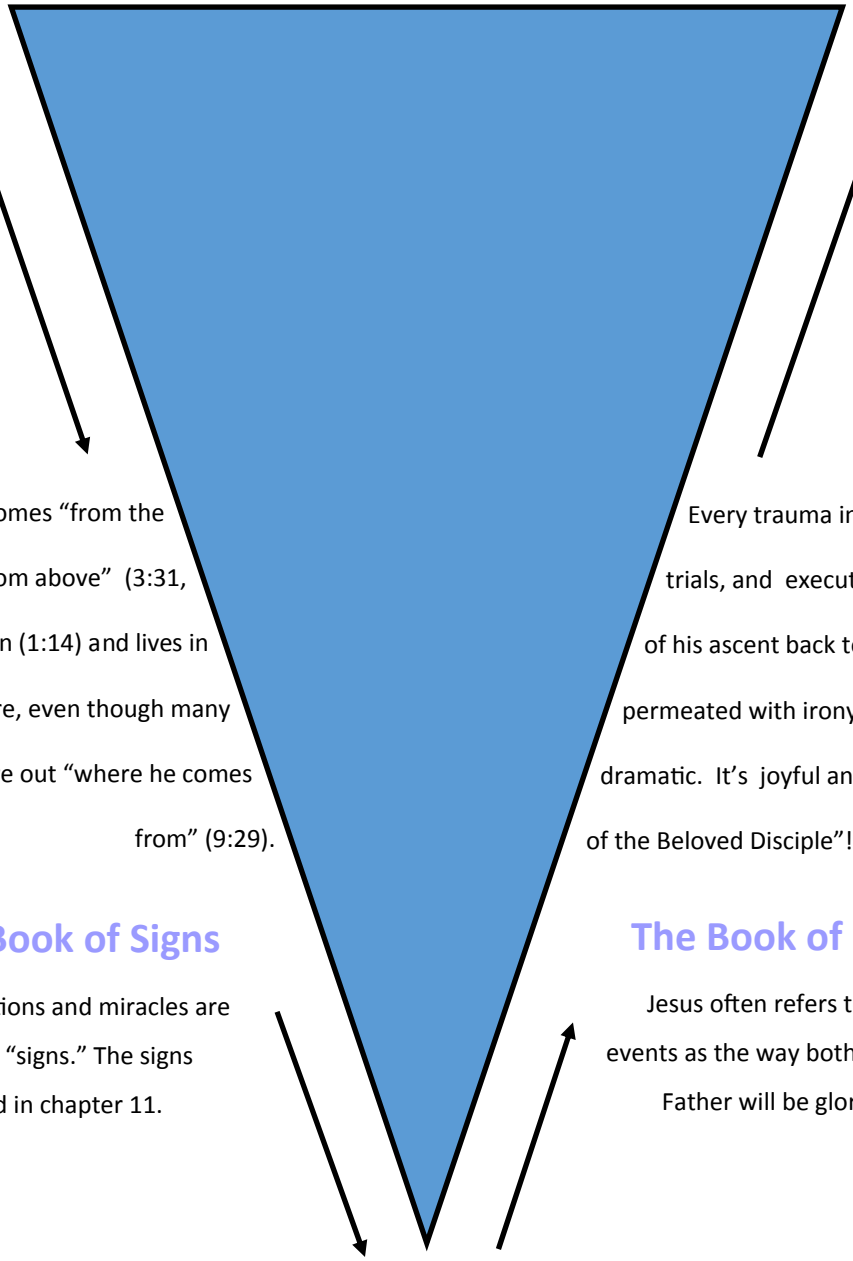
The movement of John's plot is V-shaped.



The Descent of the Word

Jesus comes "from the beginning," (1:1), "from above" (3:31, *et.al.*) He becomes human (1:14) and lives in ordinary human culture, even though many characters can't figure out "where he comes from" (9:29).

The Ascent of the Word

Every trauma involved in Jesus' arrest, trials, and execution are ironically part of his ascent back to God. This Gospel is permeated with irony, both verbal and dramatic. It's joyful and unique , this "Gospel of the Beloved Disciple"!

The Book of Signs

Jesus' actions and miracles are called "signs." The signs end in chapter 11.

The Book of Glory

Jesus often refers to these events as the way both he and his Father will be glorified.

The turning point of the plot (13:1)

"Before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father."

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