

January 23, 2017
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RRFC Film Connection
Chapter 3 Essay / Assignment
Paper on film I want to emulate

Archetypes from Christopher Vogler Book: The Writers Journey

Hero (29)

Protagonist, represents the human ego, "protects and serves".

Shapeshifter (59)

often a love interest (the beast), hero may also act as a shapeshifter in some films such as a comedy or adventure film. The psychological function is to express the energy of the animus and anima in terms of Carl Jung. The animus was Carl Jung's name for the male element in the female unconscious, or positive and negative images of masculinity in a woman's desires. The anima is the corresponding female element in the male unconsciousness. In this theory, people have a complete set of both male and female qualities necessary for survival and internal balance. Often plays to societal projections of gender roles and gender stereo types. But the main character element expressed is the projection of a perspective; what the hero wants to believe with their vision distorted. The dramatic function is to bring reasonable doubt and suspense into a story.

Threshold Guardian (49)

obstacle, lower level, challenge, guards the path the hero must take, test, represent ordinary obstacles we all face in everyday life such as bad weather. "Tis a mere flesh wound"

Trickster

Embodies the energies of mischief and desire for change. They cut big egos down to size and bring hero's and audiences down to earth. Dramatic function is comic relief.

Shadow (65)

Can be the villain or antagonist but represents their nature, the dark side, the unexpressed, unrealized, or rejected aspects of something. Often suppressed and right under our noses in story. Psychological function is to represent the power of repressed feelings, deep trauma, or guilt that festers when exiled to the darkness of the unconscious. If the Threshold guardian represents Neuroses, then the Shadow represents the Psychosis. Can be inner demons such as alcoholism. Can also be shapeshifter.

Dramatic function is to challenge the hero and exist as a worthy opponent. Is a head-on collision.

Herald (55)

issues challenges to the hero and announce significant change. Call for change. Can take form of new idea we encounter. Represent a catalyst for change. The dramatic function is motivation.

Allies (71)

Serves a variety of functions such as companion, sparring partner, conscience, or comic relief. Side kicks.

Mentor (39)

Positive figure who aids or trains the hero, offers guidance, represents the power within and human self worth/value. Comes in many forms.

Relation to one of 12 films from previous Assignment

Comparative movie: Juno (2007) (Diablo Cody)

<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0467406/>

Hero:

Juno is the hero protagonist who carries the story forward. The story is central to her experience during the duration of the film.

Shapeshifter:

Jason Bateman is the obvious shapeshifter as we see a dramatic change in his character. However, a more subtle shapeshifter is Juno who becomes more grown up and responsible in the film.

Threshold Guardian

Possibly the encounter with the punk receptionist. During her time at the facility, she keeps thinking about what Su-Chin had said regarding babies finger nails and she decides she doesn't want to have an abortion. But another possible threshold guardian is the rude ultrasound technician who thinks teen motherhood is a "poisonous" environment.

Trickster

Jason Bateman's character is a married man who decides he doesn't want to grow up and wants to divorce his wife and be with Juno. His decision complicates and adds drama to the story.

Shadow

Possibly selfishness? Jason Bateman's character is very selfish and also scared to grow up and he's trying to live in the past. It's a similar attribute we see in Juno, who doesn't want to have the responsibility of being a parent.

Herald

Su-Chin is kind of a herald in the film as she is protesting against abortion early in the film when Juno is going to look into operation procedures. But another herald could be the punk-receptionist Juno meets immediately after her "finger nails" encounter with Su-Chin. Both act like sooth sayers in that they provide perspectives similar to what Juno is experiencing. Another less apparent Herald could be Rain Wilson's character in the beginning when he says "this is one etch sketch that can be undone home skillet". His dialogue line foreshadows the gravity of Juno's situation.

Allies

Olivia Thirlby is shown as Juno's best friend. Michael Cera is also shown as a kind sweet heart and her unofficial love interest as well as the father of her baby. Jennifer Garner is shown as a kind loving nurturing figure interested in adopting Juno's baby. And her parents are shown as very supportive and caring guardians.

Mentor

Her mom and dad and Jennifer Garner's character both give excellent council (or try to). But the big mentor moment is when Juno is talking with her father and he says that the "right person will always think sun shines out your rear".