

STORY BREAKDOWN - MEAN GIRLS SUMMARY

STRUCTURE OF MEAN GIRLS SCREENPLAY

Here is the story structure for the *Mean Girls* screenplay:

Exposition

Cady is a sixteen year old girl who is about to go to school for the very first time. This is because she was homeschooled in her youth while she travelled the globe with her parents who study animals in the wild.

Inciting Incident

The “Spring Fling” dance is announced by former queen Regina. Cady’s new friends Damian and Janis tell her that Regina and her clique are “plastics”, AKA material girls that should be avoided at all costs.

Plot Point One

Cady is invited to eat lunch with Regina and indoctrinated into the “plastics”, which also includes Gretchen and Karen. Janis suggests that Cady conspire against them to expose how evil the group really is.

Rising Action

Cady develops a crush on a boy named Aaron and fails her math class so that he’ll “tutor” her. Aaron invites Cady to a party but when she shows up, he’s kissing Regina.

Midpoint

Cady plots to destroy Regina by getting Gretchen and Karen to turn on her. She also gives Regina fattening foods and foot cream for moisturizer so that she’ll become ugly.

Plot Point Two

In her quest to bring Regina down, Cady starts to lose her individualistic characteristics. She fractures her friendship with Janis and Damian and foregoes her commitment to the “Mathletes.”

Build Up

After turning everyone against Regina, Cady throws a party where she plans to express her true feelings for Aaron, but Regina crashes the party and Cady vomits on Aaron due to excess of alcohol and nerves.

Climax

Regina exposes a “burn book” that contains horrible insults. Although co-authored by the rest of the “plastics,” Regina frames Karen, Gretchen and Cady for abandoning her. This creates mass chaos in the school and a mandatory assembly.

Climax Part II

The girls at school are taught body positivity and how to support one another. This leads to a series of apologies, and ultimately the reconciliation of all of the damaged relationships.

Finale

Cady wins the Mathletes championship and Spring Fling queen. In a gesture of good faith, she shares the trophy with Regina, Gretchen and Janis.