Plot Structure Reference Sheet

Climax:
The turning point of a story when the tension and conflict become most intense, and often when a significant change occurs

Rising Action:
The section of text that comes after the exposition, when the story begins to get complicated and the central conflict is introduced

Falling Action:
The part of the plot that comes directly after the climax when conflicts introduced earlier in the text begin to be resolved

Exposition:
The beginning of a story, in which the characters, setting, and context are introduced

Resolution:
The conclusion of the story, generally when the conflict is finally and fully settled

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