

### Summary of *Catcher in the Rye*, c5-8

Following Saturday night's dinner, a snowball fight ensues as a snowstorm passes through. With nothing to do, Holden arranges to go to the movies with Mal Brossard, and invites Ackley along to get him out on a Saturday for once. Since Brossard and Ackley already saw the movie, however, they simply get dinner and decide to go home. Holden justifies this by saying that they were very annoying at movies. Getting back, Holden manages to kick out Ackley (who was bragging about how far he'd gone with women) and begin writing Stradlater's composition. Instead of a room or house, he instead described his deceased brother Allie's baseball mitt, which had poems written in green ink all over it. Allie was the most intelligent and nicest child in Holden's family, and he was very distraught over his death.

Long since finished, Holden waits up for Stradlater to return. He finally enters the door, and Holden remains silent as he undresses and begins to complain about the finished composition, blaming Holden for doing everything backwards. Holden only responds spitefully by beginning to smoke. He notices that they returned later than when Jane checked out for, and felt something was up. Interrogating Stradlater, he finds they stayed in Stradlater's (borrowed) car the entire night. Finally, Stradlater hints he did something with Jane, and Holden snaps. He tries to punch Stradlater, but misses and ends up being pinned on the floor. Not giving up, he continues provoking Stradlater, and eventually Stradlater assaults Holden back. Stradlater finally leaves Holden alone, who shuffles himself to Ackley's room.