



Literary Terms

Plot

The series of events that make up a story



Conflict

The struggle between
opposing forces:

- ◆ man vs. man
- ◆ man vs. nature
- ◆ man vs. himself



A scenic view of a blue lake surrounded by evergreen trees and rocky hills. The lake is the central focus, with a clear blue sky and distant mountains in the background. The foreground is filled with green pine trees and grey rocks.

Setting

- ◆ when and where the story takes place
- ◆ sometimes referred to as "time and place"



Protagonist

- ◆ the main character that is central to the plot
- ◆ often, but not always, “the good guy”



ANTAGONIST

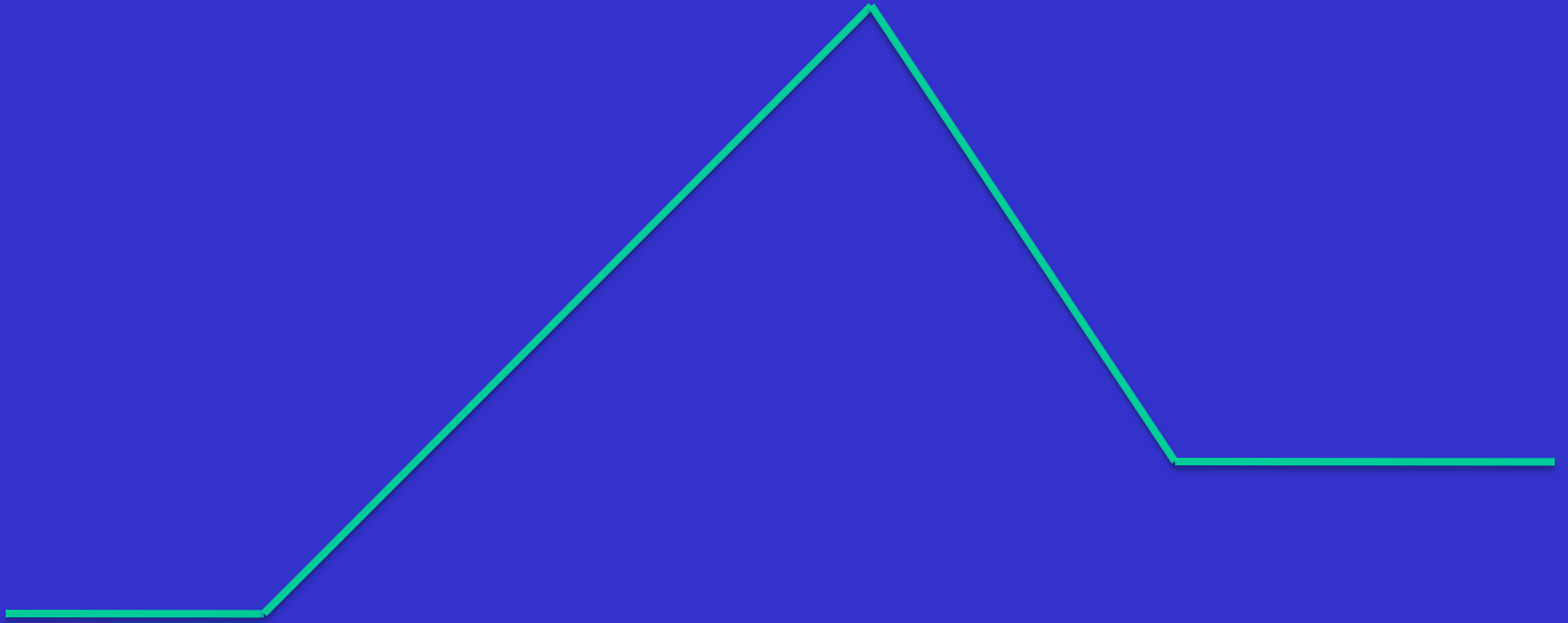
- ◆ the character who opposes the protagonist
- ◆ an adversary



