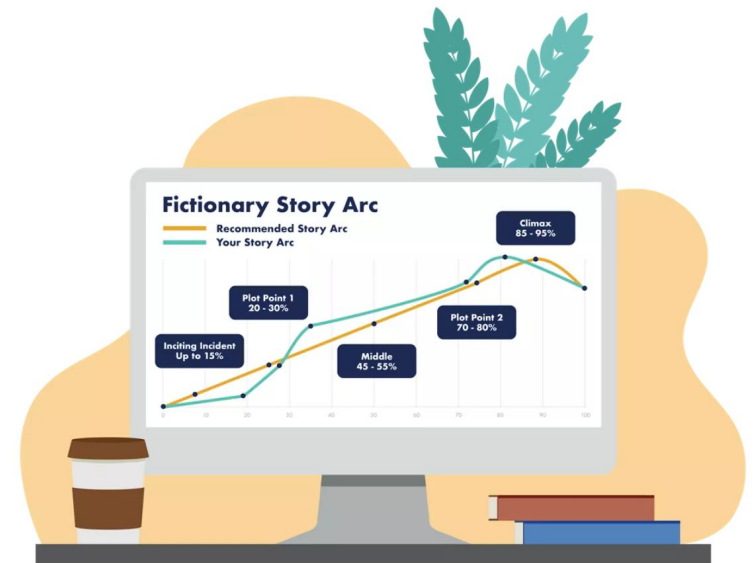


# ProWritingAid's Romance Week

## The Romance Writer's Guide to Effective Story Editing



Kristina Stanley  
CEO Fictionary  
Fictionary.co

# Who Am I?

- CEO & Founder Fictionary
- Super fan of ProWritingAid
- Secrets to Editing Success
- Secrets to Outlining a Novel
- Secrets to Writing a Series
- Fiction Author





**You've  
Written a  
Romance  
Novel.**

**Now What?**

# Story Editing

A structural review and revision of your manuscript.

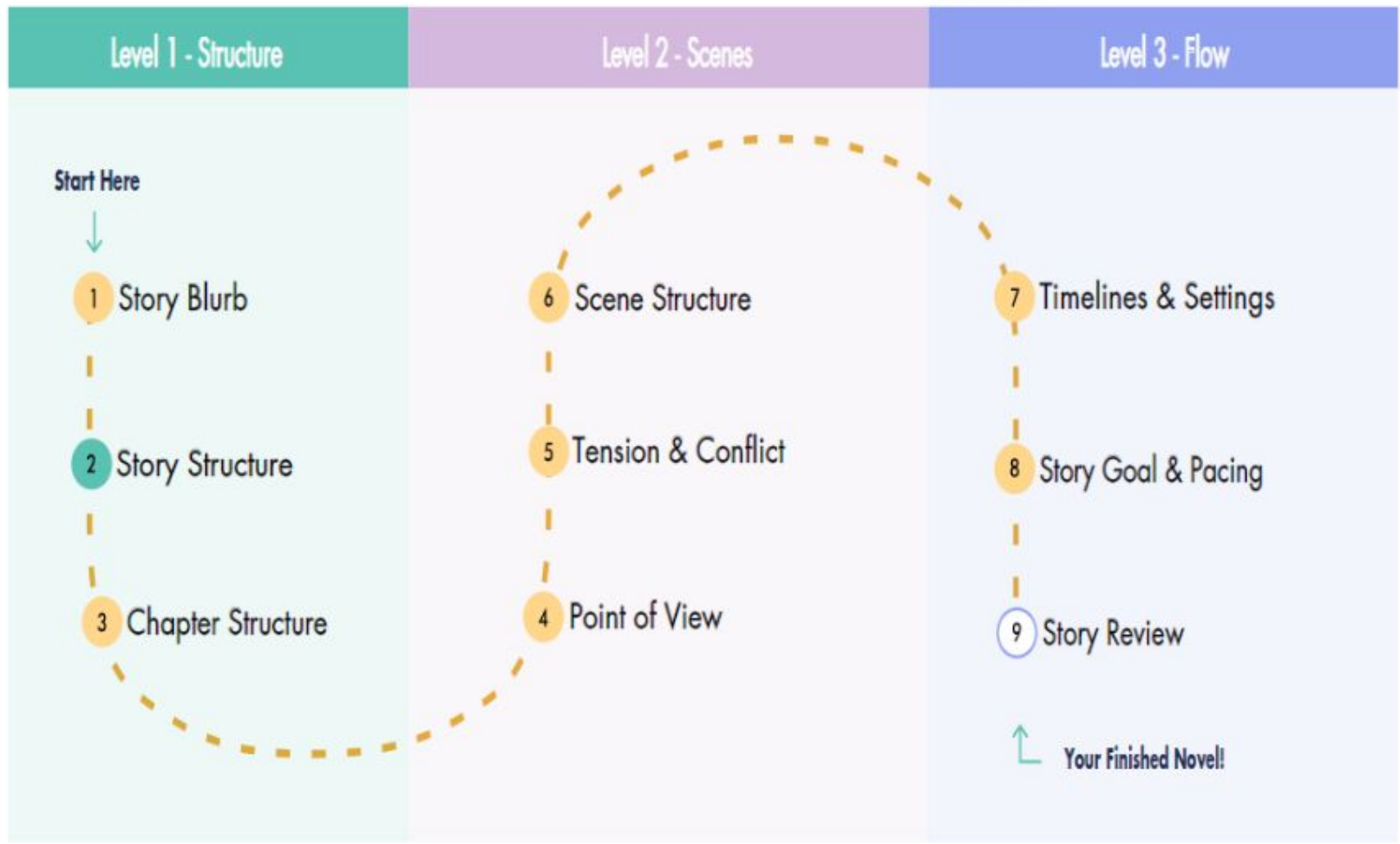
Think story arc, characters, plot, and settings.

