“Rikki-tikki-tavi” by Rudyard Kipling

Stages of Plot

**Exposition:**

Characters: Rikki-Tikki-Tavi Teddy

Nagaina Chuchundra

Nag Karait

Teddy’s father Teddy’s mother

Darzee’s wife Darzee

Setting: India during the 1800s controled by England; in a bungalow

POV: narrator—3rd person “limited” point of view

Basic Situation: Rikki, who looks like a cross between a cat and a weasel, gets flooded out of his burow by a summer flood.

**Hook:** Rikki learns there are cobras in the garden after meeting Darzee and his wife.

**Rising Action:**

1. Rikki bites Nagaina.
2. Rikki kills Karait and Teddy’s dad hits Karait with a stick.
3. Rikki talks to Chuchundra, who tells him that Nag and Nagaina are planning to kill Teddy’s whole family.
4. Rikki overhears Nag and Nagaina planning. They want to kill the family, then kill Rikki-Tikki-Tavi, and then have their babies. Their ultimate goal is to rule the garden.
5. Nag hides in bathroom drains waiting to kill Teddy’s father.

Rikki attacks Nag, and Teddy’s father gets a gun and shoots Nag.

1. Rikki gets mad at Darzee for singing a victory song because Nagaina is still alive in the garden.

Rikki asks Darzee to lead Nagaina away from the melon patch and her eggs, but instead Darzee’s wife does it.

1. In the melon patch, Rikki destroys all the eggs except for one. Nagaina holds Teddy hostage, but Rikki draws her away by showing her the last egg.
2. Rikki jumps around in preparation to fight Nagaina. Nagaina coils and strikes. The father grabs Teddy and pulls him to safety.

**Climax:** Nagaina and Rikki-Tikki-Tavi fight in the rat hole.

and Rikki kills Nagaina. This part is so tense because if a mongoose enters a snake hole, the hole might open up larger which would allow the cobra to turn and strike.

**Falling Action**: Rikki takes a nap, Darzee tells the coppersmith to spread the news to the other animals in the garden and let them know the snakes are dead.

**Resolution:** Rikki didn’t become too proud, he kept the garden safe and cobras never dared to returned to that garden.

Review: immensely, cowered, valiant, consolation, impotent