1056-J1-1630   **Teresa E. Moore*** (`moore@ithaca.edu`), Dept. of Mathematics, Ithaca College, 1212 Williams Hall, Ithaca, NY 14850-7284, and **L. Christine Kinsey** (`kinsey@canisius.edu`), Dept. of Mathematics and Statistics, Canisius College, 2001 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14208. *Borrowing literary structures for mathematics lessons.* Preliminary report.

In short stories and movies, there is the concept of the story arc. Many of our liberal arts students are familiar with and appreciate this structure, but they would never dream of applying it to mathematics. Students recognize that a well-written story follows a certain internal logic, beginning with the introduction of the characters and setting, the initial conflict, various complications, and finally the resolution. We use this structure to develop engaging lessons in mathematics that students find interesting and satisfying. Discussing the intentional story line with the students after they have completed the activities helps them relate mathematics to familiar and comfortable settings. We demonstrate this structure with a sample lesson on Knots and Star Polygons – one of our favorite explorations for liberal arts students. We then discuss the mathematical and literary equivalents and student reaction to the connections. (Received September 22, 2009)