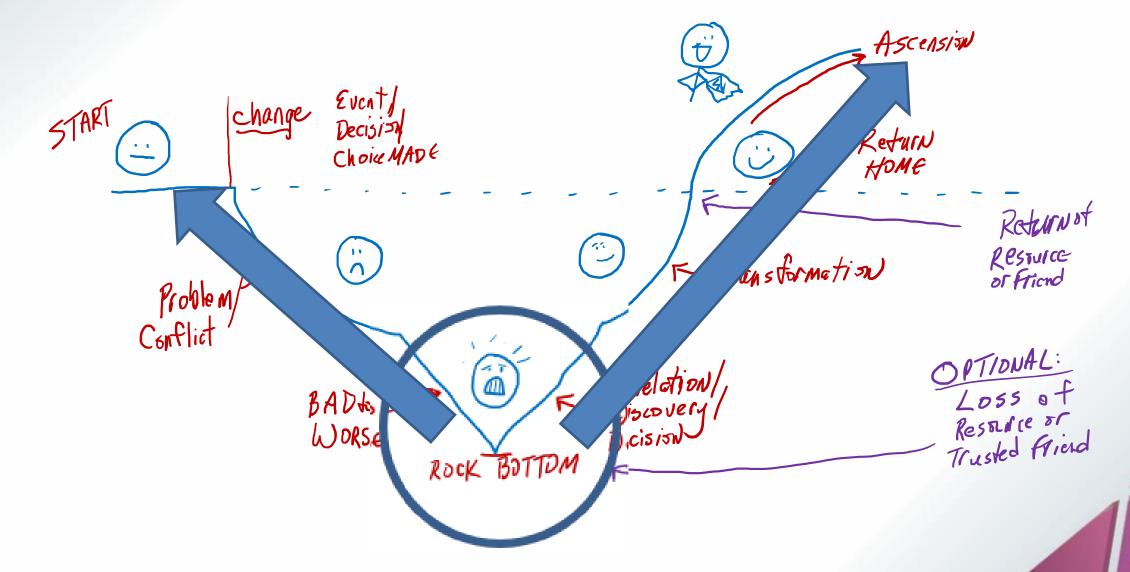
To figure out a story to tell...

- Step #1: Start by looking for "rock bottom" points in your life (or other people's lives)
- Step #2: "Build" your story to create the emotion that will lead to the sale

How does the story "arc" work?