Plot Line

A diagram that outlines the events of a story

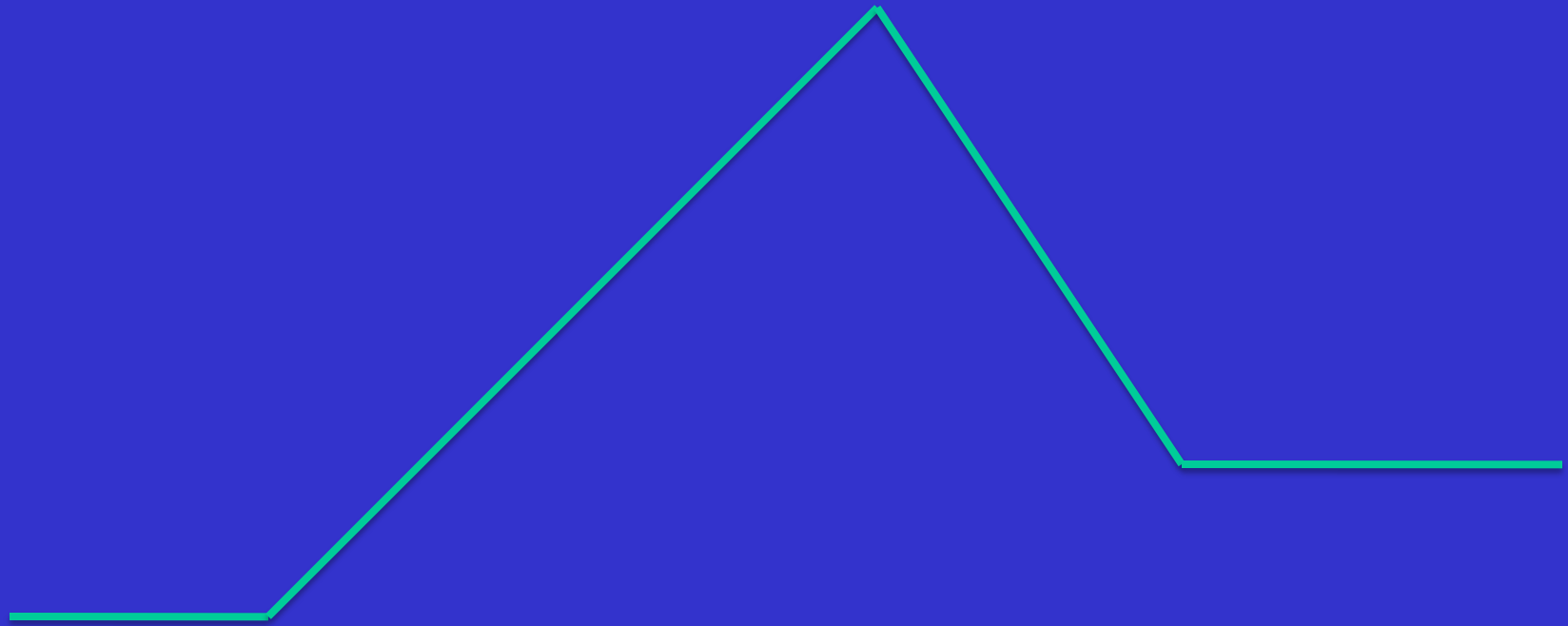
Plot Line



Exposition

- ◆ introduces the characters
- ◆ introduces the setting
- ◆ introduces the conflict