## Why?

No Structure = No Story = No Book

# Your Story Editing Journey

Learn



# Write a Skeleton Blurb

1

**Write a  
Skeleton  
Blurb**

## What?

- ✓ Shortest version of a story blurb
  - Who is the protagonist?
  - What is their goal?
  - What is at stake?

## Why?

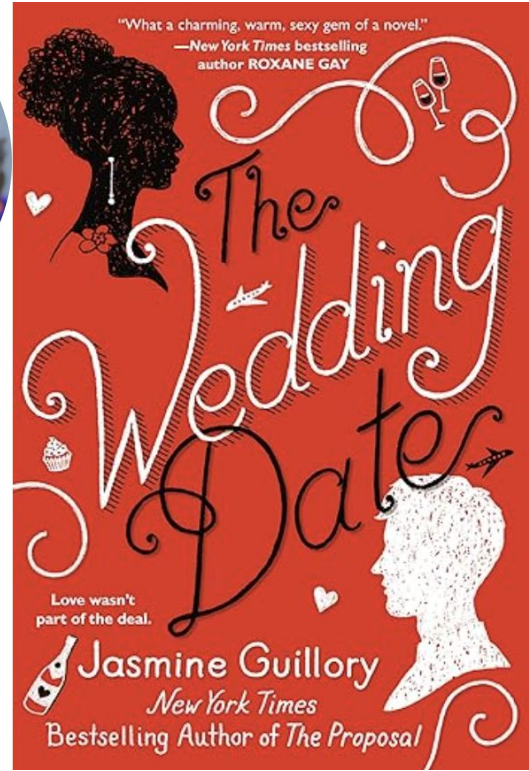
- ✓ To keep you focussed
- ✓ To know if every scene belongs in your novel

# **Most Common Romance Editing Question & the Skeleton Blurb**

# Who is the Protagonist?

Daphne &/or Simon?

Alexa &/or Drew?





# Single or Combined Protagonist



Different goals  
Different stakes



Same goals  
Same stakes

# The Duke & I

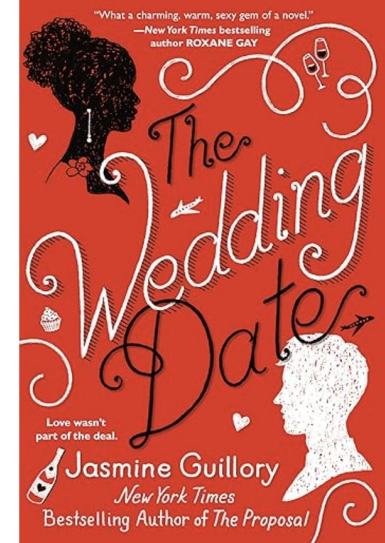
- Daphne must show Simon he is worthy; otherwise they will never have children.
- Simon must stay single; otherwise, he will end up having children.



Daphne is the single protagonist.

# The Wedding Date

- Alexa must overcome her feelings of worthlessness; otherwise, she won't find her happily ever after.
- Drew must overcome his feelings of worthlessness; otherwise, he won't find his happily ever after.



Alexa and Drew are a combined protagonist.

