

The Tell-Tale Heart By Edgar Allan Poe

Characters	The narrator (insane, caregiver, creepy, disturbed) The old man (weak, frail, trusting, nervous)
Setting	The old man's house where the narrator and old man live, mainly takes place in the old man's chamber (bedroom); Midnight for 7 nights; Midnight to about 5am on the eighth night.
Conflict	The narrator is infuriated when he sees the old man's pale blue eye that has a film over it, and wants to kill the old man because of the evil eye. External: The narrator vs the old man and his eye Internal: The narrator vs his mental state
Exposition	When we meet the narrator and the old man, we discover that the narrator is insane, the story takes place in the old man's house in his chamber (bedroom) over the course of 8 nights. The beginning conflict is the old man's eye.
Rising Action	The narrator continuously checks on the old man at midnight for 7 nights. On the eighth night, the lantern light lands on the open eye of the old man. The narrator becomes enraged. Then the narrator thinks that the neighbors will hear the old man's heart beating (but it is really HIS heart beating).
Climax	The narrator murders the old man by first smothering him to death with the big, heavy mattress, and then by dismembering the body.
Falling Action	The narrator disposes of the body under the floor boards in the old man's chamber (bedroom). The 3 police officers arrive. The narrator has conversations with the police while sitting on top of where the body is. The narrator begins to go insane, thinking that the police will hear the old man's heart beating (but it is really HIS heart beating).
Resolution	When the narrator admits to killing the old man.