The Hero’s Journey in Film 2013

12th Grade English
4 Sources

- 1 Primary Source (the film)
- 2 Secondary Sources (already chosen for you)
- 1 additional secondary source about your film, film character, or hero’s journey
1 Primary Source (the film)
2 Secondary Sources

(These articles are also located in your teacher’s classroom).

• excerpt from Joseph Campbell’s The Power of Myth (chapter “The Hero’s Adventure”)*

• “The Hero and the God” by Joseph Campbell

• “The Tragic Fallacy” by Joseph Wood Krutch

• “Tragedy and the Common Man” by Arthur Miller

• “The Hero as a visitor in hell: the descent into death in film structure” by Antonio Sanchez-Escalonilla

• (AVL – Lit. Resources from Gale)

• “The Hero’s Journey” by Laurence Coupe

• “Archetypes on the American Screen: Heroes and Anti-Heroes” by John Fitch

• “Defining American Heroes” Analyzing the metamorphosis of the war hero in twentieth century war films using Joseph Campbell’s, Hero’s Journey” by Luci A. Frith

• “The Hunter Myth.” Projecting the Shadow: The Cyborg Hero in American Film – chapter 3 by Janice Hocker Rushing and Thomas S.Frentz. Part of chapter is online – get a copy from teacher or library! This book also has chapters on The Terminator, Jaws, The Deer Hunter, and Blade Runner.*

• “Archetypes on Screen: Odysseus, St. Paul, Christ and the American Cinematic Hero and Anti-Hero” by John Fitch, III

• “Illness and the hero’s journey; still ourselves and more?” by Tom A. Hutchinson


• “Motion Pictures from the 1990s: A Diversity of Heroes.” Chapter 9 from Heroes, Monsters, and Messiahs by Elizabeth Hirsch*

• “Action heroes and literate sidekicks: Literacy and identity in popular culture” by Bronwyn T. Williams. (AVL- Lit Resources from Gale).

*These articles are in books that are on the Hero cart.
1 Additional Secondary Source

Your additional source should be an AVL article, other scholarly article, or a book about your film or film character OR a general article relating to the hero’s journey.

Stay away from movie reviews, blogs about a movie, etc.
The Hero's Journey

Return

(Gift of the Goddess)

KNOWN

UNKNOWN

Atonement

Transformation

REVELATION

Abyss
depth & rebirth

Call to Adventure

Supernatural aid

Threshold
Guardian(s)

Threshold
(beginning of transformation)

Mentor

Challenges and Temptations

Helper

Helper
Luke’s Ordinary World and Call to Adventure

What is the name of Luke’s home planet?
Destiny is our library’s catalog. Click on the Destiny icon, then “Spain Park High School,” then “Catalog.” Don’t forget to sort by call number to make it easier to find your book! Destiny can be accessed from home by going to http://destiny.hoover.k12.al.us.

Look up the following keywords in addition to searching for your specific film, character, director, or actor. Books on films can be found in the 790’s.

CINEMA
FILMS
MOVIES
HOLLYWOOD
POP CULTURE
DECADES (look for the decade when your film was produced)

[Not what you're looking for? Refine your search? Browse Subjects?]

Titles: 1 - 10 of 10

**Star Wars. Episode IV, A new hope Episode IV, A New Hope**
- Call #: DVD FIC STA
- 20th Century Fox ; Lucasfilm, Ltd. ; written and directed by George Lucas ; produced by Gary Kurtz.
- Published 2006
- Interest Level: 5-8

**The journey of Luke Skywalker : an analysis of modern myth and symbol**
- Call #: 791.43 GAL
- Galipeau, Steven A.
- Published 2001
- Interest Level: Adult

**Children of the Jedi / : Star Wars**
- Call #: FIC STA
- Hambly, Barbara.
- Star wars
- Published 1996
- Interest Level: Young Adult

**Vision of the future: Star Wars / Hand of Thrawn v. 2**
- Call #: FIC STA
- Zahn, Timothy.
- Hand of Thrawn ; bk. 2
- Published 1999
- Reading Level: 7.0 Interest Level: Young Adult

**Star wars / Book 2 / Dark Force Rising**
- Call #: FIC STA
- Zahn, Timothy.
- Star wars ; v. 2
Luke’s Ordinary World of Tatooine

Luke: “Well if there is a bright center to the universe, you’re on the planet it is farthest from.”
DON’T MISS THESE TITLES...

