

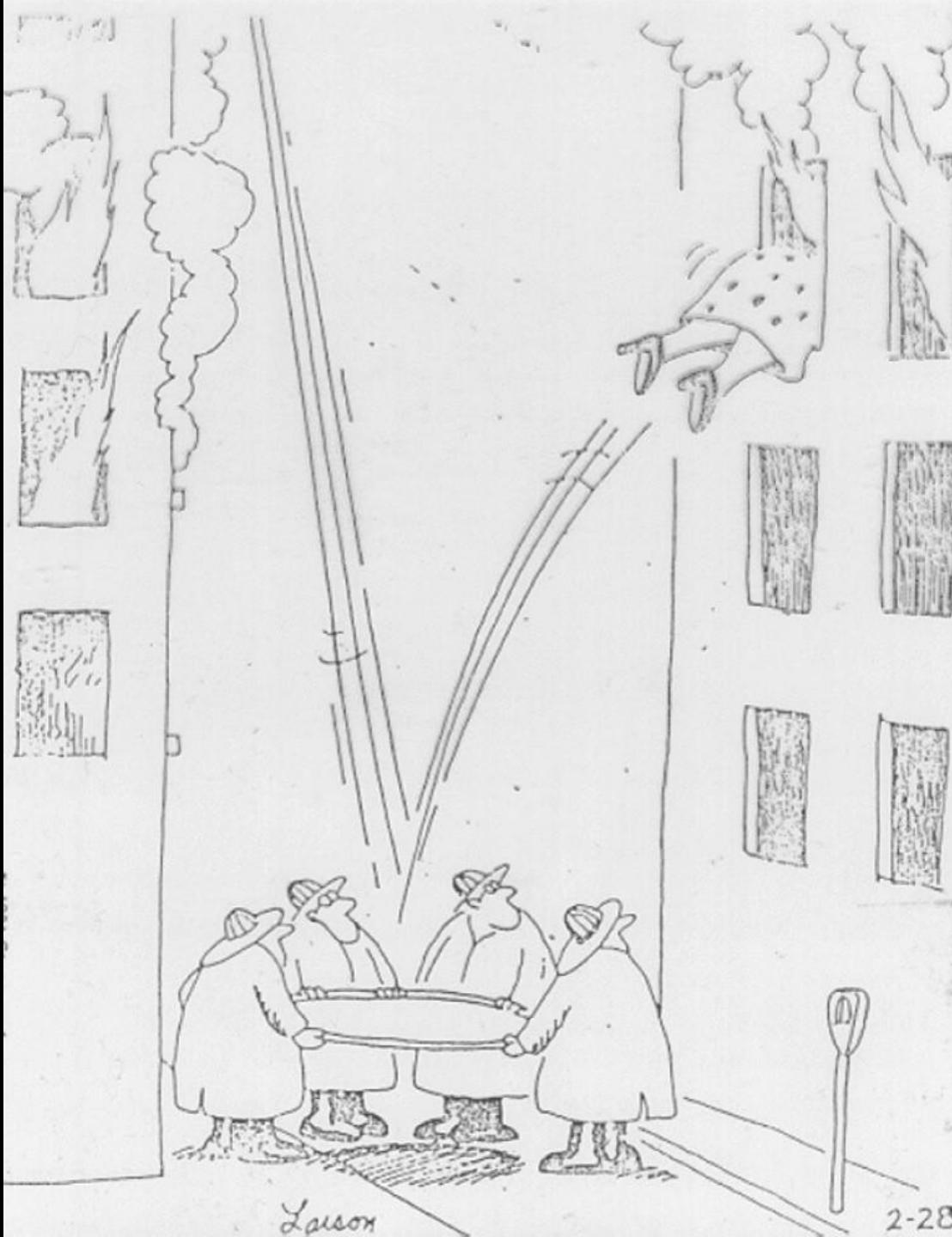
# FIRM FOUNDATIONS

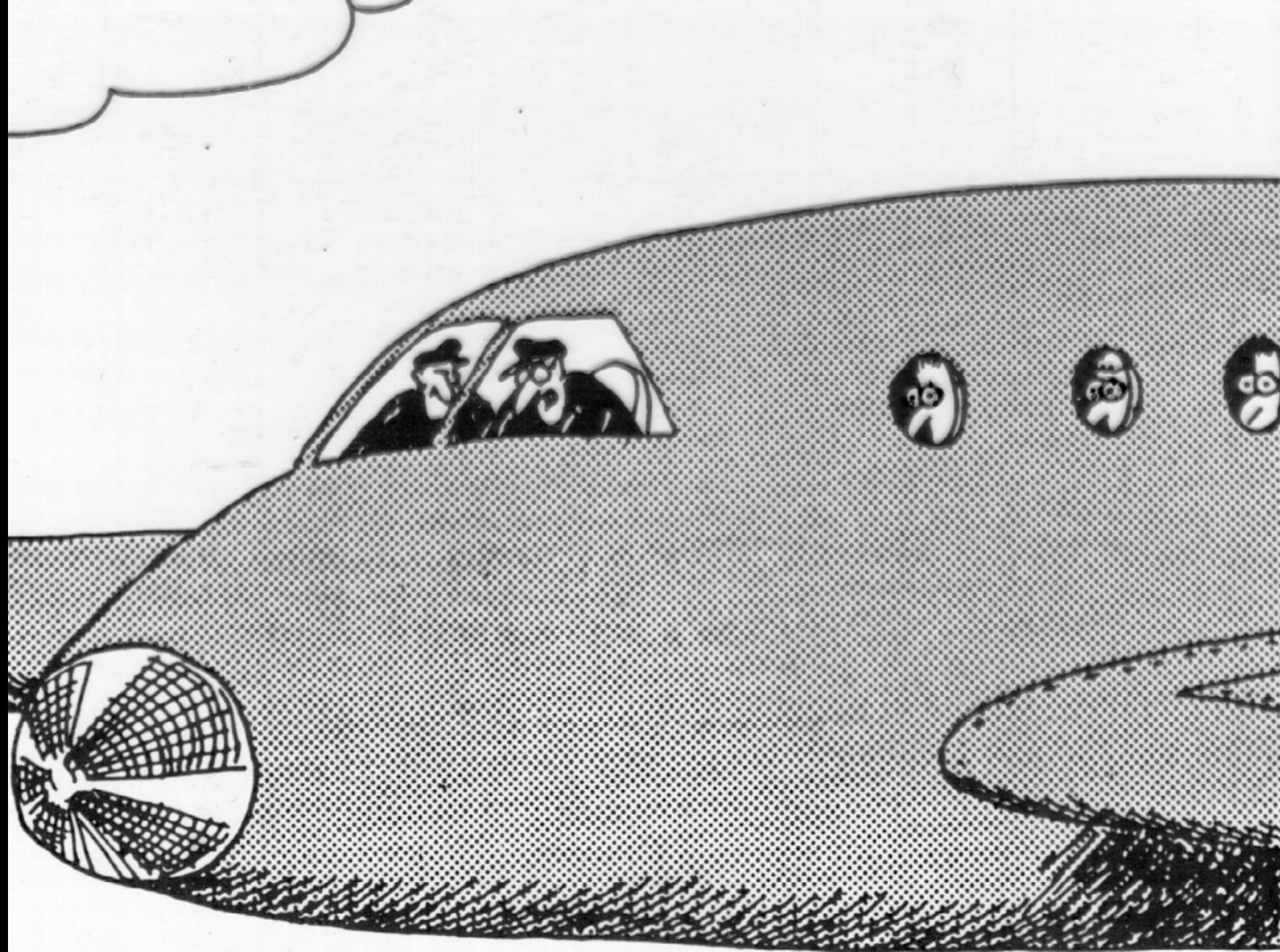
FOR LIVES OF FAITH



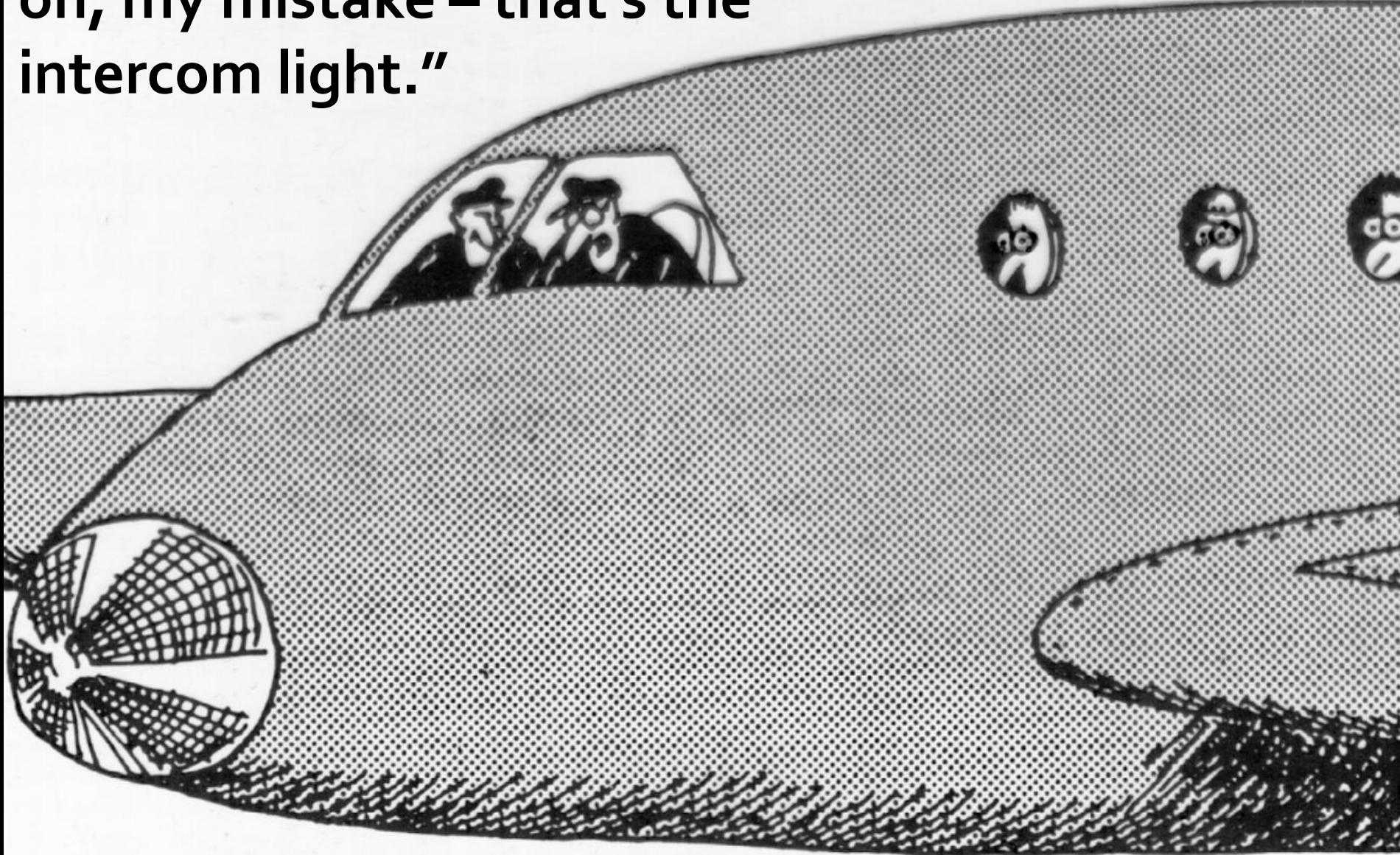
A wide-angle photograph of a coastal landscape at sunset. On the left, a white wooden house with a dark roof sits on stilts, perched on a rocky outcrop. The sky is filled with dramatic, dark clouds, with a bright orange and yellow glow from the setting sun on the horizon. The ocean is visible in the distance, and the foreground is a sandy beach with some low-lying rocks.