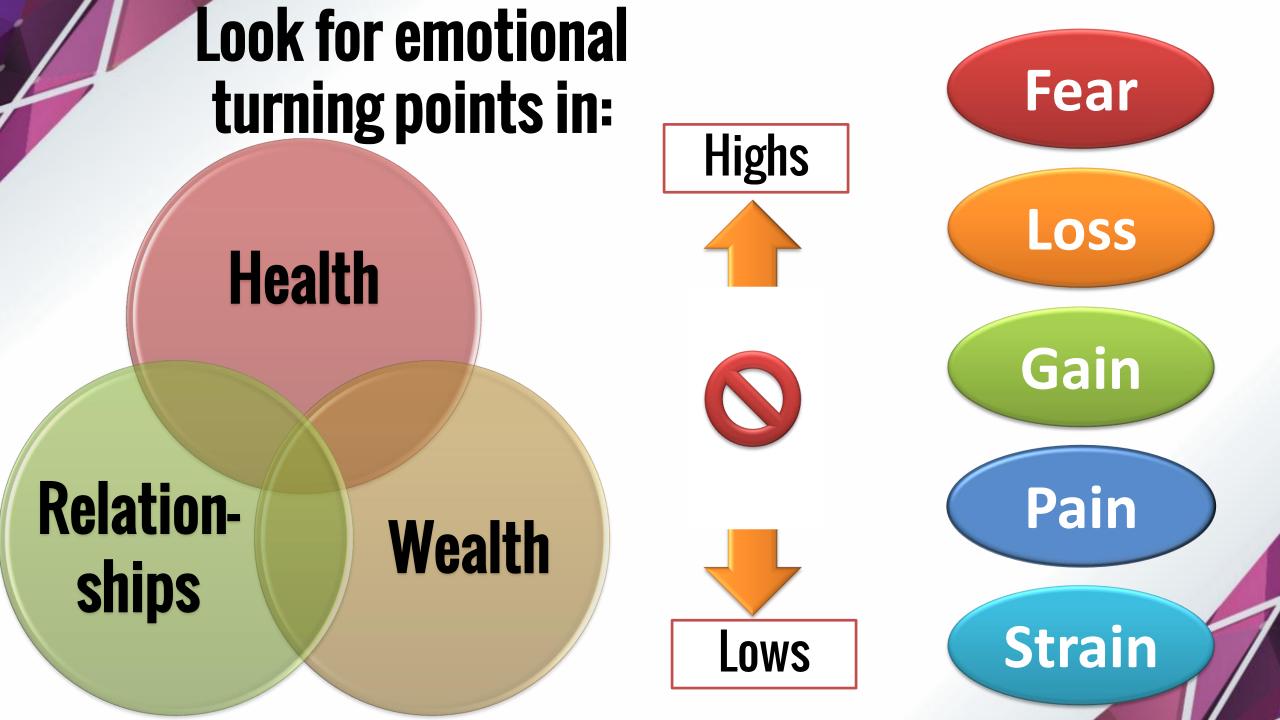


Build The Story Out From There



Here's the "secret key" to quickly identify the best stories you can tell to make a LOT more sales...





Final Step



Use That Emotional Rock Bottom Point As Your Hook To Instantly Capture People's Attention In One Sentence

Hook FORMULA #1: "Let me tell you a story about the time (emotional rock bottom point)"



Hook FORMULA #2:

"Let me tell you a story about when _____ and what it taught me about _____ (how to get result they want)"



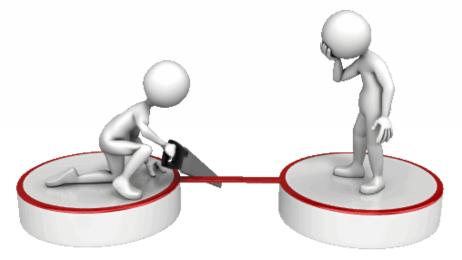
Here are some quick hooks from my own life (these are all REAL!)

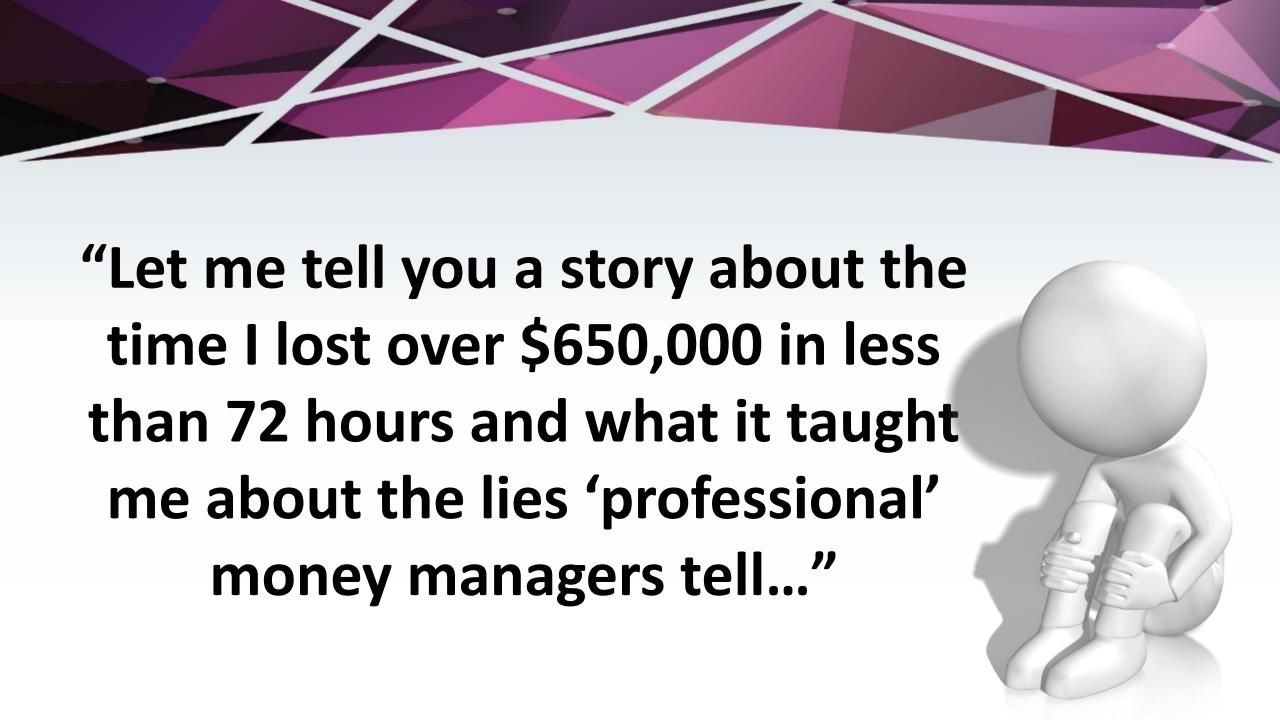
"Let me tell you a story about the time a bankruptcy judge laughed in my face in front of an entire courtroom and I just had to stand there and suck on it..."