History of the American Cinema series
REF 791.43 HIS

Novels Into Film
REF 791.43 TIB
These databases are your best bet. Limit your search to full text articles only.

- Literature Resources from Gale
- EBSCOhost Search
Currently searching Literature Resources from Gale with 2,369,200 documents.

**Basic Search**

**Find:** luke skywalker hero

Search for words in:  ○ Person - By or About ○ Name of Work ○ Keywords ○ Entire Document

**limit results:**
- [ ] to documents with full text
- [ ] to peer-reviewed publications

by publication date(s):  ○ All Dates ○ Before ○ On ○ After ○ Between

by publication century:
- *None selected*
  - 21st Century A.D.
  - 20th Century A.D.
  - 19th Century A.D.

by content type:
- [ ] All
- [ ] Biographies
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- [ ] Primary Sources & Literary Works
- [ ] Reviews & News
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by publication title:

**Search in:**
- All electronic resources
  - LitFinder
  - Literature Resource Center
  - Scribner Writers Series

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The hero's journey

Author(s): Laurence Coupe


People have always been fascinated by the similarities between different stories. From The Pilgrim's Progress to Star Wars, Laurence Coupe explores the idea that there is one central story which keeps being retold.

On board the Death Star, a battle station of the evil Empire, Luke Skywalker is attempting to rescue Princess Leia from the clutches of Darth Vader. Pursued by imperial troops, he and his companions plunge into a garbage compactor, where they find themselves floundering in a foul swamp inhabited by monstrous creatures. Suddenly, Luke is dragged down into the depths. For what seems like an eternity he disappears, while his companions hang on helplessly, fearing that he might have died. Then, just as suddenly, he reappears. He is alive and well, and is ready to resume the struggle against evil.

Does this sound familiar? Even if you have not seen the original Star Wars film (1977), you will probably have watched other cinematic scenes like this. It is so familiar that we might want to identify it as a motif, or recurrent symbol. We might call it the 'supreme ordeal', or perhaps even the 'victory over death'. It is the kind of scene we come across not only in film but also in literary narrative. For example, Book I of Spenser's verse romance The Faerie Queene (1590) tells the story of the Red Cross Knight and his quest to save a kingdom from an evil dragon.
“...within the 'call to adventure', we are told, there are usually the following secondary stages: first, we have the hero in his 'ordinary world'; secondly, the call itself; thirdly, his initial 'refusal of the call'; fourthly, after his 'meeting with the mentor', his commitment to undertake the journey. In *Star Wars* we see Luke Skywalker, bored with life on the farm where he lives with his uncle and aunt. Then he finds Princess Leia's message, stored in the droid R2-D2 and addressed to Obi-Wan Kenobi, who was once a celebrated Jedi Knight within the old Republic. Not immediately prepared to do very much about this, Luke nevertheless seeks out Obi-Wan who, having persuaded him to take up the challenge of helping the princess and supporting the rebellion against the Empire, instructs him in the ways of the Force.”
Luke’s Ordinary World and Call to Adventure

Luke Skywalker comes of age on the distant outpost planet of Tatooine, a place where nothing exciting ever happens. Like Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz* and George Bailey in *It’s a Wonderful Life*, Luke longs for “greener pastures” and adventures unavailable to him at home. We learn, for example, in *Star Wars*, that he wants nothing more than to leave the family farm in order to attend the “academy.” His uncle refuses to let him go, however, claiming that he needs Luke’s help for the harvest. Luke is devastated.

Campbell, referring to the hero’s “call to adventure,” notes that the hero
MLA 7th Edition

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University of Nevada Las Vegas MLA Guide

Cornell University MLA Guide
http://www.library.cornell.edu/resrch/citmanage/mla
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