Stories take all forms and lengths

Legend has it that Hemingway was once challenged to write a story in only six words.

His response?

“For sale: baby shoes, never worn.”
In 2006, SMITH Magazine began asking readers for their own six-word memoirs.

They sent in short life stories in droves

the bittersweet (“Cursed with cancer, blessed with friends”)

poignant (“I still make coffee for two”)

inspirational (“Business school? Bah! Pop music? Hurrah”)

hilarious (“I like big butts, can’t lie”).
Six Word Stories
http://www.smithmag.net/sixwords/

Before Kids, when I was alive.

Still in love with that shitweasel.

Disliking philosophy and TA isn't hot.

Formerly Purchasing, now chase escaped llamas.

Wasn't supposed to survive. Joyfully did.
Universal Mirror

Livo and Rietz (edited)

• Through "story" we can transcend the experience of daily living and know ourselves as more enduring than the little occurrences than mark our individual existences.

• Inside "story" we can accept pain, find justice, and experience exaltation, love, humor...........life.....death............

• Meet amazing characters
Susan Boyle

viral phenomenon

British “Idol”

“rags to riches” story

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9lpoIWv8QZY
Susan Boyle
Susan Boyle

Story with:
plot--the unexpected, ordinary woman becomes star
conflict--with ordinary life, with doubters, with Simon
characters--protagonist, antagonist
"never been kissed", homely, golden voice
“evil”, (Simon) stands in her way
exaltation
transcend everyday experience
Another look at Susan Boyle

Transform the story

parody

Use the same characteristics in different way

touch us differently
“The Power of Susan Boyle”

http://www.susan-boyle.com/video/Jimmy-Fallons-show-skit-The-Sus
“The Power of Susan Boyle”

Jimmy Fallon

pokes fun at all of us moved by Susan Boyle

Plot

characters

premise

Same Story---with a twist
Narrative Meaning

Stories thrive on:
- conflict
- struggle/danger
- difficulties,
- inconsistencies,
- the very fault lines of society.

We respond to:
- people like us
- situations we might experience
- bravery
- excellence
- oddity
In the Hudson
In the Hudson

Captain Sully lands in Hudson River
use of actuality and recreation
conflict
tension
difficulties
reality powerful, real characters amazing
grace under pressure
we can see ourselves in this situation
How Pilots Should Talk

Why we laugh

juxtaposition--even if we hadn’t heard Sully

connection to terrorism

voice is accurate

slice of reality--interpreted
Universal Mirror

Livo and Rietz

- When we enter into "story" we find the story inside ourselves.
- Inside "story" we can recognize and understand our own motivations, because we are the people in the stories.