# Name Your Scenes

2

Name  
Your  
Scenes

## What?

- ✓ Name each scene in 3–5 words

## Why?

- ✓ To know what the scene is about
- ✓ To create an after-draft outline

# Identify The Story Arc Scenes

2

Identify  
The  
Story  
Arc  
Scenes

## What?

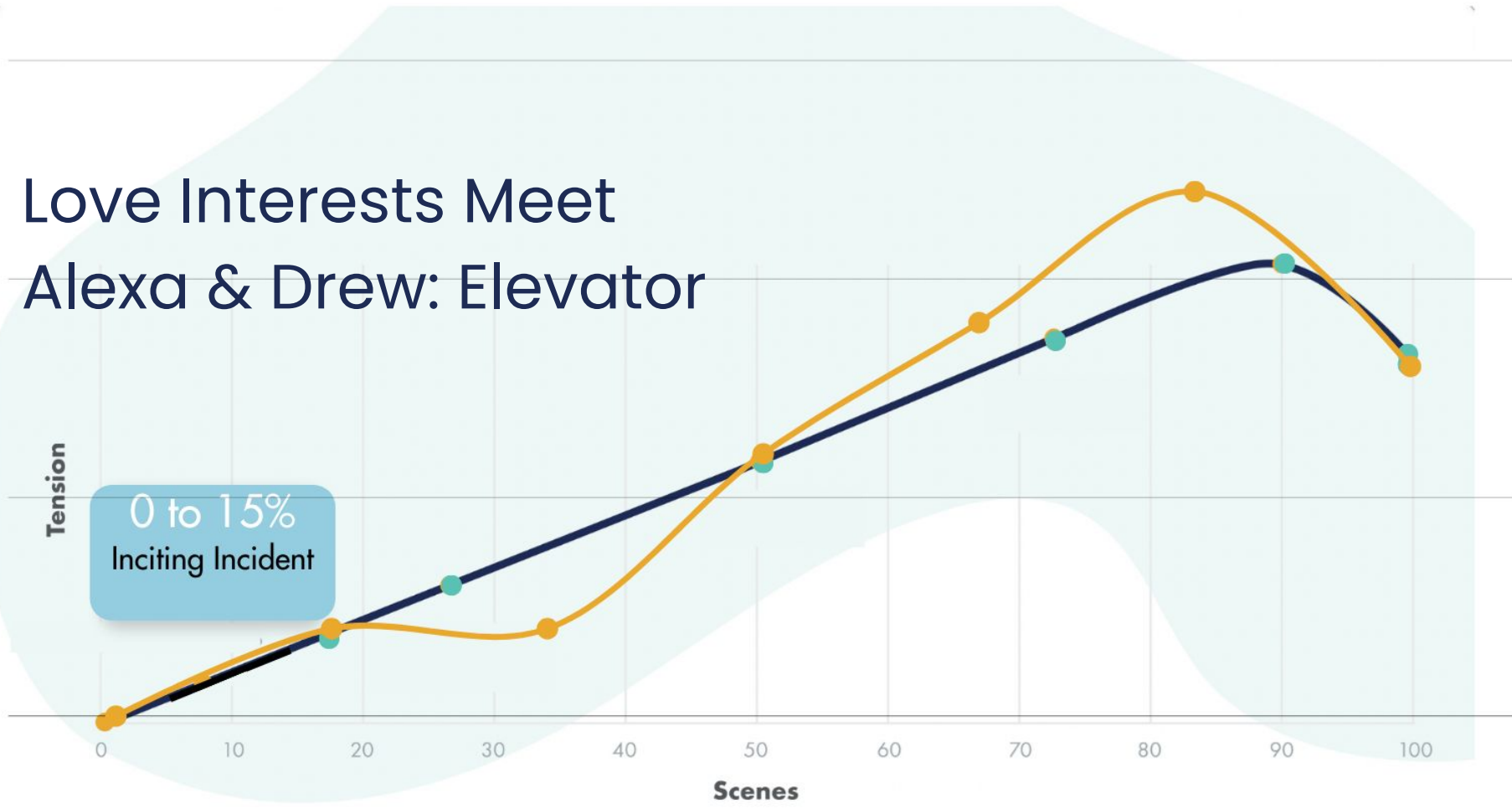
- ✓ 5 key scenes that must be in your story

## Why?

- ✓ To determine if you have a story
- ✓ To evaluate the story structure and pacing

