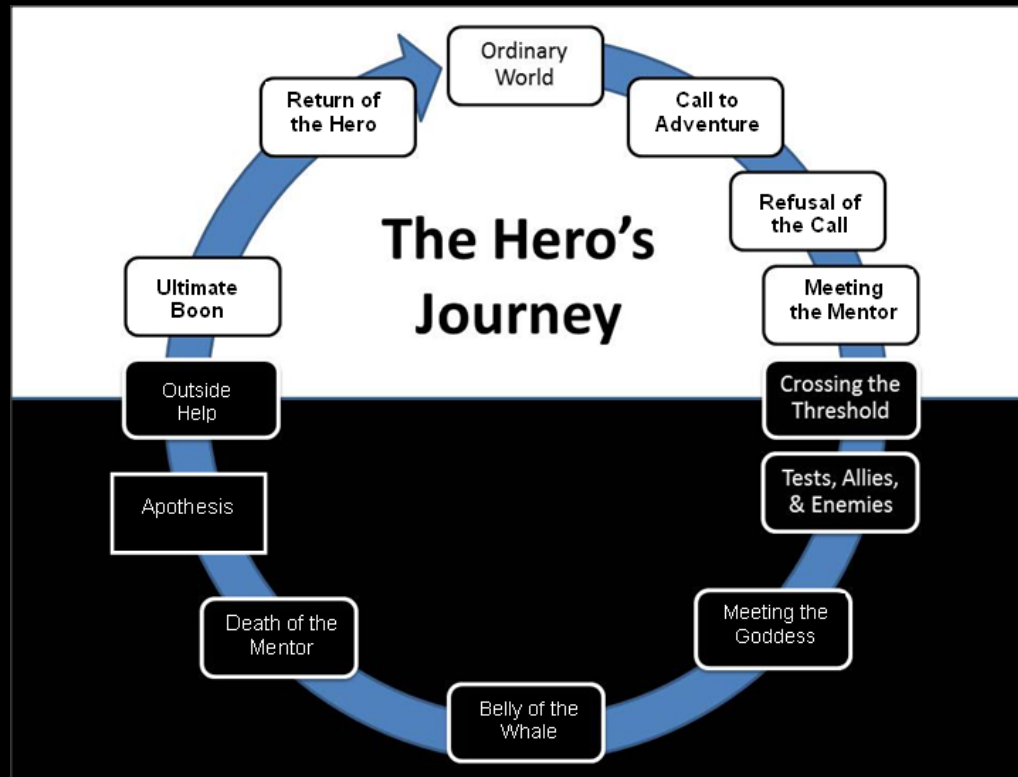
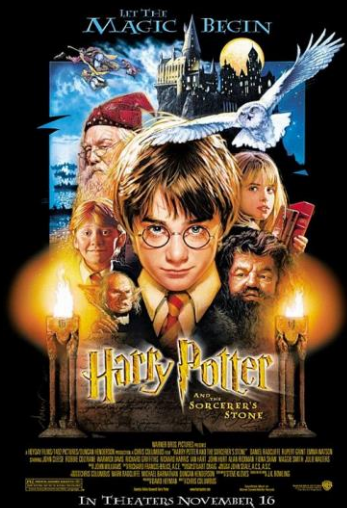


STAGES OF THE HERO'S JOURNEY



Created by Dan Zehr. Shared with permission on StarWarsintheClassroom.com

THE CALL TO ADVENTURE

- **The hero starts off in their normal world, but is then presented with some information that acts as a call to head off into the unknown.**

REFUSAL OF THE CALL

- The hero refuses the challenge or journey-- usually because he feels a sense of duty or obligation, fear, insecurity, or a sense of inadequacy.

MENTOR FIGURE/SUPERNATURAL AID

- **Once the hero has committed to the quest, his or her guide and magical helper appears or becomes known. More often than not, this supernatural mentor will present the hero with one or more talismans or artifacts that will aid them later in their quest.**

CROSSING THE FIRST THRESHOLD

- **This is the point where the hero actually crosses into the field of adventure, leaves the known limits of his or her world and ventures into an unknown and dangerous realm where the rules and limits are not known.**

TESTS, ALLIES, AND ENEMIES

- **The hero faces tests, meets allies, confronts enemies & learns the rules of the Special World.**

MEETING WITH THE GODDESS

- The hero meets a female figure of power and significance, often supernatural and a representation of unconditional love.

THE BELLY OF THE WHALE

- The belly of the whale represents the final separation from the hero's known world and self. By entering this stage, he shows willingness to undergo a metamorphosis.

DEATH OF THE MENTOR

- **The hero must confront his own mortality and face the world on his own.**

APOTHEOSIS (DEATH AND REBIRTH)

- **The hero dies a physical death, or dies to the self to live in spirit. He or she enters a state of divine knowledge, love, compassion and bliss.**

OUTSIDE HELP OR RESCUE

- **Just as the hero may need guides and assistants at the start of the quest, they often need rescuers to bring them back to everyday life-- especially if the person has been wounded or weakened by the experience.**

THE ULTIMATE BOON

- **The achievement of the goal or fulfillment of the quest. All the previous steps serve to prepare and purify the hero for this step.**

RETURN OF THE HERO

- The hero returns from the journey with the “elixir” or wisdom gained from the quest. He must then find a way to share this gift to help everyone in the Ordinary World.

CONCLUSION

- There are several versions of the “Hero’s Journey” and many stories include only a few of the stages.
- Can you think of other stories (movies or books) that use some or all of the stages we’ve discussed?
- *Clash of the Titans*
- *Percy Jackson and the Olympians*
- *The Matrix*
- *Kung Fu Panda*
- *Men in Black*
- *The Hobbit*
- *The Wizard of Oz*
- *Superheroes (Batman, Spider-man, Green Lantern, etc.)*
- ?

The Hero's Journey?



©1977 Twentieth Century Fox

TWENTIETH CENTURY-FOX Presents
A LUCASFILM LTD. PRODUCTION
STAR WARS
Starring MARK HAMILL HARRISON FORD CARRIE FISHER
PETER CUSHING
and
ALEC GUINNESS
Written and Directed by GEORGE LUCAS Produced by GARY KURTZ Music by JOHN WILLIAMS

PG PARENTAL GUIDANCE SUGGESTED
Some Material May Be Inappropriate for Children Under 13

PANAVISION® PRINTS BY DE LUXE® TECHNICOLOR®

Making Films Sound Better
DOLBY SYSTEM
Noise Reduction - High Fidelity



Let's Decide

- **Does Star Wars feature the traits of the Hero's Journey?**
- **Only one way to find out....**

A long time ago in a galaxy far,
far away....

STAR WARS

THE HERO'S JOURNEY