

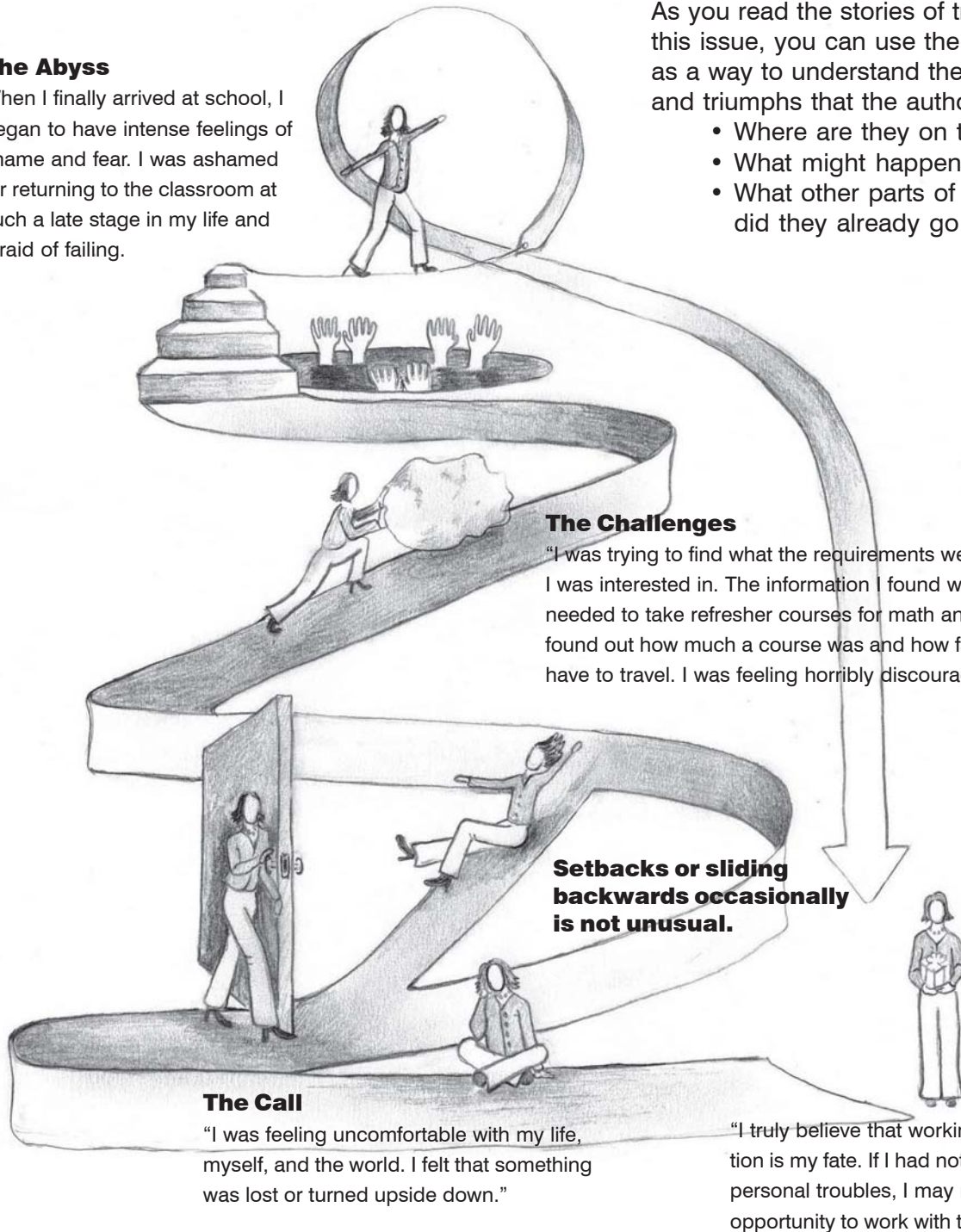
## Where on the Journey?

As you read the stories of transition in this issue, you can use the Hero's Journey as a way to understand the challenges and triumphs that the authors describe.

- Where are they on their journeys?
- What might happen next?
- What other parts of the journey did they already go through?

### The Abyss

When I finally arrived at school, I began to have intense feelings of shame and fear. I was ashamed for returning to the classroom at such a late stage in my life and afraid of failing.



### The Challenges

"I was trying to find what the requirements were for the courses I was interested in. The information I found was devastating: I needed to take refresher courses for math and algebra. Plus, I found out how much a course was and how far I was going to have to travel. I was feeling horribly discouraged."

**Setbacks or sliding backwards occasionally is not unusual.**

### The Call

"I was feeling uncomfortable with my life, myself, and the world. I felt that something was lost or turned upside down."

### The Return

"I truly believe that working in adult education is my fate. If I had not gone through the personal troubles, I may not have had the opportunity to work with the people I do."

Illustration by Beth Ammons