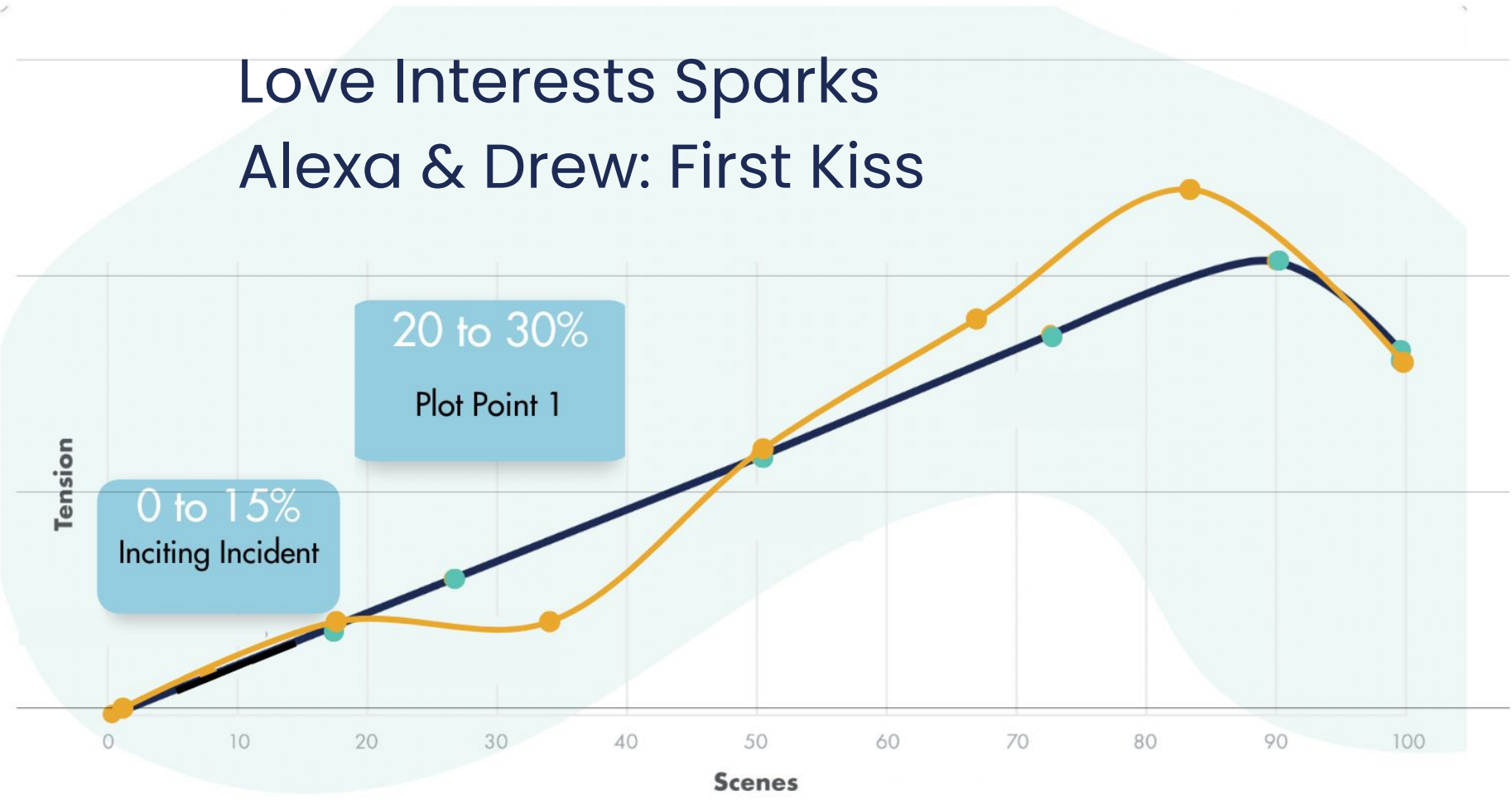
# Inciting Incident

Love Interests Meet  
Alexa & Drew: Elevator



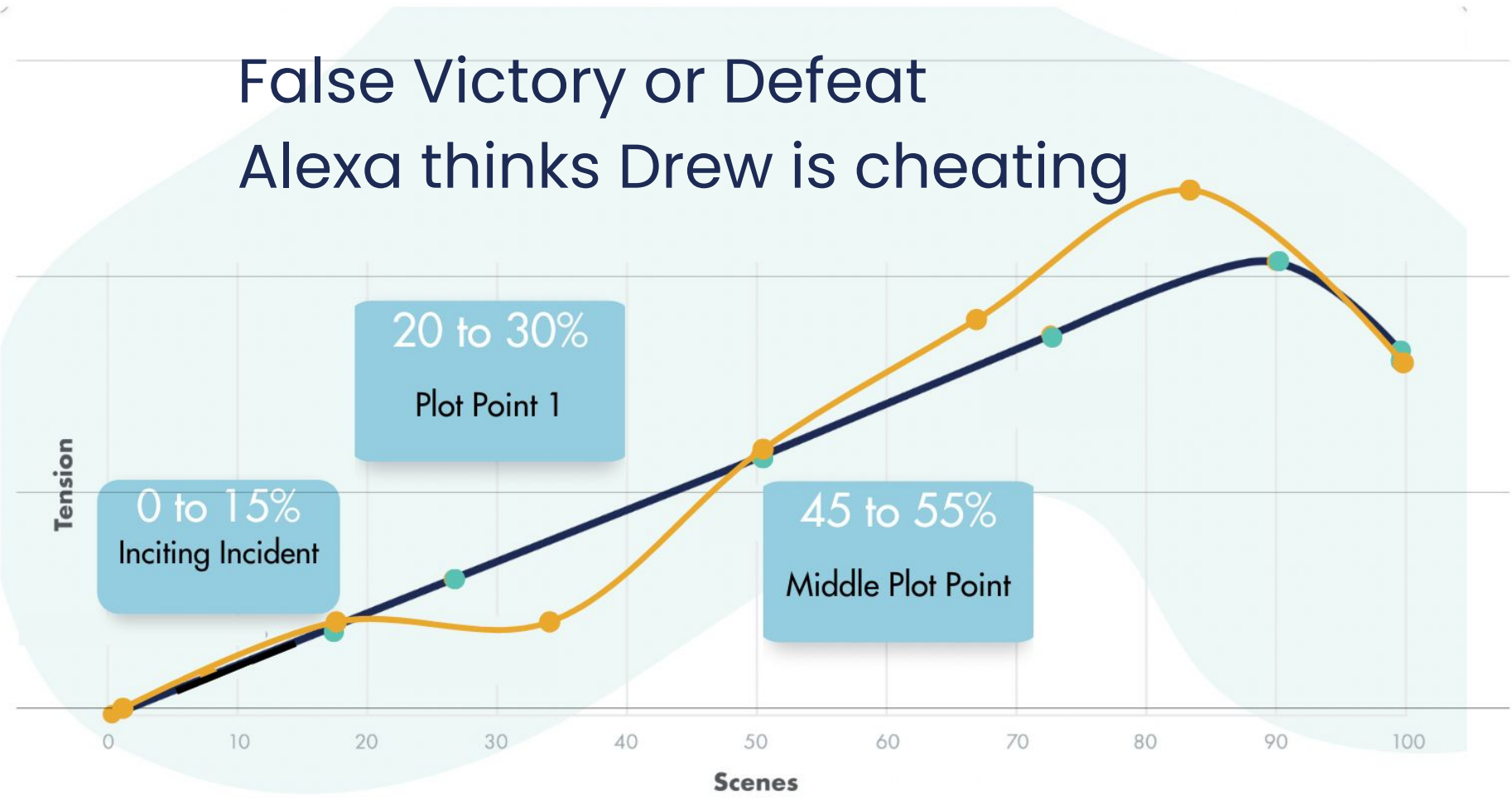