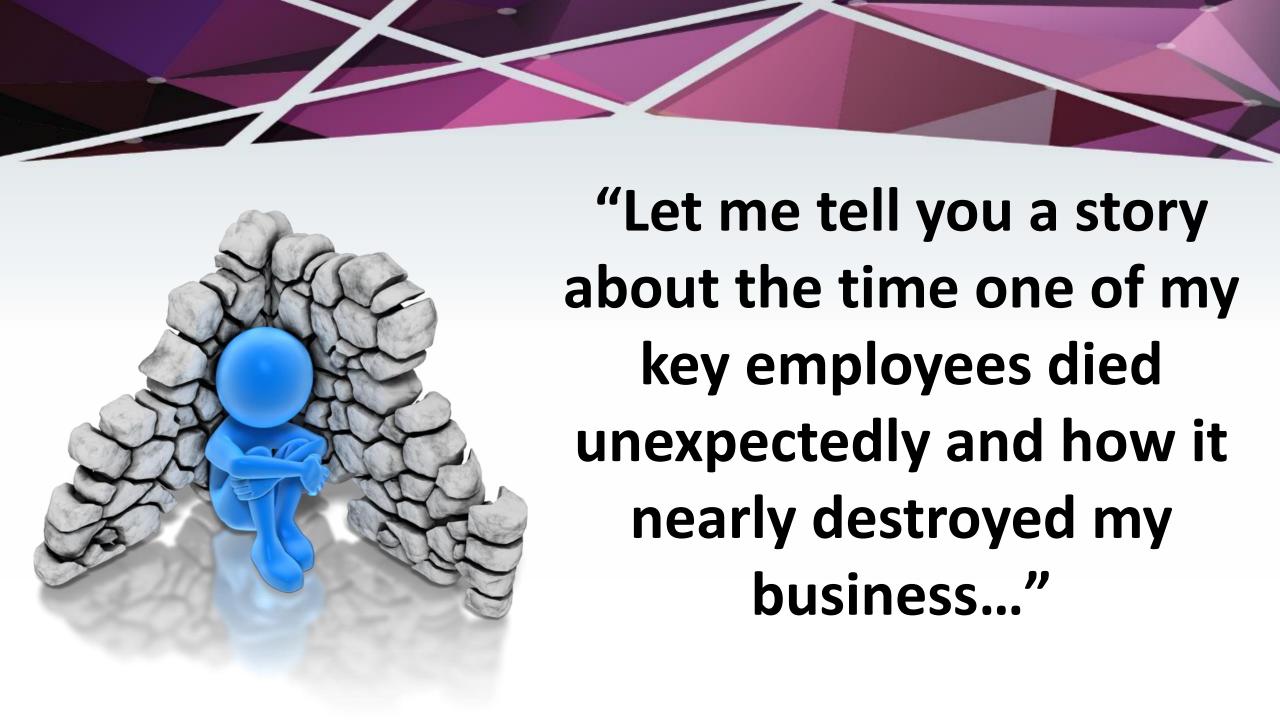
"Let me tell you a story about the time I was lying on my neighbor's couch literally dying of heart failure and could barely whisper goodbye to my wife as she sobbed in my ear and pleaded 'don't go, I need you'..."

