

## The Plot of *The Cat in the Hat*

The elements of plot for *The Cat in the Hat* can be broken down in the following manner:

### Characters

Narrator ("I"), Sally, Cat in the Hat, Fish, Thing One, Thing Two, and Mother

### Exposition

**Setting:** inside of a house on a rainy day

**Situation:** The mother goes out shopping and leaves the children alone inside the house.

### Conflict

**Triggering moment:** The cat arrives and suggests they play some fun games.

**Conflict statement:** The children versus their two choices: fun with the cat or follow the rules

**Protagonists:** Sally and I

**Antagonist:** choices facing the children (presented by the cat and the fish)

### Rising Action

- The cat plays games that cause a mess—"UP-UP-UP with a fish" and "FUN-IN-A-BOX."
- Fish says cat is causing a mess and says to him, "You should not be here / When our mother is not."
- Thing One and Thing Two fly kites in the house
- The Fish warns, "Your mother is on her way home!"

### Climax

The narrator catches Thing One and Thing Two with a net and says to the cat, "Now you pack up those Things / And you take them away!"

### Falling Action

- Cat packs up Thing One and Thing Two then leaves.
- Cat returns and cleans up the mess saying, "I always pick up all my playthings."

### Resolution

Mother returns from shopping and asks the children, "Did you have any fun?"