Plot Line



Exposition

Rising Action

The part of the story where the conflict builds

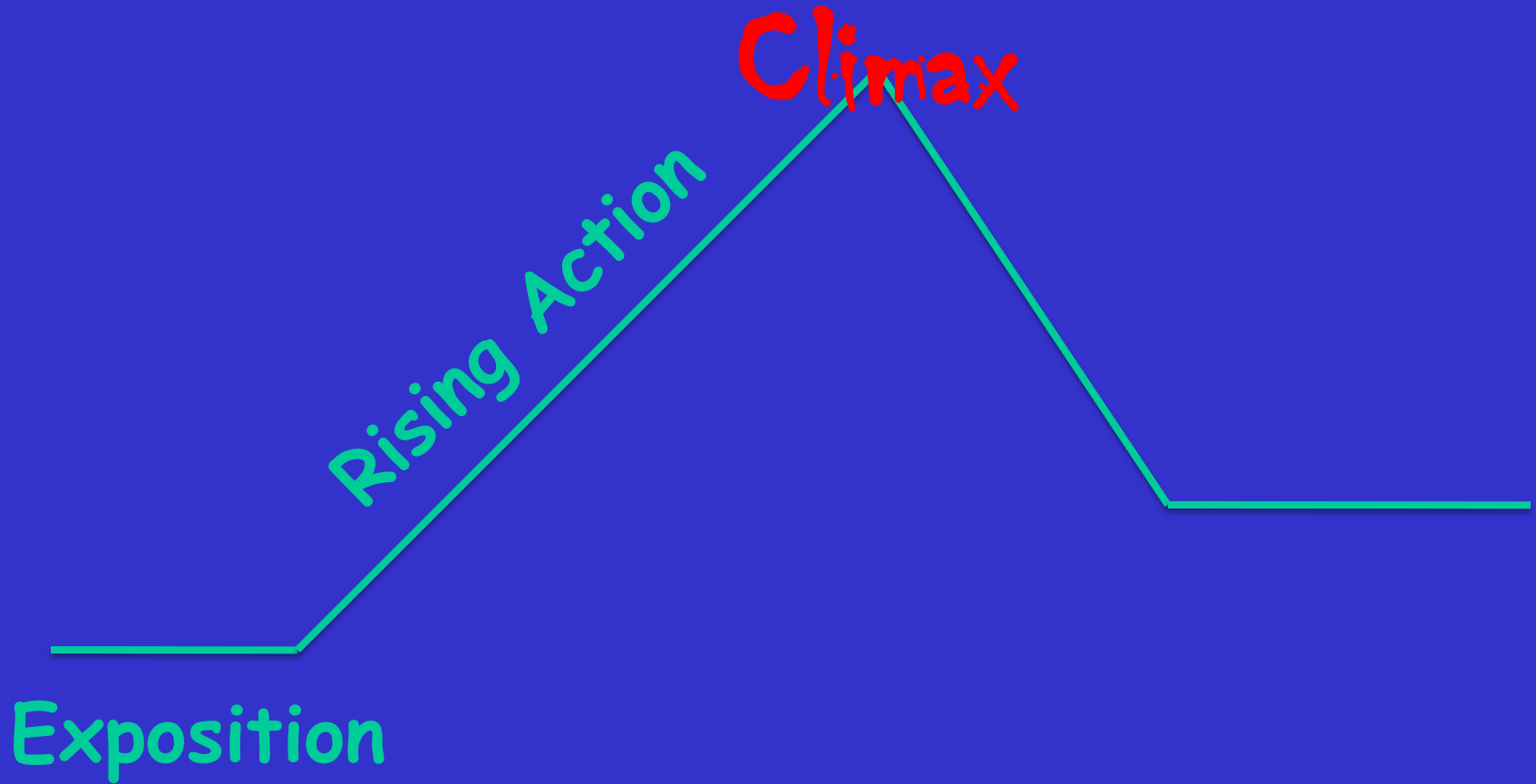
Plot Line



Climax

- ◆ the point of highest tension in a story
- ◆ the point from which nothing can ever be the same again
- ◆ the turning point