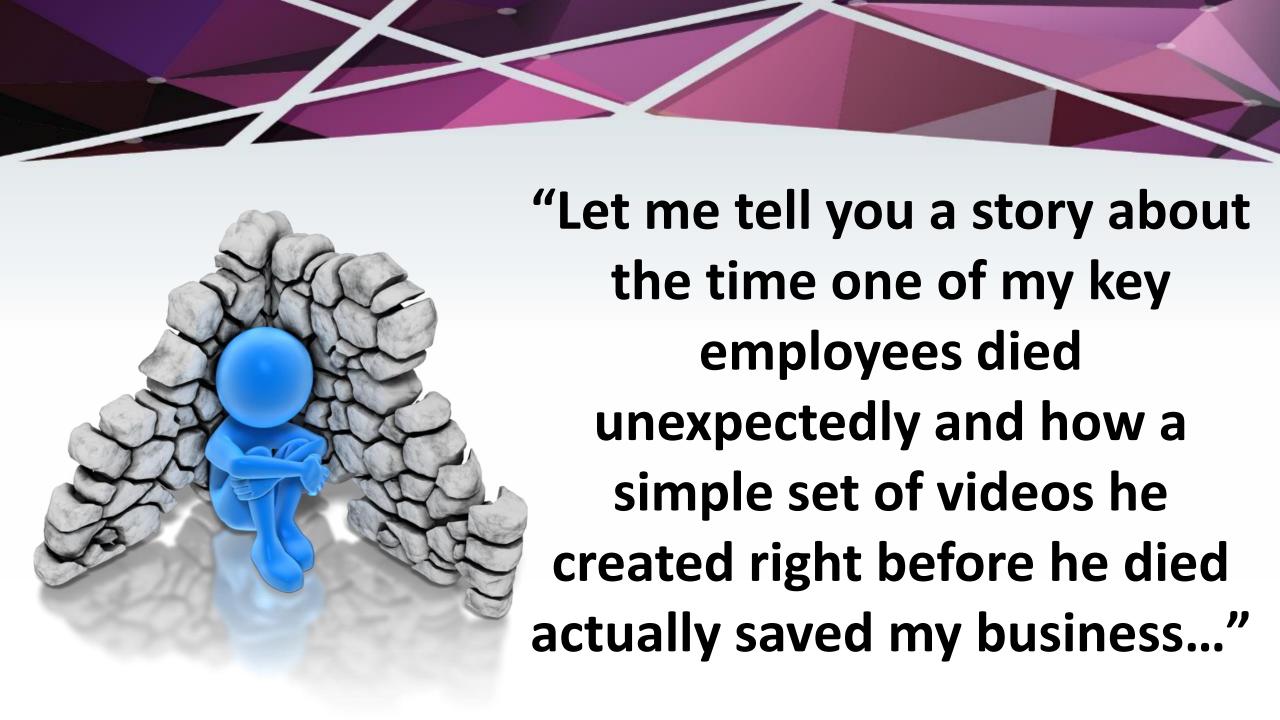
"Let me tell you a story about the time I lost my business partner and best friend of 10 years and what it taught me about how to NEVER structure a business..."





"Let me tell you a story about the time I lost over \$650,000 in less than 72 hours and how it became the seed of a multi-million dollar empire that made me financially bullet-proof..."





Bottom Line:

- 1. The emotional turning point is the hook you use to pull them into your story...
- 2. You then use the story to build the emotion that sets them up for your offer.

Finally...

Don't overthink this!



It's a great story if it:

- Makes you emotional
- Is hard to talk about
- Was from a difficult or trying time in your life
- Had you succeed against all odds
- Involved a huge struggle
- Had a major emotional swing

- Had a major financial payoff
- Had a major financial loss
- Saved something or someone
- Destroyed something or someone
- Involved heartbreak

Quick Summary:

- 1. You <u>get</u> people to pay attention by leading with an emotional hook
- 2. You <u>keep</u> their attention with an emotionally compelling story
- 3. They <u>buy</u> because your story becomes <u>their</u> story... which means your product becomes <u>their</u> solution!

Remember! Before people pay you money, they have to pay you attention!

... and a great sales story is how you hook and persuade people faster and easier than by any other means possible.