Plot Structure

Title of the story: Dinner Party  

Author: retold by Mona Gardner

POV = 3rd person

CLIMAX
The snake leaves the room and everyone screams.

EXPOSITION

SETTING
India, dining room, dinner party

BASIC SITUATION:
There is a snake in the room unseen by most of the dinner party.

MAIN CONFLICT - RISING ACTION

Inciting Incident - Discussion/argument about how men and women handle situations

- Poisonous snake in a roomful of people
- Hostess has servant put milk on veranda
- American notices hostess’s reaction
- American starts “game”

FALLING ACTION

- Host comments on American’s way of handling situation
- American asks hostess how she knew snake was in the room

RESOLUTION

Hostess states snake crawled across her foot.

CHARACTERS

American
Hostess
Colonel
Other dinner guests