***Robinson Crusoe*: Plot Analysis**

**By Daniel Defoe**

**Initial Situation**

**Crusoe wants to see the world. His father forbids it.**

Crusoe is the youngest of his middle-class family. He is curious and wants to travel the world and sail the seas. His father doesn't think this is such a good idea, and offers a warning that becomes a curse: if you leave home, you will experience nothing but trouble. In this initial set-up, we see Crusoe defied his father's wishes and showed no respect or reverence for God.

**Conflict**

**Crusoe leaves home and travels the world. Bad luck follows.**

Everyone always seems to forget that Crusoe had a life before he landed on that dreaded island. When Crusoe leaves home, though, he has plenty of adventures. He sails to Africa, where he gets captured and made into a slave. After his escape, he is taken to Brazil, where he makes a living for several years on his sugar plantation. He always seems to be running into bad luck, repenting, and then sinning again promptly. This is a pattern Crusoe will follow for a good long while.

**Complication**

**Crusoe is shipwrecked on a deserted island**

On a voyage to procure slaves for some plantation owners, Crusoe is shipwrecked on a desert island. Crusoe is a lonely boy on a lonely island, since no one else survived the shipwreck. Completely isolated, he somehow manages to survive. He also has a spiritual awakening and begins reading the Bible.

**Climax**

**Crusoe finds a footprint in the sand.**

After many years of solitude we finally learn that Crusoe is not alone on the island. There are others and they are, horror of horrors, cannibals!

**Suspense**

**Crusoe meets Friday.**

While deciding what to do about the cannibals, Crusoe saves a man from certain death. He names him Friday and teaches him English. Friday converts to Christianity and the two become friends, of sorts. Friday and Crusoe then rescue two more men from the cannibals: a Spaniard and Friday's father.

**Denouement**

**Crusoe helps overtake the mutineers.**

An English longboat full of sailors lands on the island. Crusoe learns that the men have mutinied against their captain. After Crusoe helps restore order to the ship, the men and captain pledge allegiance to Crusoe and agree to take him home.

**Conclusion**

**Crusoe returns home.**

Crusoe then returns to Europe with Friday, where he comes into a great deal of money from his sugar plantations. Crusoe gets married and eventually revisits the island in his later years. The novel ends with promise of more of his adventures in the sequel