

Marriage IS HARD

TRUTHS I WISH I HAD UNDERSTOOD BEFORE I GOT MARRIED



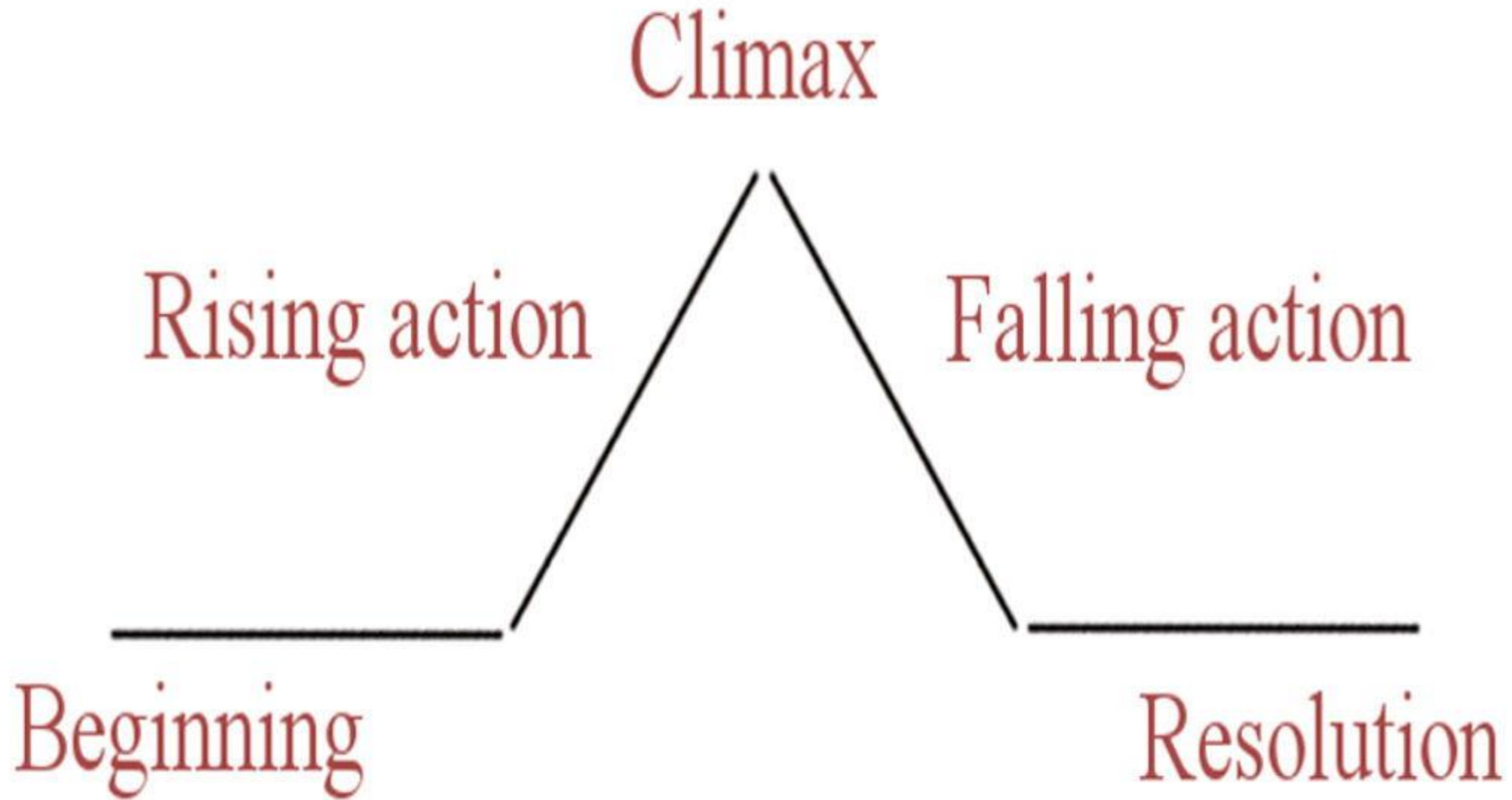
SUSAN BLACK



“Pit Stops In Life”

