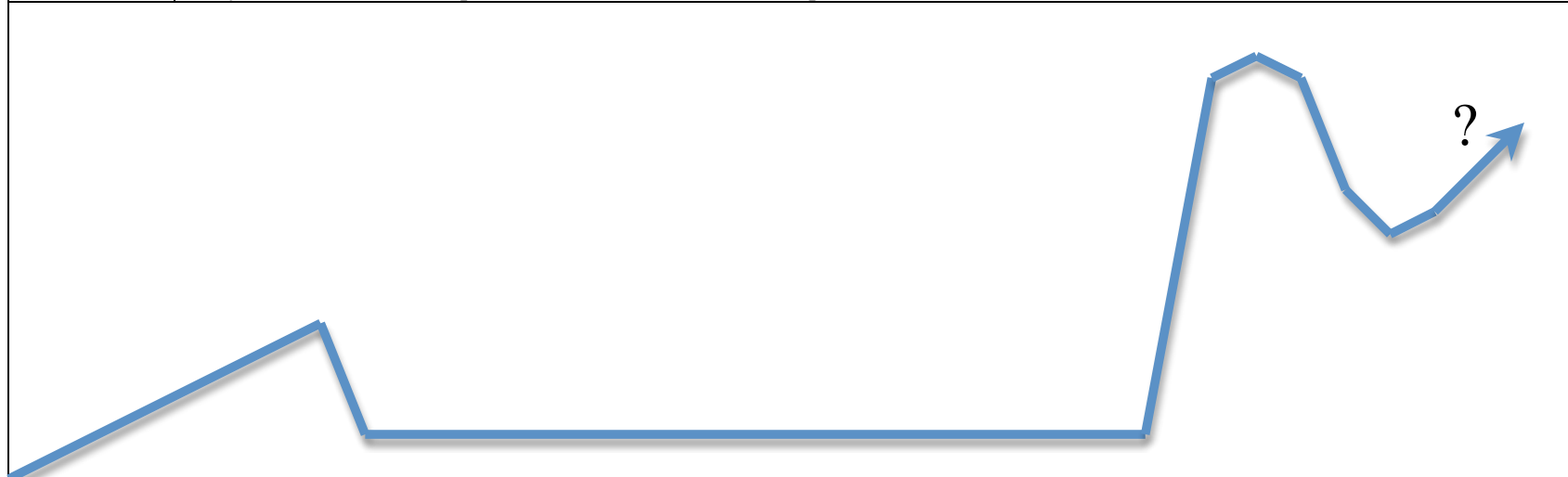


John 11: A Literary Chart

“But these are written so that you might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God and that by believing you may have life in his name.” (John 20:31)

Setting:	Two miles from Jerusalem just outside of Bethany in region of Judea
Characters:	Jesus, Lazarus, Mary, Martha, disciples, mourning Jews from Jerusalem, Pharisees, Caiaphas
Plot:	Lazarus becomes ill and Jesus delays his coming so that he might perform the greatest of his seven miracles thereby revealing God’s glory by raising Lazarus from the dead. This final miracle sets the stage for Jesus arrest, trial, and crucifixion.
Crisis:	1) Lazarus dies. 2) Caiaphas’ plot to kill Jesus.
Tension:	1) Why does Jesus wait to respond to Mary and Martha’s plea? 2) Can Jesus really raise someone from the dead? 3) If Jesus can raise others from the dead, can he resurrect even himself?
Resolution:	1) Jesus waits to respond so that God may be most glorified through this tragedy. 2) Jesus can and does bring life even from death. 3) The unanswered question of Jesus’ resurrection from death remains at the chapter’s end but will get resolved by the story’s end. Thus the chapter ends in another unresolved point of tension for the reader.



Movement #1_1-16 (28%)	Movement #2_17-37 (37%)	Movement #3_38-44 (12%)	Movement #4_45-57 (23%)
Jesus learns of Lazarus’ illness but chooses not to respond right away. The reason for the delay is for God’s glory so that Jesus may be glorified (1:4). Disciples object to his return to Judea out of fear of stoning. They also fail to understand that Lazarus has already died. Thrust: Jesus’ movements magnify God’s glory.	Jesus arrives in Bethany but remains just outside of town where he has interactions with Martha and Mary. Martha confesses her belief in Jesus as the resurrection and the life. Mary also restates Martha’s concern Jesus weeps because 1) he empathetically feels their pain and 2) he sees in the Jews’ mourning that they have yet to comprehend his message, power, and identity. Thrust: Life does not end in death for those who believe Jesus to be both the resurrection and the life.	Jesus raises Lazarus from the grave. The reason Jesus prays is so that those standing there might believe that he was sent by God. Thrust: Jesus demonstrates his identity by bringing life from among the dead.	The result is that some Jews believed in Jesus while others rat Jesus out to the Pharisees. Caiaphas prophecies that he be killed to spare the whole nation. Jesus withdraws to the dessert, and the Pharisees put out a hit on Jesus. Thrust: Self-preservation eventually brings death.