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 Book of Signs**

Jesus’ actions and miracles are called “signs.” The signs end in chapter 11.

**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 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.”