# How narrative works



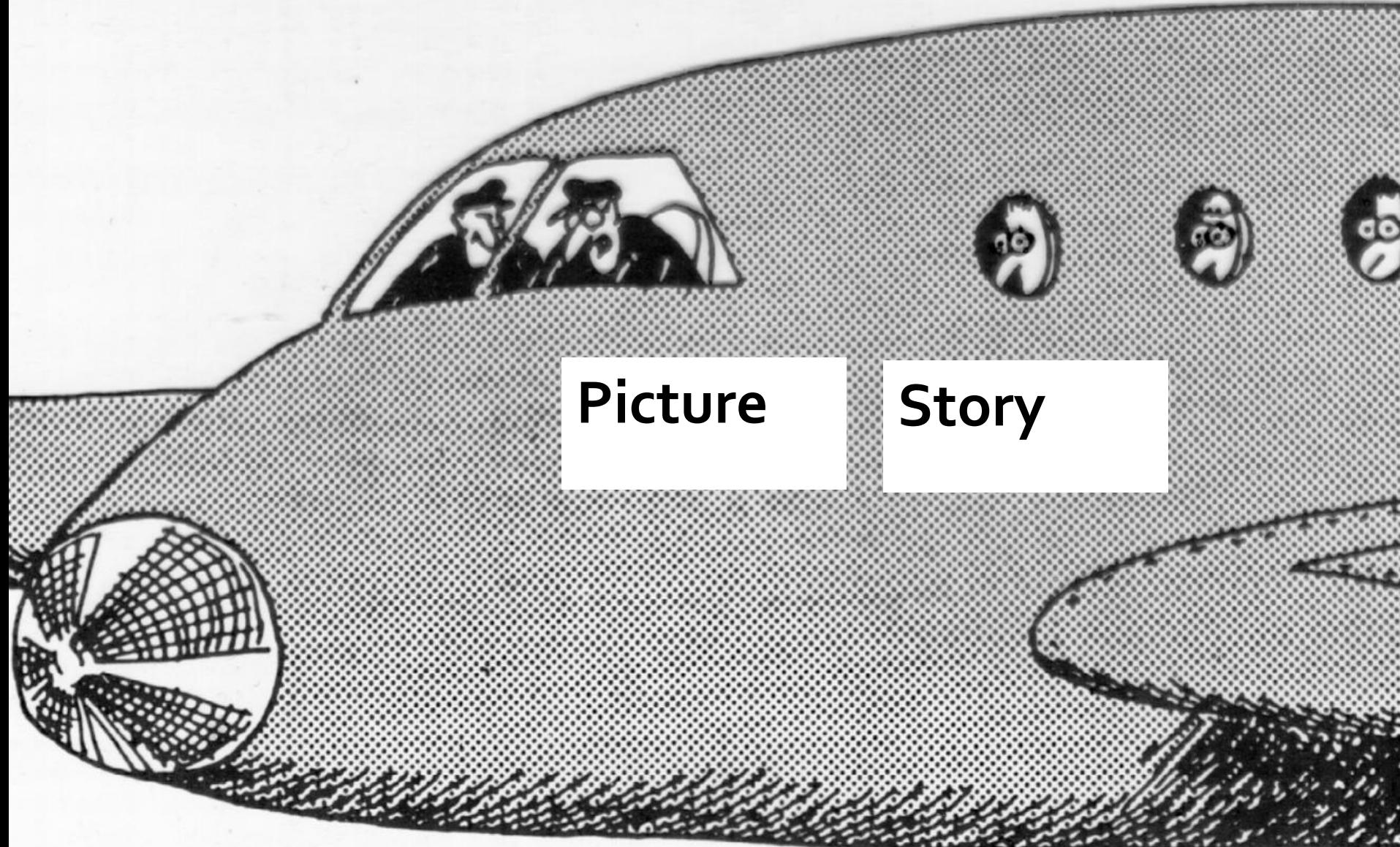


**“The fuel light’s on, Frank! We’re all going to die!... We’re all going to die! ... Wait, wait ... oh, my mistake – that’s the intercom light.”**



**Caption**

**Truth**



**Picture**

**Story**

# Hannah's Song: The Caption Over the Whole Story

*"The Lord kills and makes alive;  
He brings down to the grave and brings up.  
The Lord makes poor and makes rich;  
He brings low and lifts up...  
'For by strength no man shall prevail.'"*

- 1 Samuel 2:6-9

A photograph of a coastal landscape at sunset. In the foreground, a sandy beach meets the ocean. A rocky shoreline with large, dark boulders extends from the left. On the left side of the image, a white wooden house with a dark roof and a single chimney sits on stilts, elevated above the ground. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds, and the horizon is illuminated by the warm, golden light of the setting sun, casting a glow over the water and the rocks.