# Plot Point 1

Love Interests Sparks  
Alexa & Drew: First Kiss



# Middle Plot Point

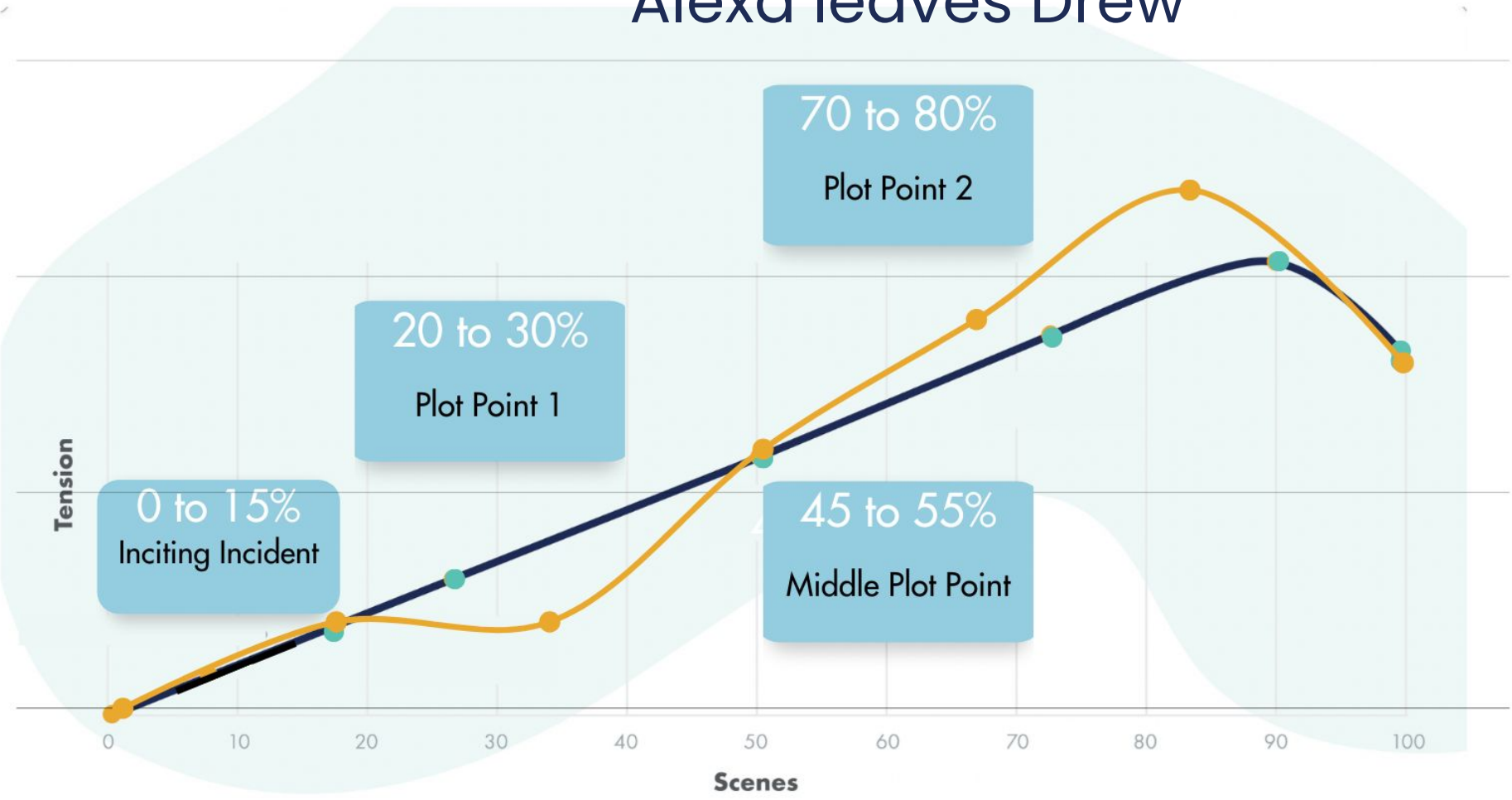
False Victory or Defeat  
Alexa thinks Drew is cheating





