Traditional Narrative Structure
Aristotle 350 BC

- “a well constructed plot”
- nothing new
- we are “hardwired” to expect the traditional
- it’s in all media
- Fiction and non-fiction
Traditional Story Elements
Aristotle

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beginning</th>
<th>Context/Setting</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>Theme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End</td>
<td>Plot</td>
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<tr>
<td>Compelling characters</td>
<td>Rising tension</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protagonist-hero</td>
<td>Conflict</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antagonist</td>
<td>Resolution</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Not necessarily all elements
Traditional Elements

Things are clear

generally linear

beginning, middle, end

We recognize the hero

We can follow the events

We understand the theme

We feel the resolution