

The Hero's Journey (1000 words): 25% weighting.

The hero's journey is a narrative form that can be found in stories from all over the world. The hero's journey is sometimes called "monomyth". Joseph Campbell, an American writer and editor intrigued by myths from diverse cultures and literary traditions, invented the term in 1949. Campbell discovered that many heroic myths follow the same narrative steps.

The Hobbit by J. R. R. Tolkien is a great illustration of Joseph Campbell's Hero's Journey model. As described by Campbell's hero journey, an unlikely hero can progress from the stage of "unlikely hero" to "likely hero." Bilbo Baggins, a male Hobbit, is the unconventional main protagonist of the story. A key criticism of Campbell's hero's journey is that he favours male protagonist.

At first glance, Bilbo does not appear to be a "hero," given his dislike of adventure. Tolkien, like Campbell, shows that a hero's journey begins with a call to adventure, which Bilbo at first rejects. They then meet the mentor Gandalf and cross a threshold, where he's confronted with trials and temptations. Finally, Bilbo is rescued from outside and returns to the Fellowship of the Ring, where he is reunited with Gandalf.

The Call to Adventure is the initial stage of this structure. At first, the "hero" of the narrative is just living his or her normal life, but suddenly he or she is allowed to embark on an adventure. We are introduced to the Hero as someone who is either unconventional or is just an ordinary individual with some power that has never been tapped. Bilbo Baggins is a well-behaved hobbit who never engages in risky or adventurous behaviour. Gandalf, a wizard, appeared out of nowhere and changed his life forever. Because Bilbo was so adept at evading detection, this wizard had resolved to use him as a burglar in an upcoming expedition (Lefkowitz, 2022). The Hero is offered a chance to embark on an adventure but refuses blatantly; however, agrees to go afterward. Refusing to embark on the adventure that he has been called to is also a part of the second stage of this paradigm, which is termed Refusal. Gandalf marked Bilbo's doorway with his staff after Bilbo's denial, which indicated that he wanted to embark on an adventure. As soon as a large group of dwarves showed up at Bilbo's door the following day, the adventure was quickly accepted.

Meeting with the mentor is the next step. The Hero has decided to embark on the journey and now has met his or her mentor or guide. Gandalf has already been Bilbo's "mentor." Gandalf, a wizard with the ability to cast spells, will come in handy for Bilbo's

future adventures with the dwarves. Next comes Crossing the First Threshold, where the Hero leaves behind the familiarity of everyday life and enters into the world of adventure as we know it. This stage is always presented as the first extraordinary occurrence that the Hero faces. From the Hero's perspective, it is a bizarre experience that is always outside their view of the world. In the Hobbit, when the journey of Bilbo Baggins and the Dwarves begins, they cross the first threshold (Revitalising The Pedagogical Approach To The Hero's Journey, 2018).

Crossing The Threshold is the following stage. The Hero's personal view of the universe and self are permanently divided in this stage. When the Hero reaches this point, he or she is ready to change. At this stage, the Hero. When Bilbo and the dwarves are in the Mountains, he goes through this stage. They are forced to take refuge in a cave due to terrible storms and stone giants. The goblins attack and Bilbo is mistakenly left behind by the rest of the party. He wakes up and is terrified to be alone, yet he keeps going (Vlogger, 2019). To complete the fifth stage, Bilbo had to be willing to continue the journey, even if he was alone.

To begin the transformation process, the Hero must first travel down the Road of Trials. The Hero is presented with plenty of tribulations. Bilbo is consistently challenged to make him stronger and further the Hero's arc. Temptation is the following stage. These temptations are either physical or pleasurable, and they could cause the Hero to quit his mission. Smaug's treasures were kept in the great hall, and Bilbo is searching for them when he discovers the Arkenstone. The Arkenstone has the potential to turn the hero's character.

In the next stage, one must make amends with the Father/Abyss, which is the final part of the journey. Whatever holds the most sway in the Hero's life will be challenged here. In this stage, the "father" is usually the Hero's father figure. Thorin serves as Bilbo's father figure in this situation (Williams, 2017). The following stage, denotes the attainment of complete knowledge. Now that the Hero has gained new insight and awareness, he or she is primed for the next phase of the journey. This time, Bilbo can heal and prepare for the return voyage despite having suffered the loss of many of his friends along the way. It can be seen that Campbell's hero's journey is unrealistic and suggests that battle and loss is a kind of therapy, It juxtaposes personal development with problem-solving.

The quest's endpoint has been reached. A peace treaty has finally been reached between all of the enemies, and peace exists. Bilbo has finally achieved his aim in his quest. Afterward, we go on to the Rescue from Without phase. With the help of a powerful mentor, the Hero must be brought back to normal life. Gandalf aids a fatigued

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and injured Bilbo on his return home. In the next stage, the hero is portrayed as having the knowledge and wisdom obtained on the adventure integrated into his or her everyday life and maybe sharing it with the rest of the population. Gandalf tells Bilbo that he is "not the hobbit that you were" as he returns home. Bilbo has grown as a person as a result of this journey, gaining insight and information along the way. Campbell's Hero's journey discourages originality of works released after Campbell's Archetypal narrative structure.

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