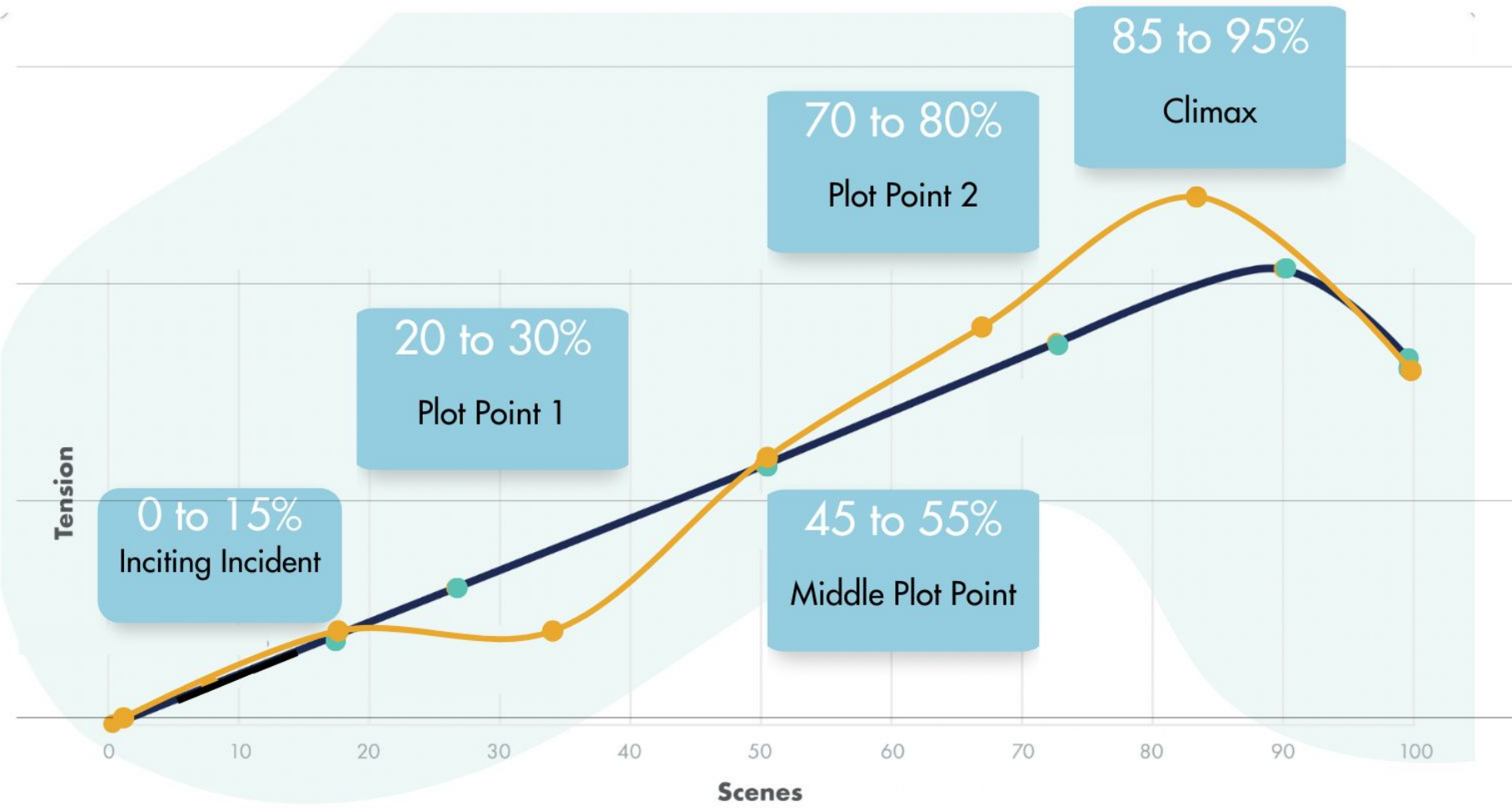
# Plot Point 2

## The Breakup Alexa leaves Drew

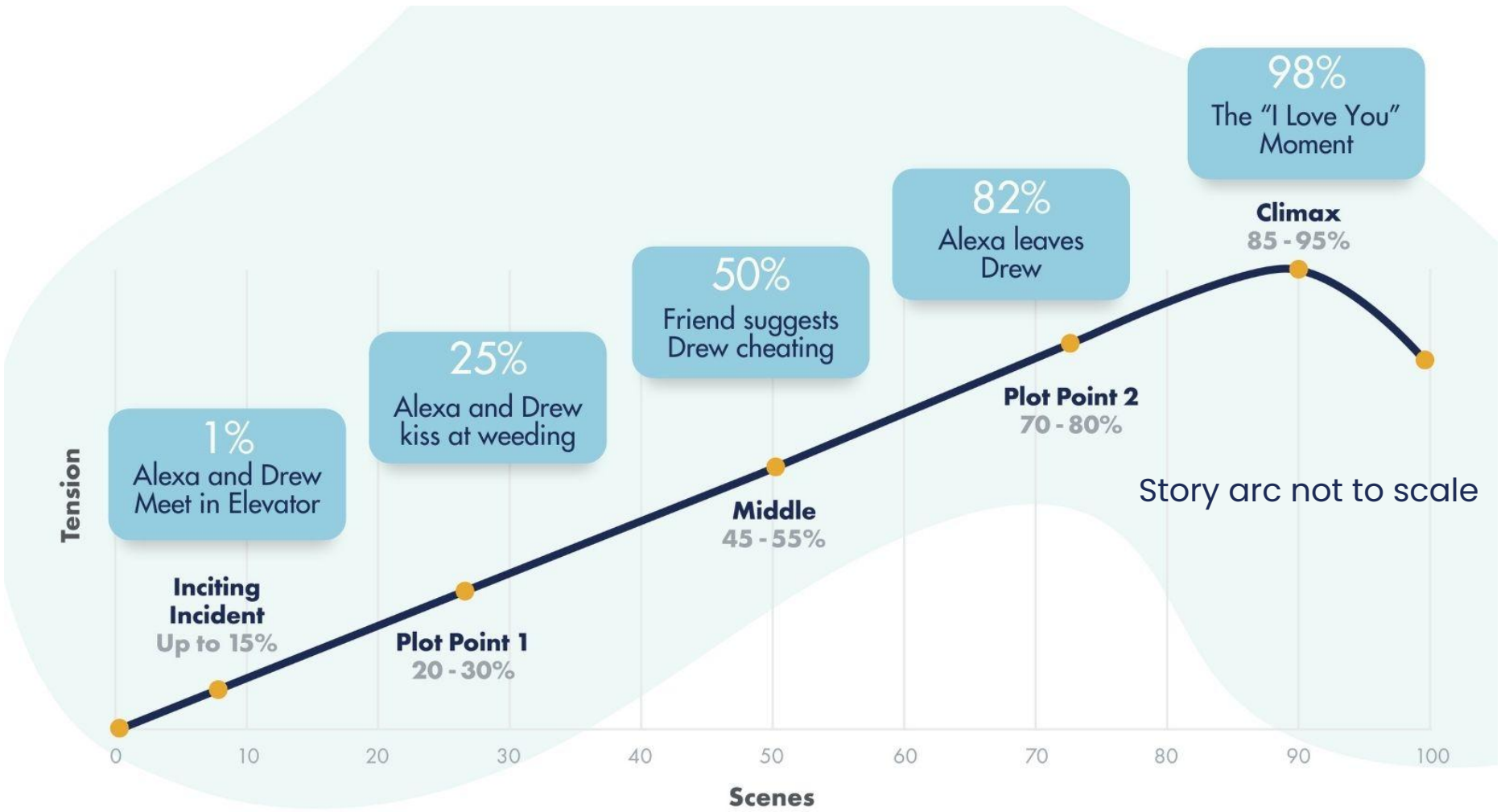


# Climax

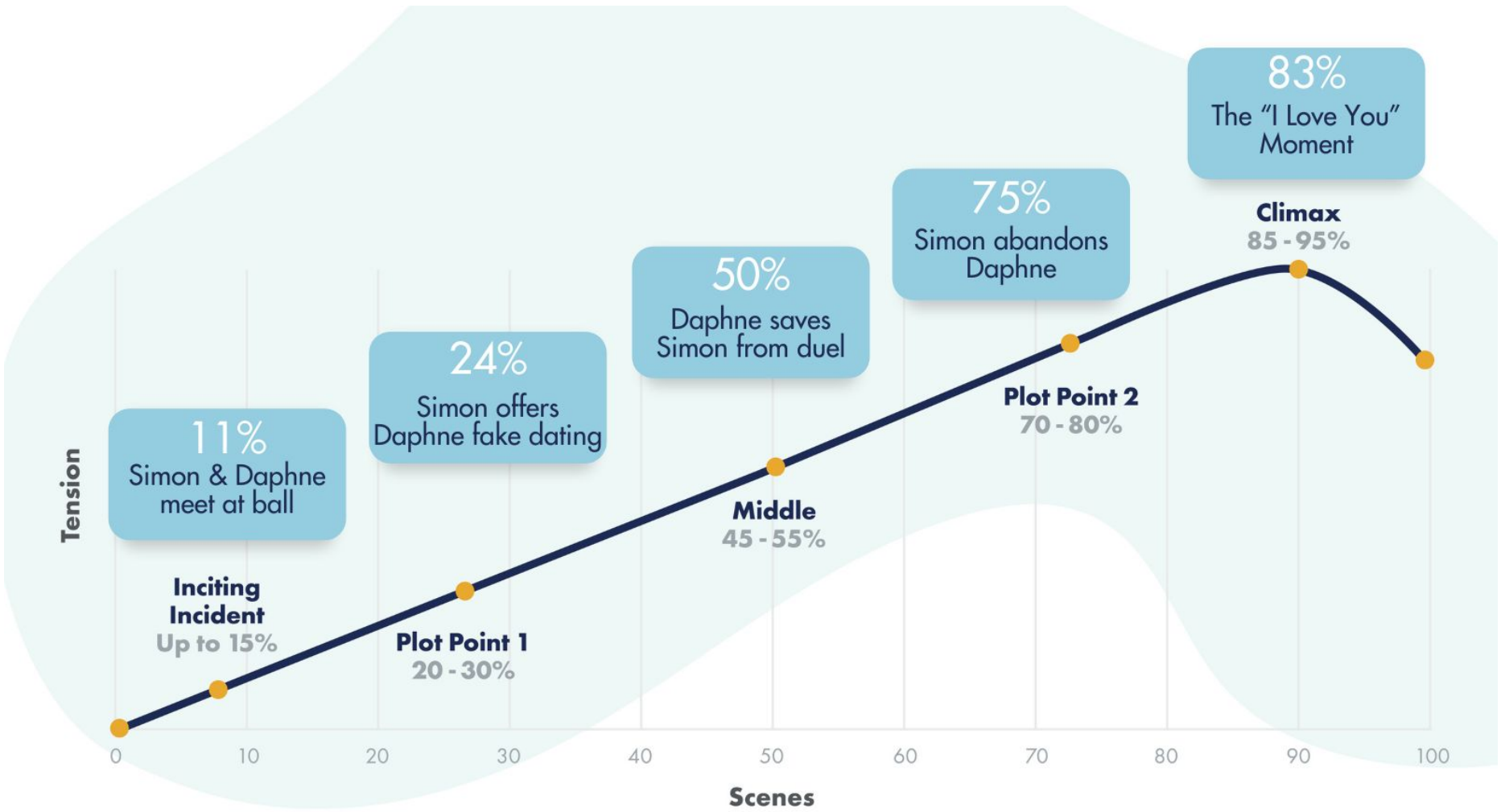
## The "I Love You" Moment



# The Wedding Date: Story Arc



# The Duke & I: Story Arc



# Edit Each Scene

6

Edit  
Each  
Scene

## What?

- ✓ In-depth evaluation and revision to ensure every scene moves the story forward

## Why?

- ✓ A great story is a collection of great scenes in the right order at the right time

# Story Elements To Consider For Scene-by-Scene Editing

## Character

- Point of View
- POV Goal
- What if goal fails?

