**Exposition: (pages 546-top of 550)**

**Main Characters** – Tito, blind homeless orphan boy AND Bimbo, dog

**Setting** – Forum of Pompeii, 79 A.D.

**Conflict**

#1: Tito has no parents or home; he’s also blind…struggle to survive

#2: EVERYONE ends up struggling to survive the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius

**Rising Action**: (550-553)

1. Men in the forum are debating the possibility of another earthquake

2. A stranger warns the others that Vesuvius will erupt; the others do not take him seriously

3. Tito and Bimbo go to the theater

4. the next morning, Bimbo is especially active (foreshadowing…animals often know about earthquakes before humans)

5. thick fog, air is smoky, bad dreams (foreshadowing!)

6. Bimbo wakes up Tito and urges him to move

7. air is hot, heavy; loud noises…earthquake!

8. crowds of people…crashing of homes and buildings

9. Bimbo’s going crazy, trying to get Tito toward the sea gate to safety

10. Tito fell down near a tree and fainted

**Climax**: (bottom of pg. 553-top of 554)

Bimbo bites Tito, which wakes him up. We realize here that Tito will make it safely to the water and will survive! ☺ (TURNING POINT OF THE STORY)

**Falling Action**: (pg. 554)

Tito faints. People carry him toward a boat. We realize that Tito is getting away, but his beloved dog Bimbo did not make it. ☹

**Resolution**: (bottom of pg. 554)

We learn - via scientists investigating Pompeii 1800 years later - that Bimbo died getting a raisin cake for Tito. \* Dramatic Irony!

*So sad! The dog’s loyalty never wavered, even though he could have saved himself.*