# Hannah's Song: The Caption Over the Whole Story

**“And the Lord said to Samuel, ‘Heed the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them.’”**

**- 1 Samuel 8:7**

**“For man looks at the outward appearance, but  
the Lord looks at the heart.”**

**- 1 Samuel 16:7**

A wide-angle photograph of a coastal landscape at sunset. On the left, a small, light-colored wooden house with a porch sits on stilts on a rocky outcrop. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds at the top, transitioning to a warm, golden glow near the horizon. The ocean is visible on the right, with waves crashing onto a sandy beach in the foreground. The overall atmosphere is serene and contemplative.

# David's Rise

*Humility reflects God's Kingdom.*

2 Samuel 1-9

**“So David knew that the Lord had established him as king over Israel, and that He had exalted His kingdom for the sake of His people Israel.”**

**- 2 Samuel 5:12**

**“Then David danced before the Lord with all his might; and David was wearing a linen ephod.**

**- 2 Samuel 6:14**

A photograph of a coastal landscape at sunset. On the left, a small, light-colored wooden house with a porch sits on stilts on a rocky outcrop. The sky is filled with dramatic, dark clouds, and the horizon shows a bright orange and yellow glow from the setting sun. The beach in the foreground is wet and reflects the warm colors of the sky. Waves are crashing onto the shore. 

# David's Rise

*Humility reflects God's Kingdom.*

2 Samuel 1-9

# The Davidic Covenant

*Promise bigger than David.*

2 Samuel 7

**“When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.**

**He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his Father, and he shall be My son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men...**

**“But My mercy shall not depart from him,  
as I took it from Saul, whom I removed from  
before you. And your house and your kingdom  
shall be established forever before you.  
Your throne shall be established forever.”**

**- 2 Samuel 7:12-16**

# David's Fall

*The King's pride threatens the people.*

2 Samuel 10-20

**“In the spring of the year,  
at the time when kings go out to battle...  
David remained in Jerusalem.”**

**- 2 Samuel 11:1**

# David's Fall

*The King's pride threatens the people.*

2 Samuel 10-20

# David's Final Failure

*Counting what God never asked for.*

2 Samuel 24

**“And Joab said to the king,  
‘Now may the Lord your God add to the people a  
hundred times more than there are,  
and may the eyes of my lord the king see it.  
But why does my lord the king desire this thing?”**

**- 2 Samuel 24:3**

# David's Final Failure

*Counting what God never asked for.*

2 Samuel 24

**“And David’s heart condemned him after he had numbered the people. So David said to the Lord, ‘I have sinned greatly in what I have done; but now, I pray, O Lord, take away the iniquity of Your servant, for I have done very foolishly.’**

**Now when David arose in the morning, the word of the Lord came to the prophet Gad, David’s seer, saying, ‘Go and tell David, ‘Thus says the Lord: ‘I offer you three things; choose one of them for yourself, that I may do it to you.’”**

**“So Gad came to David and told him; and he said to him, ‘Shall seven years of famine come to you in your land? Or shall you flee three months before your enemies, while they pursue you? Or shall there be three days’ plague in your land? Now consider and see what answer I should take back to Him who sent me.’**

**“And David said to Gad, ‘I am in great distress. Please let us fall into the hand of the Lord, for His mercies are great; but do not let me fall into the hand of man.’**

**So the Lord sent a plague upon Israel from the morning till the appointed time.**

**From Dan to Beersheba seventy thousand men of the people died.”**

**- 2 Samuel 24:10-15**

# David's Final Failure

*Counting what God never asked for.*

2 Samuel 24

A photograph of a coastal landscape at sunset. On the left, a light blue wooden house with a dark roof sits on stilts, perched on a rocky outcrop. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds, with a bright orange and yellow glow from the setting sun on the horizon. The ocean waves are visible in the distance, and the beach in the foreground is wet and reflects the warm colors of the sky.

Hope for the Future King!

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