Each of us has a dynamic life story composed of myriad autobiographical memories and lifetime periods. Research has focused on how and why we recall a variety of important life events but one critical event has been neglected; every story has an ending. I provide a conceptualization of death as part of the life story in two ways: (i) how memories of other peoples’ endings become part of our continuing life story, and (ii) awareness of our own death. Applications of this work in our own lives, in healthcare settings, and in community death awareness initiatives are woven through the talk.

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