

The Archetypal Hero

What Do Luke Skywalker,
Simba, King Arthur, Moses,
and William Wallace all have
in common?

Jung and Campbell

- Carl Jung and Joseph Campbell developed the idea of the archetype
 - Archetype: A recurring pattern of images, situations, or symbols found in the mythology, religion, art, and dreams of cultures around the world

Joseph Campbell



Carl Jung



Archetypal Hero Traits

- Unusual Circumstances of Birth
- Leaves Family and Lives With Others
- Traumatic Event Leads to Quest
- Special Weapon
- Supernatural Help
- Proves Himself on Quest
- Journey and Unhealable Wound
- Atonement With Father
- Spiritual Apotheosis

Unusual Birth

- Often in danger or born into royalty
 - Luke w/ aunt and uncle
 - Simba born a prince
 - Moses put in basket
 - King Arthur in danger from Uther Pendragon's rivals



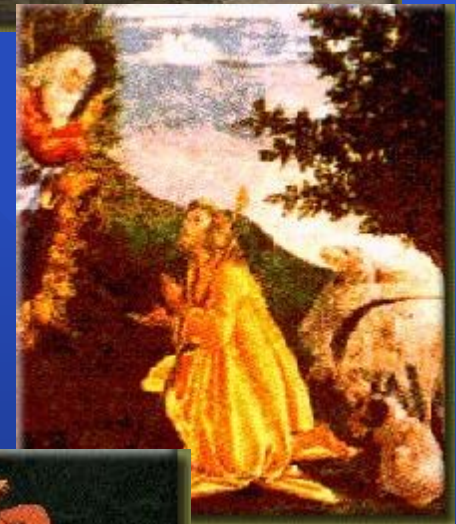
Leaves Family

- Raised away from his people
 - Luke w/ aunt and uncle
 - Simba w/ Timon and Poobah
 - King Arthur w/ Merlin
 - William Wallace with uncle
 - Moses w/ Pharaoh's daughter



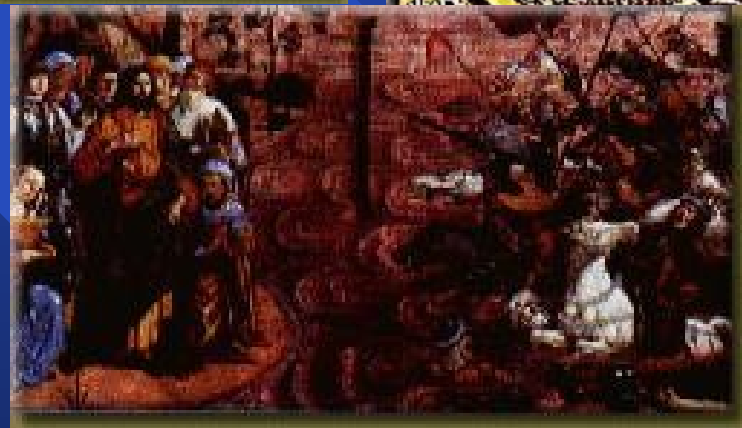
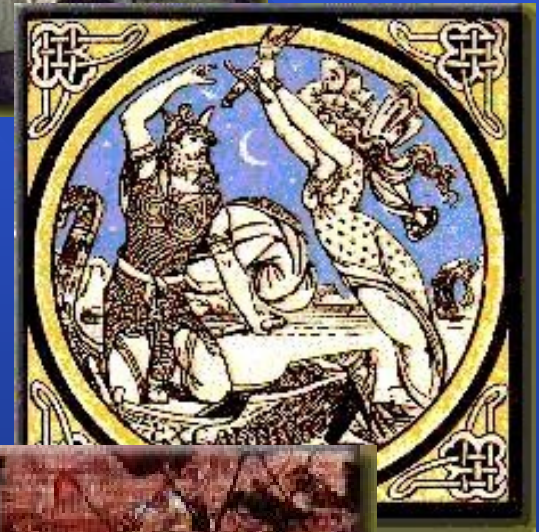
Traumatic Event

- A hero's life is changed forever
 - Luke's aunt and uncle's death
 - Wallace's wife is killed
 - Arthur pulls sword from stone
 - Simba fights Nala
 - Yahweh appears to Moses



Special Weapon

- Only the hero can wield his weapon
 - Luke's light saber
 - Arthur's Excalibur
 - Moses' staff
 - Wallace's sword
 - Simba's ... claws?



Supernatural Help

- Hero often has spiritual guidance
 - Luke hears Obi-Wan Kenobi
 - Arthur has Merlin
 - Yahweh guides Moses
 - Wallace dreams of his dead father
 - Simba sees Mufasa in the sky and has Rafiki help him



Proves Himself

- Hero performs feats while on Quest
 - Luke blows up Death Star, leads rebellion
 - Arthur leads battles
 - Moses perform miracles
 - Simba contemplates his life
 - Wallace leads his men against British



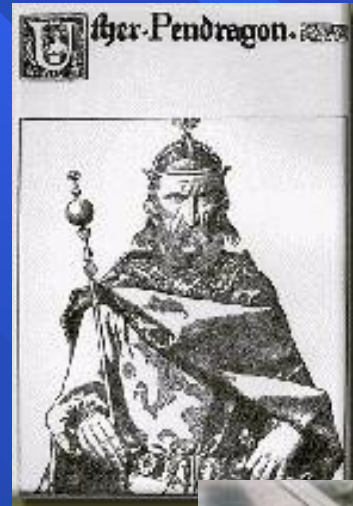
Journey & Unhealable Wound

- Hero descends into a hell-like area and suffers wounding from encounter w/ evil
 - Symbolically goes where normal humans can't and finds truth about self



Atonement With Father

- Hero either redeems father's evil deeds or reconciles with father over wrongs done by the hero



Apotheosis

- Hero is rewarded spiritually at the end of his life



Wanna find out more?

<http://tatsbox.com/hero>



4am Productions "You can't see the Hobbits if you're
asleep!"

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