## Plot

- Purpose of the scene
- Entry hook
- Exit hook

## Setting

- Location
- Time
- Object

# Test The New Story Structure

9

Test  
The New  
Story  
Structure

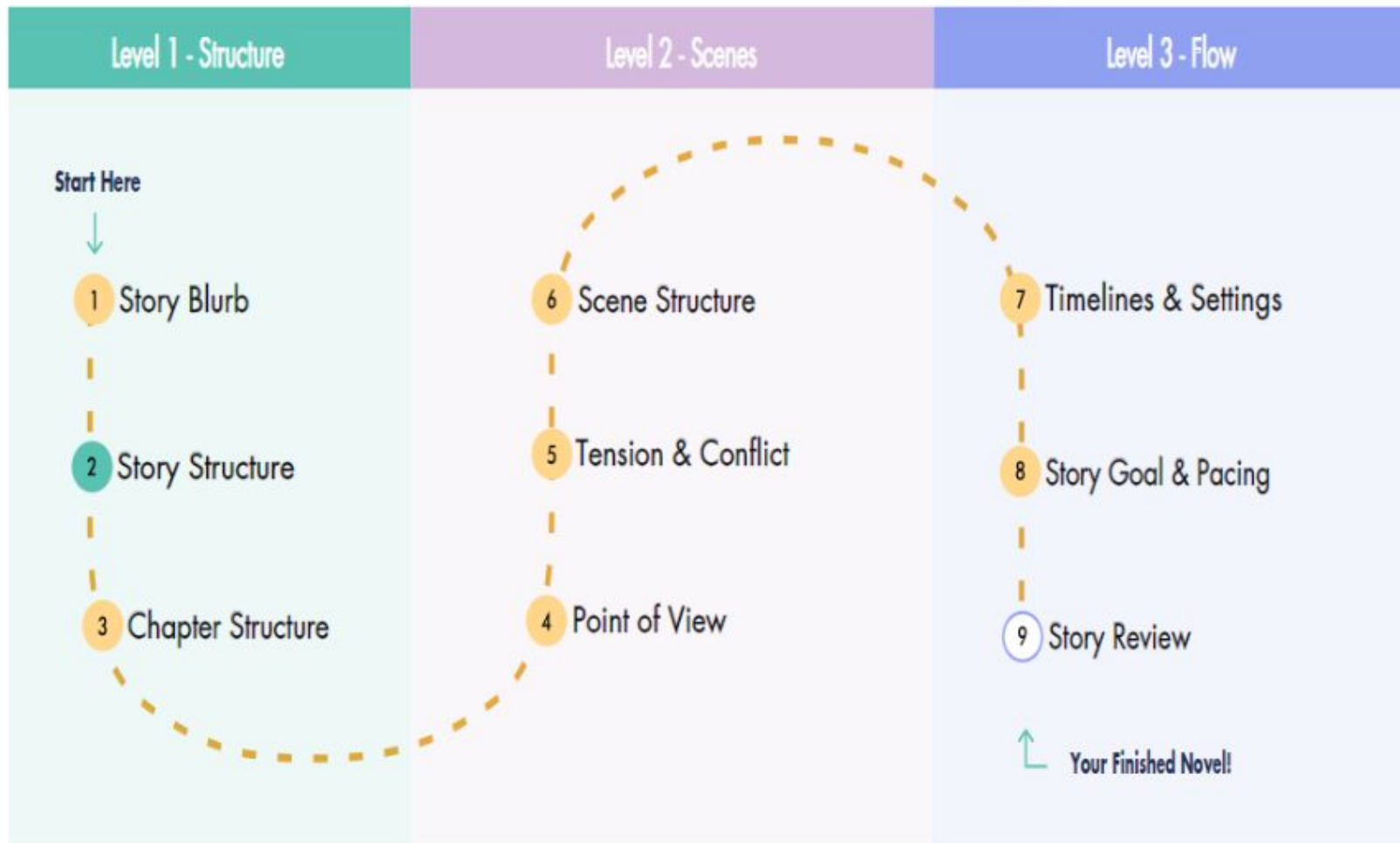
## What?

- ✓ Confirm the placement/timing of your story arc scenes

## Why?

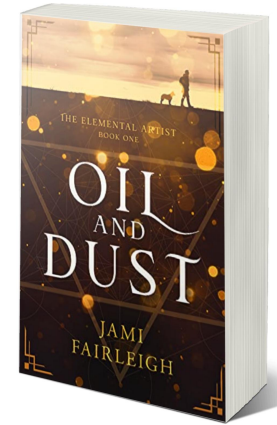
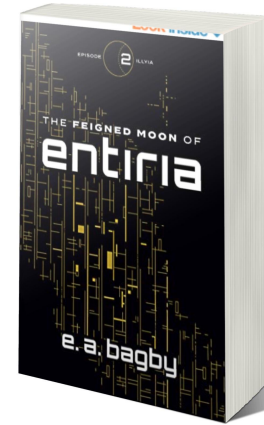
- ✓ Ensures pacing and story still works

# Your Story Editing Journey

[Learn](#)



# Bestsellers & Award Winners



Miriam  
Dimitri



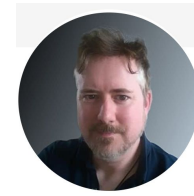
Lisa  
Stringfellow



Iain  
Stewart



Emma  
Baird



Edward  
Bagby



Jami  
Fairleigh

 FictionaryLive!

## SIX-WEEK WRITING COURSES

Outline Your Novel

How to Write Scenes Using Deep Structure

Novel Editing Part 1: Evaluate and Identify Issues

Novel Editing Part 2: Make Your Revisions and Finish Your Book

How to Plan and Structure a Series



FictionaryLive! courses are part of your StoryTeller Premium subscription.

# Next Courses Starting Feb 26th.



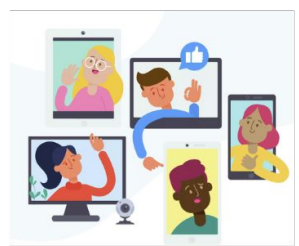
### Story Writing & Editing Software

Visualize, evaluate & improve the plot, characters, and settings of your story.



### Guided Story Editing Courses

Keep your edit on track with Fictionary Live! six-week story editing courses. It's a sure-fire way to get your book over the finish line.



### Community of Writers & Editors

Connect with writing experts who will support you, help you navigate your editing journey, and boost your confidence.

# Special Offer

## Save 25%

### Coupon: PWA-ROMANCE

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