

# TIPS FOR TELLING YOUR STORY

## HIGH STAKES

Think about moments of your life when you had something serious to gain or lose.

- What did you want?
- What were the obstacles?
- Did things go as you expected?
- How did you react?
- What did it mean for your sense of yourself or your sense of the world?

## CHANGE

Often, a story revolves around a character (you!) changing in their outlook on the world. How did this series of events change you?

## ENDING

End the story clearly! Have a sense of where it ends when you start. Drive your listeners there, and then stop, rather than meandering off into the wilderness.

## NARRATION

Focus on action. Tell us what you or other people were doing. Describe sensations (the smell of the hay in the morning or the barn at night). Tell us what people said (but don't caricature them or their accents!).

## PRACTICE

Try telling your story to a friend before recording it. You don't need to memorize it word for word, but have a sense of the main points you want to convey.