**Forgiveness Is
Hard!**

**Family
Forgiveness Is
Even Harder!**



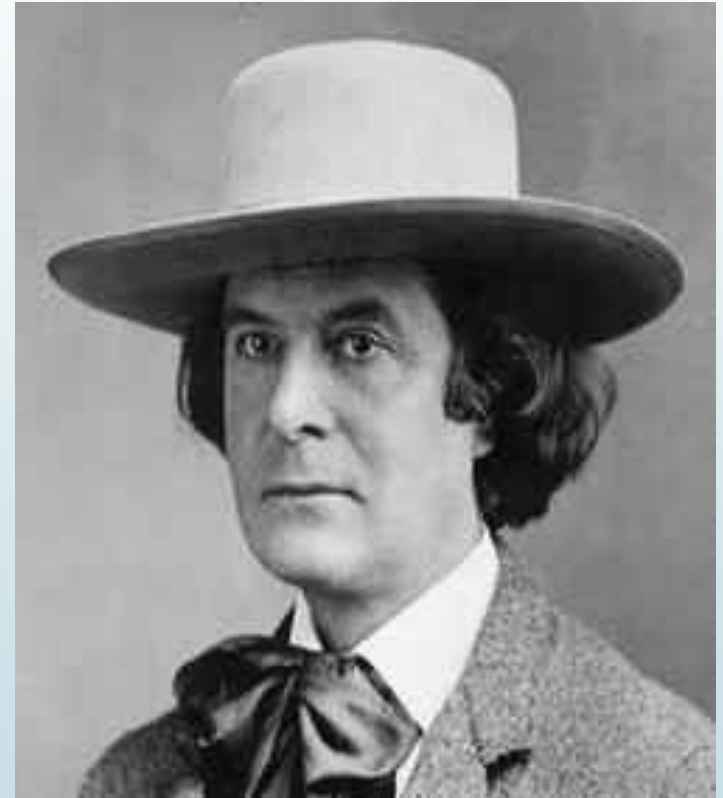


Lack Of Family Forgiveness Is Common

- 1. An Unfaithful Spouse**
- 2. Divorcing Parents**
- 3. Absentee Father**
- 4. Abusive Relative**
- 5. Greedy Sibling**
- 6. Our own Poor Decisions**

Forgiveness Is Hard!

**“The final proof of greatness lies in being able to endure contemptuous treatment without resentment”
(Elbert Hubbard).**



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I. The Revelation (45:1-4)

A. Emotions

B. Exclusion

C. Exclamation

D. Enquiry

E. Entreaty



II. The Reconciliation (45:5-11)

Joseph Instructs On Two Themes

- 1. How To Cope With Themselves**
- 2. How To Put Their Hope In God**



Five-Fold Reminder

1. **God Sent Me Before You To Preserve Life (5)**
2. **God Sent Me Before You To Preserve (7)**
3. **It Was Not You Who Sent Me Here, But God (8)**
4. **He Has Made Me A Father To Pharaoh (8)**
5. **God Has Made Me Lord Of All Egypt (9)**

Seventeen Years Later

As for you, you meant evil against me,
**but God meant
it for good,**
to bring it about that many people
should be kept alive, as they are today.

GENESIS 50:20



III. The Reactions

- A. Brothers (45:3, 14-15)**
Embraced, Wept, Kissed, & Talked

- B. Father (45:25-30)**
Stunned, Wept, & At Rest

- C. Pharaoh (45:16-20)**
Pleased & Provisionary



IV. The Return (45:21-24)

- 1. You were the one who argued for the pit!**
- 2. No, it was you who thought of selling him!**
- 3. You never liked him anyway!**
- 4. Why didn't you tell me what happened? (Ben)**
- 5. We tried to tell you not to do it!**
- 6. Who is going to tell our Father?**
- 7. What if this is a set-up to expose us?**



Family Forgiveness Is Hard

Thomas Jefferson

“When the heart is right, the feet are swift to follow.”

Warren Wiersbe

“At the heart of every problem is the problem of the heart.”