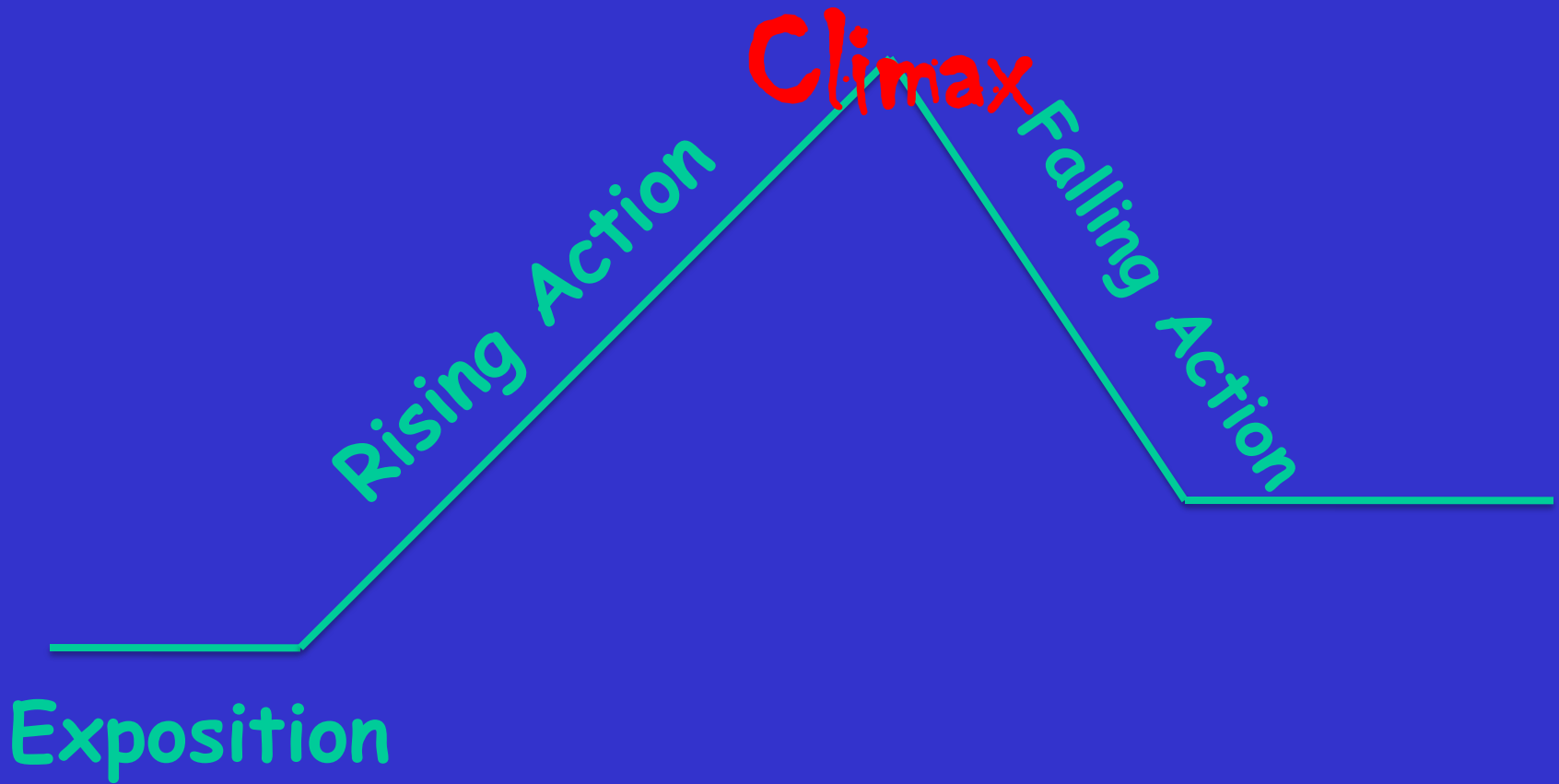
Plot Line



Falling Action

- ◆ the pieces begin to come together
- ◆ all the action that follows the climax

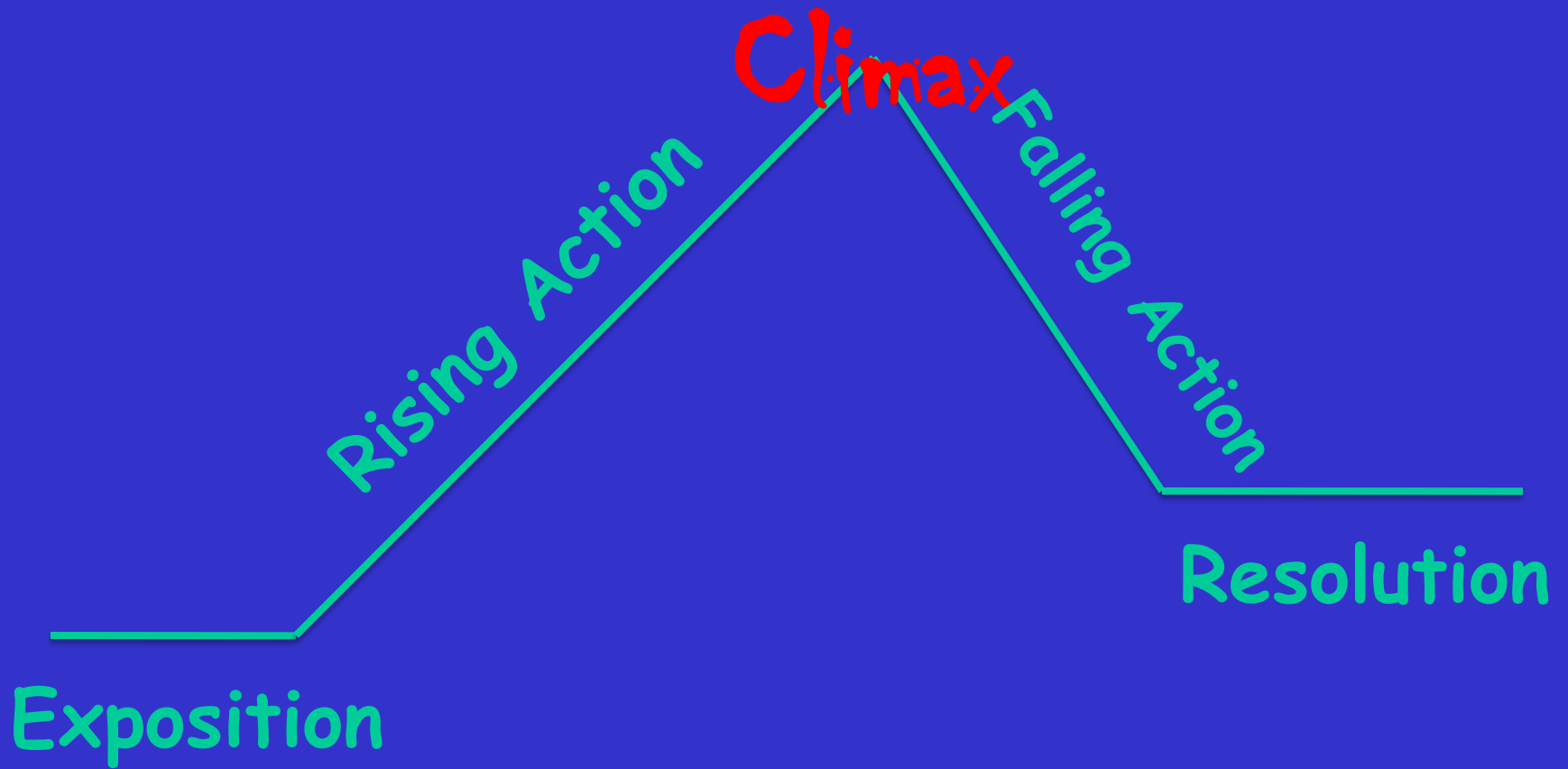
Plot Line



Resolution

- ◆ the conclusion
- ◆ the tying together of all the pieces

Plot Line



Point of View

The perspective from which
the story is told:

Point of View

- ◆ 1st person - "I" am telling the story; the narrator is a part of the story.
- ◆ 3rd person - The narrator is not in the story, but we learn about it through this outside voice.

Theme

- ◆ the message or idea the author wants to leave with the reader
- ◆ sometimes the moral of the story

Mood

- ◆ the feeling the author wants to convey to the reader

Characterization

- ◆ the traits the author gives his characters that makes them come alive.
- ◆ Sometimes we learn about the character from others around him, how others react to him.
- ◆ Sometimes we learn about the character the way he acts himself.
- ◆ These traits can be physical descriptions, or descriptions of behaviors.

Tall, short, angry, brave, shy, aloof